

# Ancient Greece Fact File



The ancient Greek people were alive about **3000 years ago**. They ruled over Europe before the **Romans**, who copied a lot of **Greek building and painting techniques**. Greek buildings were very special because they had big stone **columns** and lovely pictures **carved** out of stone on them.



The ancient Greeks worshipped lots of **gods** and **goddesses** because they thought that each one was in charge of different parts of everyday **life**. There were lots of **temples** built to help the Greeks pray to certain gods or goddesses, but they were believed to all live together on **Mount Olympus**. Here are a few examples of the different gods and goddesses:

- △ **Aphrodite** – goddess of love
- △ **Apollo** – god of the sun and music
- △ **Athena** – goddess of war
- △ **Hermes** – the messenger of the gods
- △ **Zeus** – king of the gods



**Sport** was a very important part of life 3000 years ago and the **athletes** (sports men and women who took part) were praised like heroes. **Olive wreaths** were presented to the winners of competitions to show how great they were. It was the ancient Greeks who invented the **Olympic Games** which included sports like **running** and **wrestling**. The very first **marathon** was run in ancient Greece too, when **Pheidippides** ran **26 miles** from **Marathon** to **Athens**.



They were also a very **artistic** group of people. The ancient Greeks liked to **play music, paint, make things out of clay** and **put on plays** for everyone to watch. They are especially famous for their beautiful **clay pots** with black pictures  **Painted** on them.



Did you know that the ancient Greeks invented the **alphabet**?

They don't look much like the letters in our alphabet, but the first two letters of the Greek alphabet are **alpha** and **beta**. When you put them together, you get the word alphabet!

Greek Alphabet			
Α	Β	Γ	Δ
Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta
Ε	Ζ	Η	Θ
Epsilon	Zeta	Eta	Theta
Ι	Κ	Λ	Μ
Iota	Kappa	Lambda	Mu
Ν	Ξ	Ο	Π
Nu	Xi	Omicron	Pi
Ρ	Σ	Τ	Υ
Rho	Sigma	Tau	Upsilon
Φ	Χ	Ψ	Ω
Phi	Chi	Psi	Omega

# Ancient Greece Quiz for Kids

1. How many years ago did the ancient Greek people live?

.....

2. Did they live before or after the Romans?

.....

3. Did the ancient Greeks pray to one god or lots of gods?

.....

4. What was the name of the king of the gods?

.....

5. Where did the ancient Greek gods live?

.....

6. What is the name of the big sporting event that the ancient Greeks invented?

.....

7. How many miles are there in a marathon race?

.....



8. Name three artistic things the ancient Greeks liked to do.

△

.....

△

.....

△

.....

9. What colour paint was used to put pictures on clay pots?

.....

10. Did the ancient Greeks pray to one god or lots of gods?

.....



# Ancient Greece Quiz for Kids - Answers

1. How many years ago did the ancient Greek people live?

**3000 years ago**

.....

2. Did they live before or after the Romans?

**Before the Romans**

.....

3. Did the ancient Greeks pray to one god or lots of gods?

**Lots of gods**

.....

4. What was the name of the king of the gods?

**Zeus**

.....

5. Where did the ancient Greek gods live?

**Mount Olympus**

.....

6. What is the name of the big sporting event that the ancient Greeks invented?

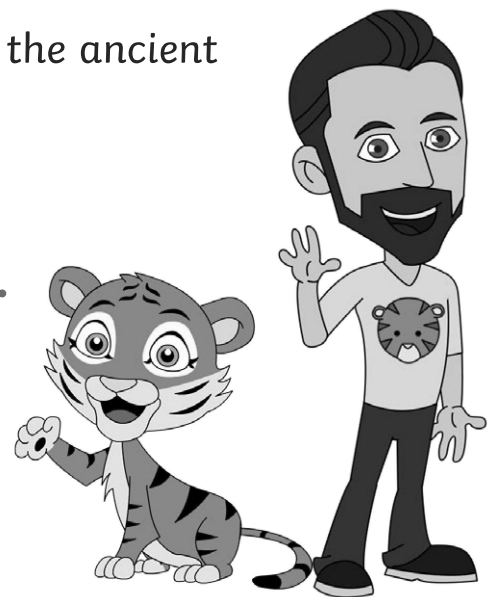
**Olympics or Olympic Games**

.....

7. How many miles are there in a marathon race?

**26 miles**

.....



8. Name three artistic things the ancient Greeks liked to do.

△ **Three chosen from:**

.....

△ **play music, paint, make things out of clay and put on plays**

.....

△

.....

9. What colour paint was used to put pictures on clay pots?

**Black**

.....

10. Did the ancient Greeks pray to one god or lots of gods?

**Alpha, Beta**

.....

