	History
Key Vocabulary	
WORD	DEFINITION
Ancient	Something from a very long time ago
Artefact	An object that is made by a person, such as a tool or a decoration, especially one that is of historical interest
City states	Small areas that ancient Greece was divided into, each with their own governments, laws and army
Democracy	A system where the citizens of a country or state are involved in the way it is run
Empire	A group of countries or states that are ruled by one ruler or country
Legacies	Things that exist after someone dies or after a civilisation or event ends
Myth	A story from ancient times about something that happened long ago that some people believed to be true

Theme: Ancient Greece

Key Knowledge and facts

Key Maps

Year 5

The Olympics

The Olympics were first held in ancient Greece in 776 BC. This is one of the legacies of ancient Greece.

Events included boxing, wrestling, running and chariot racing.

Women were not allowed to compete in the Olympics. This was because ancient Greek women were not treated as equals to men and had fewer freedoms.

The idea for the marathon also originates from this time.

Ancient Greek City States

Ancient Greece was not a country. It was made up of city states. There were often battles between these city states but sometimes they would join together to defend themselves from a common enemy. Important city states of ancient Greece included Athens, Corinth and Sparta.





Ancient Athens is where democracy began in around 508 BC. Listening to the opinions of other people and debating issues was an important part of this system. After debating issues, the ancient Athenians would vote. At that time, the only people allowed to take part in democracy were adult males who were citizens of Athens. The legacy of democracy still exists today in many parts of the world.

The Spartans and the Athenians

Much of what we see of the Spartans on television and in films is based on myth and does not present the Spartans accurately. The Spartans were known for their strong army and ability to fight. In childhood, boys were trained to be warriors. Girls were taught academic subjects and how to fight.

The Athenians were known for their cultural developments and learning. Girls did not go to school but many were taught how to look after the home and family.