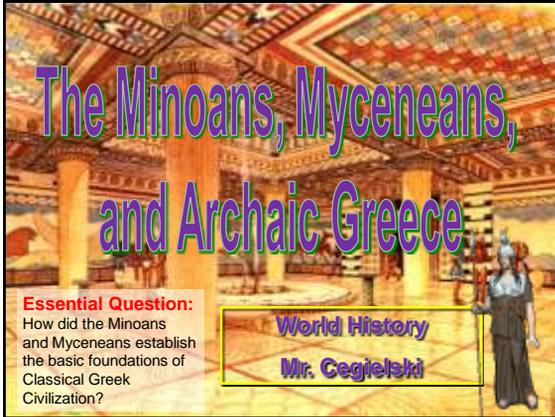


The Minoans, Myceneans, and Archaic Greece

Essential Question:
How did the Minoans and Myceneans establish the basic foundations of Classical Greek Civilization?

World History
Mr. Cegielski



Ancient Greece

Understanding Goal:
People and place influence culture.



Investigate a Question:
How did the location of Ancient Greece affect the development of its culture?

Explore: Point out Greece on the map. How do you think the economic, political, and social life of Greece was affected by its geography?

Connect: Draw a circle on the map and label it with the name of a Greek city. How do you think the importance of the individual was reflected in each of these areas?

Learn: Go to LDC.org to find examples of images that represent Greek contributions in the areas of art, architecture, science, music, and geography, such as those in *Renaissance*, *The Vatican Library & Renaissance Culture*.

Geographic Background

- In ancient times, Greece was not a united country. It was a collection of separate lands where Greek-speaking people lived.
- By 2000 BCE, the **Minoans** lived on the large Greek island of **Crete**. The Minoans created an elegant civilization that had great power in the Mediterranean world.
- At the same time, Indo-European peoples migrated from the plains along the Black Sea and Anatolia. The Indo-Europeans settled in mainland Greece. Seaborne commercial networks spread ideas as well as resources throughout the eastern Mediterranean.
- Ancient Greece consisted mainly of a **mountainous peninsula** — surrounded by water on three sides— jutting out into the **Mediterranean Sea**. It also included approximately **1,400 islands** in the **Aegean and Ionian seas**. Lands on the western coast of Anatolia were also part of ancient Greece. The region's physical geography directly shaped Greek traditions and customs.



THE SEA:

- The sea shaped Greek civilization just as rivers shaped the ancient civilizations of Egypt, the Fertile Crescent, India, and China. In one sense, the Greeks did not live on a land but AROUND a sea. Greeks rarely traveled more than 85 miles to reach the coastline.
- The **Aegean Sea, the Ionian Sea, and the neighboring Black Sea** were important transportation routes for the Greek people. These liquid highways linked most parts of Greece.
- As the Greeks became skilled sailors, sea travel also connected Greece with other societies. Sea travel and trade were also important because Greece itself was poor in natural resources. Greece lacked timber, precious metals, and usable farmland.

THE LAND:

- Rugged mountains covered about three-fourths of ancient Greece. Mountains divided the land into different regions.
- The mountain chains ran mainly from northwest to southeast along the Balkan peninsula. They influenced Greek political life.
- Unlike the Egyptians or the Chinese, it was difficult to unite the ancient Greeks under a single government. Greece developed small, independent communities within each little valley and its surrounding mountains. Most Greeks gave their loyalty to these local communities.
- In ancient times, the uneven terrain also made land transportation difficult. Early Greek roads were dirt paths.
 - For example, the city-state of Sparta was only about 60 miles from Olympia, the site of the Olympic Games. Yet it took Spartans almost seven days to travel that distance.



THE LAND continued...

- The land was stony and only a small part of it—approximately 20 percent—was **arable**, or suitable for farming. Tiny but fertile valleys covered about one-fourth of Greece. The small streams that watered these valleys were not suitable for large-scale irrigation projects.
- With little fertile farmland or fresh water, Greece was never able to support a large population. It is estimated that no more than a few million people lived in ancient Greece at any given time. Even this small population couldn't expect the land to support a life of luxury.
- The Greeks based their diet on basic staple crops such as grains, grapes, and olives. A desire for more living space, grassland for raising livestock, and adequate farmland may have been factors that motivated the Greeks to seek new sites for colonies.



