

Brunswick School Department
Social Studies
Grade 7 –Ancient Greece

Unit Overview

Ancient Athenians were the first people in human history to experiment with large-scale self-governance. This unit will trace the impact that experiment had on our nation's ideals and principals, while also reviewing the major people, events, and turning points of Ancient Greece. The relationship between the geography of Ancient Greece and its ancient cultures will also be explored.

Essential Understandings

Ancient Greece's history of democratic ideals had a great impact on our nation's democratic ideals and constitutional principles.

Priority Standards and Performance Indicators

(As based on the Maine Learning Results)

P.S. SS-4 Utilize concepts and processes from geography to understand issues involving people, places, and environments in the United States and the world.

d. Describe the dynamic relationship between geographic features and various cultures, including the cultures of Maine Native Americans, various historical groups in the United States, and other cultures in the world.

P.S.SS-5 Draw on concepts and processes from history to develop historical perspective and understand issues of continuity and change in the community, Maine, the United States, and world.

- a) Explain that history is the study of the written record of the past, based on available evidence from a variety of sources.
- b) Trace and explain the history of democratic ideals and constitutional principles and their importance in the history of the United States and the world.
- c) Identify and analyze major historical eras, major enduring themes, turning points, events, consequences, and people in the history of Maine, the United States and various regions of the world.

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Examples of Formative / Summative Assessments

- Logical Argument essay: “Explain why you would prefer being an Athenian girl, Athenian boy, a Spartan girl, or a Spartan boy.”
- Ancient Greece Keynote: students choose research four topics to read, write, and present about.
- Identify major city-states, peninsulas, and bodies of water of Ancient Greece
- Compare and contrast Ancient Athenian direct democracy vs. Wabanaki consensus-based governance

Sample Texts and Materials/Resources

- ReadWorks.org’s “Greek Drama.”
- “Power of the People” in Greek Civilization: World History 1250 - 300 B.C., published in 2005 by the National Geographic Society.
- World Explorer: Ancient World, published in 2001 by Prentice Hall.
- The Nystrom Atlas of World History, published in 2007 by Nystrom Herff Jones Education Division.
- Primary Source: *Pericles’ Funeral Oration* (praise of Athens).
- A&E Television Networks. “Ancient Greece.”
<<http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/ancient-greece>>
- BBC. “Primary History: Ancient Greeks.”
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/ancient_greeks/>
- Donn, Lin. “Ancient Greece for Kids.” <<http://greece.mrdonn.org/>>
- The British Museum. “Geography: Ancient Greece.”
<http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk/geography/home_set.html>
- University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. “Greece Gallery.” <<http://www.penn.museum/exhibitions/signature-galleries/greece-gallery>>