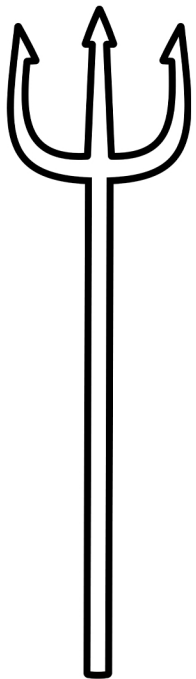


Long ago, in the southeastern part of Europe, there was a fascinating group of people known as the ancient Greeks. They lived in a place called Greece, which is filled with beautiful mountains and surrounded by deep blue seas. The ancient Greeks are very important because they made many contributions to art, philosophy, sports, and government that still influence our lives today.



One of the most interesting things about the ancient Greeks was their love for stories and myths. They believed in a variety of gods and goddesses who lived on Mount Olympus, the highest mountain in Greece. Zeus was their king, and he controlled the sky and thunder. The Greeks told stories about their gods and heroes, which were filled with adventures and important lessons.

The Greeks were also very smart thinkers. They asked big questions about life and the world around them. This led to the birth of philosophy, a way of thinking deeply about questions like "What is the best way to live?" and "What is true?" Famous Greek philosophers include Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, who are still studied in schools around the world today.

Another great achievement of the ancient Greeks was in the field of government. They developed a system called democracy, where citizens could vote and have a say in their leaders. This was a new idea at the time, and it started in the city of Athens. Democracy in ancient Greece wasn't perfect, and not everyone could participate, but it was a start to giving people a voice in their own affairs.

Lastly, the ancient Greeks loved sports and competitions. Every four years, athletes from different city-states would come together in Olympia to compete in the Olympic Games. These games included races, wrestling, and chariot racing. The Olympics were so important to the Greeks that they would even stop wars to participate in the games!



1. Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were famous Greek scientists.

- a. True
- b. False



2. The ancient Greeks stopped wars to participate in the Olympic Games.

- a. True
- b. False

### Word Bank:

Zeus      achievement      democracy      Athens

Describe one way in which the ancient Greeks have influenced our lives today.



What did the ancient Greeks believe in?

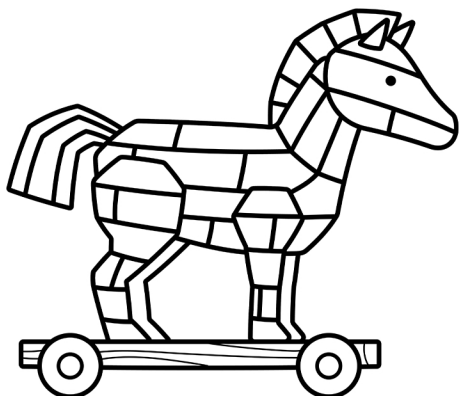
- A) Science and technology
- B) Magic and dragons
- C) A variety of gods and goddesses
- D) Money and power

Who was considered the king of the gods in Greek mythology?

- A) Apollo
- B) Zeus
- C) Hercules
- D) Athena

Where did the Olympic Games take place?

- A) Mount Olympus
- B) Athens
- C) Sparta
- D) Olympia



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