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UNIT OVERVIEW
ANCIENT GREECE

Where were the first chickens fried? (Answer - In Greece, of course.) In this fascinating study, students will learn the answer to this important question and much, much more. Different aspects of Ancient Greek culture will be introduced, giving students a better understanding of how Ancient Greece helped to shape our modern world. “Part I - Core Teaching Lessons” is presented in a very structured format and communicates much of the information base contained in the unit. “Part II” is an informational package and series of worksheet activities that follows the core lessons. This part can be photocopied and given to students. “Part III - Optional Lessons” consists of related activities which add variety and flexibility to the unit. “Part IV - Famous Greeks” is a major project in which the students are able to extend their learning about Ancient Greece. In this section, the teacher acts as a facilitator, allowing students to feel a sense of ownership and responsibility. “Part V - The Olympics” is a culmination activity finishing the unit with a bang. Students are sure to have as much fun learning about this exciting civilization as you will have teaching it.

PART I - CORE TEACHING LESSONS

In this section, students are introduced to Ancient Greece - particularly during the Golden Age of Athens. Teacher instruction followed by student assignments provides a very structured setting.

1) Introduction to Ancient Greece  "Legend of the Trojan Horse," map
2) Ancient Greece - When? Timeline Worksheet
3) Government  "Those Who Cried Wolf," play of "Apollo’s Tree"
4) The Arts and Entertainment  "In the Beginning," sequencing activity
5) Academics and Learning  T-chart
6) Family Life  "Boy Who Cried Wolf," play of "Apollo’s Tree"
7) Sparta  T-chart
8) Mythology

PART II - STUDENT HANDBOOK

Informational Pages And Student Worksheets

Reproducible pages designed to follow the core lessons.

PART III - OPTIONAL LESSONS

1) Greek Alphabet  8) Greek Vocabulary
2) Greek Architecture  9) Mythology
3) Greek Foods  10) Travel Brochure
4) Write a Fable  11) Internet Sites
5) Make Masks  12) Research Modern Greece
6) Games  13) Ancient Greece Wordsearch
7) Greek Clothes

PART IV - FAMOUS GREEKS (MAJOR PROJECT)

This section is a major project and will take considerable time for the students to complete. Students research Greeks who made significant contributions to our world. Names, rubrics, and grading scales are included to delineate the process.

PART V - THE OLYMPICS (CULMINATION ACTIVITY)

Students help create and coordinate their very own Olympic Games, just like the Ancient Greeks.

CORE TEACHING LESSONS

LESSON #1 - INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT GREECE

Student Objectives and Activities
- Students read "The Trojan Horse" and discuss its importance to Ancient Greece.
- Students locate Ancient Greece and other places associated with it on a modern map or globe.

Suggested Teaching Strategies
- Begin this unit by asking students if they know in which ancient country chickens were first fried? (In Greece, of course.)
- Start by reading or telling "The Trojan Horse." See student handbook.
- Locate Troy, a city on the coast of modern-day Turkey on the map or globe.
- Explain to your students that this story reflects the basic characteristics of the Ancient Greek culture: creative, militaristic, intellectual.
- This story takes place about 1250 BC, but wasn’t written down until 750 BC by a poet named Homer. He wrote several "epic" poems. The Trojan War, the most popular series were "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey." The poems became legend as they were passed down from generation to generation, often by oral storytellers known as "bards." This legend was used to inspire young people and had a significant influence on Greek culture.
- Ask the students to consider how the story might have changed from generation to generation with each retelling. Historians believe it wasn’t written down for 500 years. Historians believe that the story was changed significantly through the years with each retelling, so that it probably bears only a slight resemblance to the actual event.
- Discuss the moral of the story: "Always be aware of Greeks bearing gifts." meaning "people aren’t always what they seem and sometimes have ulterior motives - be careful and not too trusting."
- Now, locate Greece on a map or use the attached map to identify the locations associated with Ancient Greece. Ancient Greece included the mainland (or peninsula), several islands in the Aegean Sea (part of Italy), the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea, and the west coast of Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey).
- If time permits, teachers may wish to hand out Optional Activity #13, "Ancient Greece Wordsearch" or permit students to colour the cover of their Student Handbook.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

THE TROJAN HORSE

There once was a woman named Helen who was so beautiful that all the men of Greece wanted to marry her. The King of Sparta won her heart, and they were soon married. Helen’s father feared that one of the other suitors would try to kidnap Helen, so he made them swear to support Helen’s vows. Unfortunately, just as Helen’s father had predicted, the Prince of Troy had fallen so in love with Helen that he stole her, and took her across the Aegean Sea to live with him in Troy. As expected, Helen’s father was furious when he found out his wife had been taken from him. He vowed to free her and bring her back to Sparta where she belonged.

The king organized an army and a fleet of a thousand ships to help retrieve his wife. The Trojans (people of Troy) were ready for the king’s attack and had fortified their city well.
Directions: After reading the handout, “How Greece was Governed,” answer the following questions. If necessary, you may refer to the handout to help you answer the questions. Be sure to answer using complete sentences.