THE CLIMATE:

- Climate was the third important environmental influence on Greek civilization. Greece has a varied climate with temperatures averaging 48 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter and 80 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer.
- In ancient times, these moderate temperatures supported an outdoor life for many Greek citizens. Men spent much of their leisure time at outdoor public events. They met often to discuss public issues, exchange news, and take an active part in civic life.



The Minoans

2000 - 1400 BCE



Introduction

- The island of **Crete** was the center of Minoan civilization, which spread to the Aegean Islands, the coast of Asia Minor, and mainland Greece.
- It is called **Minoan** after the legendary Cretan **King Minos**.



The Minoan World: mid-



Knossos

- **Knossos** became the dominant city in Crete after 1700 B.C.
- This "**Palace of Minos**," built of brick, limestone and wood, was at least three stories high and covered nearly six acres.
- It featured a maze of royal apartments, storerooms, corridors, open courtyards, and broad stairways.



Sir Arthur Evans, 1851-1941



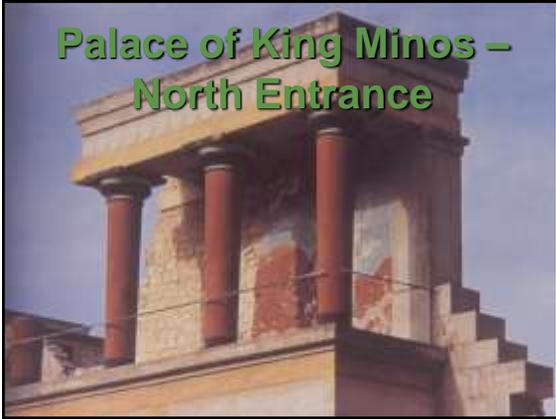
Arthur Evans was the archaeologist who excavated the famous palace at the city of Knossos on Crete in order to reconstruct their way of life.

Artist's Recreation of



Aerial View of Knossos



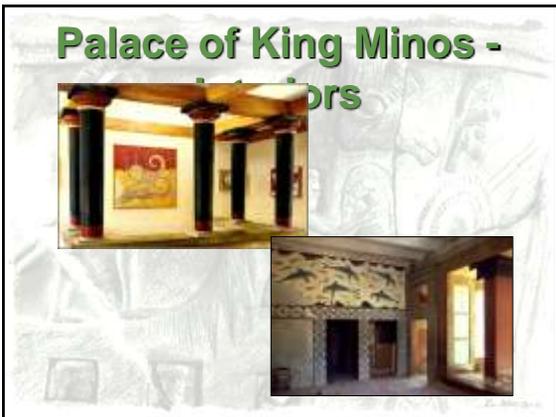


Palace of King Minos –
North Entrance

A background image for the 'Interior of the Palace' section, showing a faint fresco of a Minoan figure. In the foreground, there is a small, blue, ornate fountain with water spraying upwards.

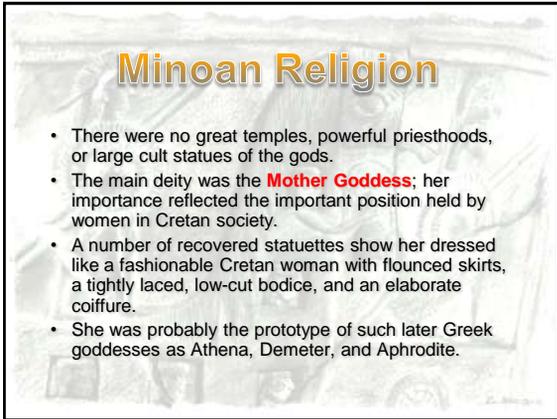
Interior of the Palace

- Furnished with running water, the palace had a sanitation system.
- Walls were painted with elaborate frescoes in which the Minoans appear as a happy, peaceful people with a passion for dancing, festivals, and athletic contests.

