

Learning Organiser: The story of the Trojan Horse: historical fact, legend or classical

Key objective

Evaluate and critique a range of sources to reach a judgment about the story of the Trojan Horse of Ancient Greece.

Important Places

Ancient Greece Civilisation

About 2,500 years ago Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world. Today we know that the Ancient Greeks were great thinkers, warriors, writers, actors, athletes, artists, architects and politicians. Ancient Greece was a civilisation made up of many city states such as Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia. Each city state ruled itself and had its own government, laws and armed forces rather like modern day countries. People felt they were citizens of their city first and Greeks second. There was fierce rivalry between the city states which frequently led to conflict although at other times they did join together to resist bigger enemies such as the Persian Empire.



Important things I will know, understand and do

Why 2500 years ago Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world
 Some of the great achievements of the Greek civilisation
 What a city state is and why they were important in Ancient Greece
 Why Sparta and Troy began a war that lasted ten years
 Why there are conflicting views over the existence of the so called 'Trojan Horse'
 The difference between a legend, myth and folklore in History

Important historical sources I will use

- Maps
- Paintings
- Sculptures
- Engravings
- Mosaics
- Statues
- Manuscripts
- Written accounts

Important subject vocabulary I will learn

Prehistoric	The time before historical events were recorded in writing.
Myth	A traditional story about some being, hero or event that is not true.
Legend	An old story based originally on some factual events often involving heroic action.
Siege	An operation where enemy forces surround a place to cut off its essential supplies.
Authenticate	Prove or show something to be true.
Depiction	Show something or somebody visually in pictures, drawings, sculptures or paintings.
Envoy	A messenger or representative who is sent from one government or power to another.
City state	A small nation or country with a single large settlement surrounded by its territory.

Important people I will investigate



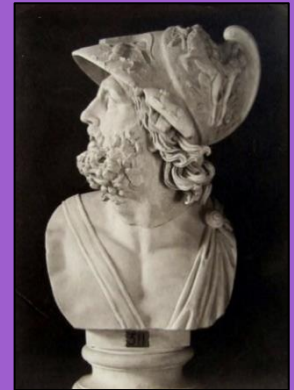
Prince Paris of Troy



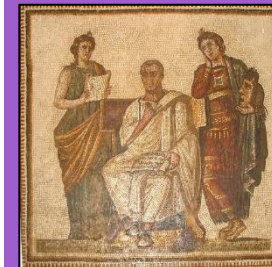
Poseidon



Queen Helen of Sparta



King Menelaus of Sparta



Virgil: ancient Roman poet



King Agamemnon of Mycenae

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Important concepts I will understand

Conflict	A struggle or clash between opposing forces, interests or ideas.
Conquest	Gain control of a place or people by military force.
Ruler	A person who has the power to govern or control a place or territory.
City	A large and densely populated human settlement.
Empire	A group of countries ruled by a single person, government or country.
Military	The armed forces of a country.
Power	Having control or command over people.
War	Armed conflict between different countries or people within country (civil war).
Civilisation	An advanced society with its own system of government, laws and written language.
Causation	The connections between events where one thing happens as a result of another.
Significance	Identifying events, sources, people, places or ideas which are most important.
Perspective	Seeing events from different viewpoints.
Sources	Evidence that is used to gather information and reach judgements.
Chronology	Arranging historical events in their correct time order.
Empathy	Placing yourself in another's position to better understand their actions.

Disciplinary thinking skills I will use to understand what I learn

Select	Choosing the information most suitable and relevant.
Synthesising	Bringing together a range of ideas and facts from different sources to explain something.
Explaining	Showing understanding of how or why something happened the way it did.
Empathising	Placing yourself in another's position to better understand their actions.
Concluding	Summing up the main points about something.
Reaching a judgement	Expressing a personal view about something supported by evidence.
Justifying	Giving reasons supported by evidence to show what you consider right or reasonable.
Evaluating	Weighing up and judging the relative importance of something compared with other ideas and arguments.
Critiquing	Considering the validity or trustworthiness of evidence.

Important Artefacts



Mykonas vase 675-650 BC



Sculpture from Pakistan AD 100-200

Timeline of events sometime around 1200 BC

Paris kidnaps Helen of Sparta and imprisons her in the city of Troy.

Menelaus assembles an army of 10,000 led by his brother Agamemnon to rescue Helen.

Menelaus' army is joined by Greek hero Achilles.

The army is carried to Troy across the Aegean Sea by over a thousand galleys.

At Troy, the heavily fortified city is defended by an army led by King Priam assisted by the Trojan hero Hector.

The Greek army sets siege to Troy which lasts ten years.

Achilles kills Hector in battle and then is killed himself by Paris.

Odysseus, a Greek general in Menelaus' army comes up with the wooden horse plan to defeat Sparta.