

# HISTORY

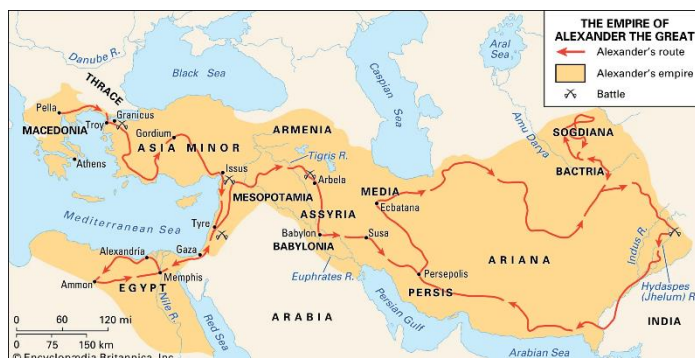


YEAR 3

WHAT HAVE THE GREEKS DONE FOR US?

## The Big Picture

We often hear the phrase 'What have the Greeks done for us?' The answer is 'quite a lot actually'. In this unit, we explore the influence the ancient Greeks had over the Mediterranean and how much of modern-life has its roots in the ancient Greek civilisation.



## End Point Knowledge

- Ancient Greece was a civilisation that lasted from approximately 800BC to 146BC in Greece and the Mediterranean.
- The civilisation that we now call ancient Greece was actually made up of many city-states (poleis).
- Each polis ruled over the area surrounding it in different ways; Athens was a democracy (rule of the many) whereas Sparta was a monarchy (rule of one). However, they all shared a common language and religion, and considered themselves Hellenistic.
- Greece = the Hellas      Greek people = Hellenes
- The culture and inventions of Ancient Greece have had a huge impact on the world, even to this day e.g. history, science, philosophy, architecture, theatre, literature.
- Between 336–323 BC, Alexander the Great of Macedonia formed an empire, through emigration and conquest, that stretched through parts of Africa, Europe and the Middle East.
- Gods and goddesses were extremely important in Ancient Greece. Each god or goddess was responsible for certain parts of life and were linked with certain places. The gods and goddesses lived on Mount Olympus and they could behave badly sometimes!
- Democracy developed in poleis like Athens. However, not everyone was allowed to take part in democracy, so it wasn't a true democracy.
- We know about this period because of contemporary writing from people like Herodotus, Socrates, Plato and Homer. There is a lot of architecture from the time that is still standing in Greece. We also have archaeological evidence of tools, religious objects and storage pots.

## Key Vocabulary

Hellas, Hellenes, Hellenistic, Athens, Sparta, democracy, monarchy, polis (poleis), city-states, civilisation, Mediterranean