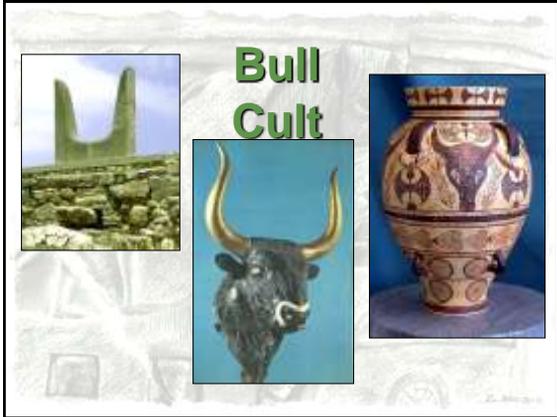


Palace of King Minos -
Interiors

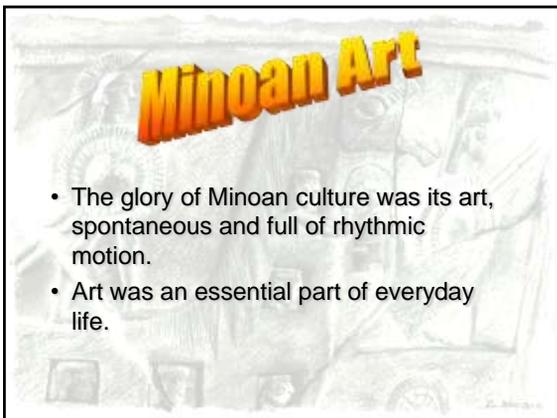












Minoan Artistic "Motifs"



Minoan Economy-Trade

- Large-scale trade ranged from Sicily, Greece, and Asia Minor to Syria and Egypt.
- Minoans ships were capable of long voyages over the open sea.
- Chief exports were olive oil, wine, metalware, and pottery.

Minoan Trade



Coast of Crete



"Bireme" ship

Minoan Writing

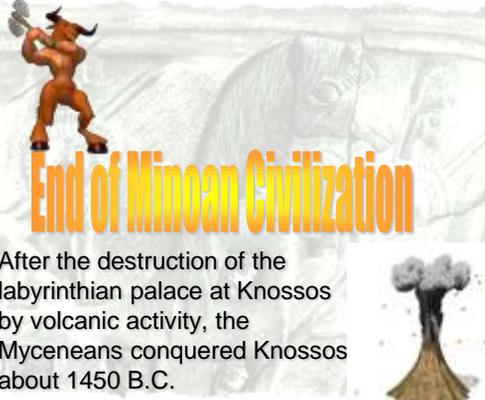
- Administrative records were written on clay tablets, using a syllabic script known as **Linear A**, which has never been deciphered.
- Archaeologists rely on Minoan art to reconstruct this civilization.

Early Writing System: "Linear A"



What caused the End of the Minoan Civilization??

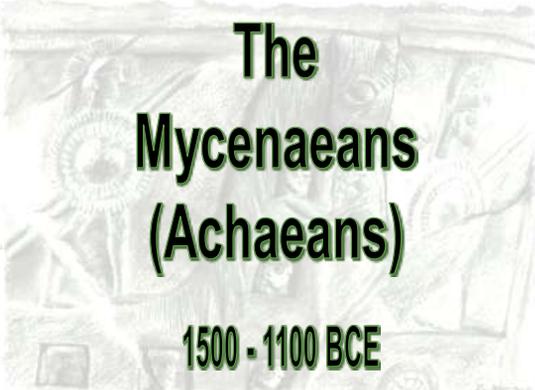
Click here:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z75J-DFIJK>
feature=Playlist&list=PL5974FFDAA65927A93mubx2



End of Minoan Civilization

- After the destruction of the labyrinthian palace at Knossos by volcanic activity, the Mycenaens conquered Knossos about 1450 B.C.

The image features a Minotaur in the top left corner and a volcanic eruption in the bottom right corner. The background is a faded image of a classical Greek relief.



**The
Mycenaens
(Achaens)**

1500 - 1100 BCE

The image shows a faded background of Mycenaean architecture, including a circular structure and a classical building.



The Mycenaens

- About 2000 B.C., an Indo-European Greek tribe, called the **Achaens**, entered Greece, where they absorbed the earlier settlers and ruled Mycenae, Pylos, Athens, and other sites.
- By 1600 B.C. the Achaens – also called the **Mycenaens**, had adopted much of the advanced culture of the Minoans.
- They planted colonies in the eastern Mediterranean.

The image shows a photograph of a Mycenaean temple with a pediment and columns.

The Mycenaean World:



Heinrich Schliemann



- In 1876 archaeologist **Heinrich Schliemann** (left) unearthed the wealth accumulated by the kings of Mycenae - the greatest single hoard of gold, silver, and ivory objects.