1. When did people begin to settle in Greece?

2. Why was Greece divided into settlements called city-states?

3. Name the three places that could be found in every city-state.

4. What are “oligarchs”?

Optional Lesson #8 - Greek Vocabulary

We use many words derived from Greek culture. Here are a few of them:

- Astronomy
- Athlete
- Chorus
- Comedy
- Democracy
- Epic
- Marathon
- Olympics
- Tragedy

Can you find any more?

Optional Lesson #9 - Mythology

A mythology unit is available through Rainbow Horizons Publishing, which includes mythology from around the world.

Optional Lesson #10 - Travel Brochure

Make a travel brochure indicating locations in Ancient Greece that your students would like to visit. By simply folding an 8 1/2” x 11” piece of construction paper into thirds, students can have a tri-fold brochure to draw pictures into and write about.

Characters:
- Apollo, the God of Music and Poetry
- Cupid, the God of Love
- Daphne, a beautiful wood nymph
- Chorus

Chorus: Welcome, Welcome to our play. We hope you will enjoy your stay. It begins as two friends are crossing paths. Surely, Apollo did not know he’d meet his match.

Apollo: (approaching Cupid) Greetings, Cupid.

Cupid: (approaching Apollo) Greetings, Apollo.

Apollo: (pointing to Cupid’s bow and arrows) What have you got there, my friend?

Cupid: (boastfully) This, my friend, is my bow that I use to shoot my powerful arrows - more powerful than any other arrows.

Apollo: (laughingly) Surely you jest, Cupid. My arrows have slain a great serpent. Your arrows merely cause feelings of love or hatred. They are hardly more powerful than mine.

Cupid: Oh no, Apollo, you are quite mistaken. You shall see! (as he storms off)

FAMOUS GREEKS PROJECT

Name: ____________________________

Name of Famous Greek: ____________________________

Area of Expertise: ____________________________

Additional Fact: ____________________________

Objective:

Given the name of a famous Greek, the student will research him, write a summary of his achievements, and create a visual aid representing one of his achievements.

Directions:

1. Fill in the information about your famous Greek at the top of the page. Check your spelling to make sure that it is correct.

2. Research your famous Greek. Focus specifically on what accomplishments he made in his area of expertise, especially ones that affect modern society.

3. Using the information you found while researching, write a summary of your famous Greek’s accomplishments following these guidelines:
   a) The summary should be three paragraphs long and organized (introduction, body, and conclusion).
   b) Use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

PART III - OPTIONAL LESSONS

LESSONS #8-10 OVERVIEW

- Greek Vocabulary
- Mythology
- Travel Brochure

STUDENT HANDBOOK

WORKSHEET: HOW GREECE WAS GOVERNED

Directions: After reading the handout, “How Greece was Governed,” answer the following questions. If necessary, you may refer to the handout to help you answer the questions. Be sure to answer using complete sentences.

1. When did people begin to settle in Greece?

2. Why was Greece divided into settlements called city-states?

3. Name the three places that could be found in every city-state.

4. What are “oligarchs”?

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   a) The summary should be three paragraphs long and organized (introduction, body, and conclusion).
   b) Use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
Optional Lesson #11 - Internet Sites
There are several good Internet sites about Ancient Greece:
1) http://www.ancient-greece.com/
   Links by category (i.e., people, art, mythology, etc.).
2) http://about.com/
   Enter Ancient Greece or something more specific to find all kinds of information.
3) http://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-greece.html
   History for Kids: Guide to Ancient Greece.
4) https://www.umass.edu/aesop/fables.php
   Aesop’s Fables and illustrations.
5) https://ancientandmodernolympics.wordpress.com/
   Information on Ancient and Modern Olympics.
6) http://www.pantheon.org/mythica/areas/
   Encyclopedia of mythology.

Optional Lesson #12 - Research Modern Greece
Have your students research modern Greece and see how it has changed from ancient times.
There are many books and Internet sites about modern Greece. Many people have had the
opportunity to visit there as well. Ask around, and you’ll be surprised what you’ll find.

Optional Lesson #13 - Ancient Greece Wordsearch

Answer Key

Greece Athens Sparta Mythology Macedonia
Troy Homer Olympics Mythology Parthenon
Illiad Odyssey Democracy Assembly
Zeus Apollo Citizen Bronze Age
Aesop Hellenistic Age

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PART III - OPTIONAL LESSONS
LESSONS #11-13 OVERVIEW

Optional Lesson #11 - Internet Sites
There are several good Internet sites about Ancient Greece:
1) http://www.ancient-greece.com/
   Links by category (i.e., people, art, mythology, etc.).
2) http://about.com/
   Enter Ancient Greece or something more specific to find all kinds of information.
3) http://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-greece.html
   History for Kids: Guide to Ancient Greece.
4) https://www.umass.edu/aesop/fables.php
   Aesop’s Fables and illustrations.
5) https://ancientandmodernolympics.wordpress.com/
   Information on Ancient and Modern Olympics.
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Troy Homer Olympics Mythology Parthenon
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Zeus Apollo Citizen Bronze Age
Aesop Hellenistic Age

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