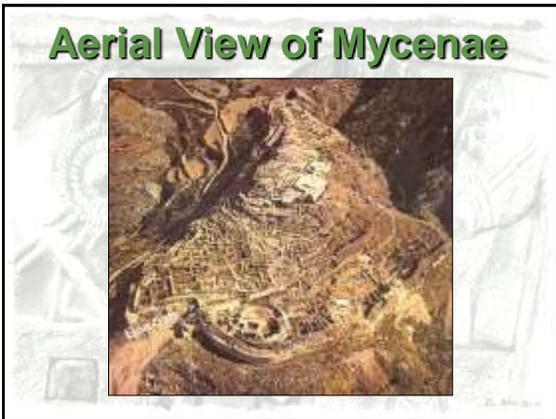
View of Mycenae

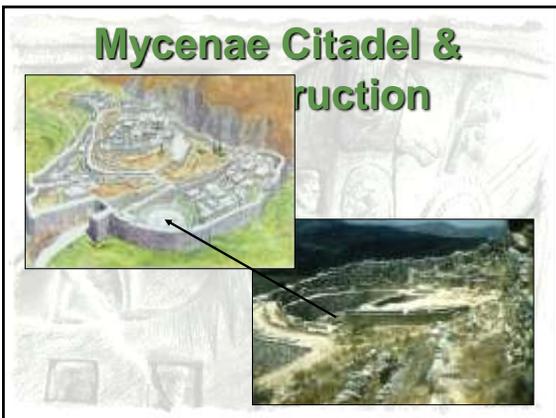


Mycenean Government and Economy

- Mycenaean kings ruled from fortified palaces and cities, called **citadels**, and administrative centers.
- Most of the population lived in scattered villages where they worked the land.
- The nobles were controlled by the kings.
- The most important trade item was olive oil, which was controlled by a royal monopoly.

Mycenae: Lion's Gate (undated drawing)





Approach to the Lion's



Lion's Gate Entrance to



Mycenaean Writing System: "Linear B"



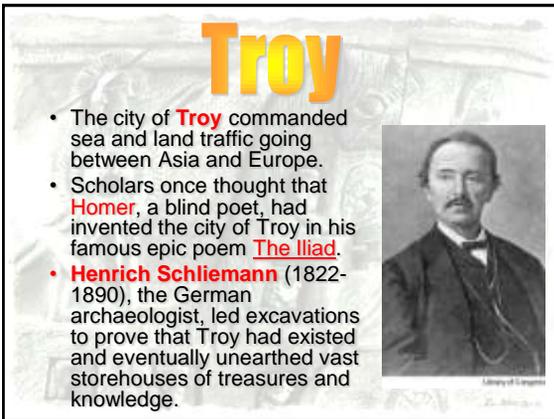
- Mycenaean scribes kept records, using **Linear B**.
- These clay tablets provide details about grain, the use of wine as wages, and the collection of taxes.



The Trojan War

mid-12c BCE

Essential Question:
What is fact and what is fiction concerning The Trojan War?



Troy

- The city of **Troy** commanded sea and land traffic going between Asia and Europe.
- Scholars once thought that **Homer**, a blind poet, had invented the city of Troy in his famous epic poem **The Iliad**.
- **Henrich Schliemann** (1822-1890), the German archaeologist, led excavations to prove that Troy had existed and eventually unearthed vast storehouses of treasures and knowledge.



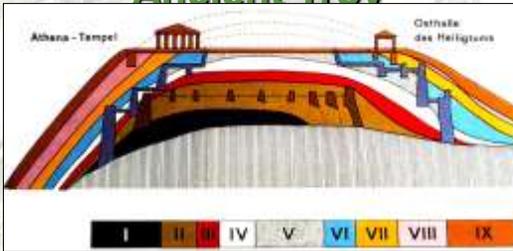
Library of Congress



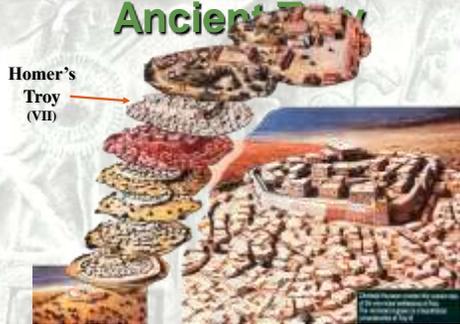
Plan of the City of Troy



The Seven "Layers" of Ancient Troy



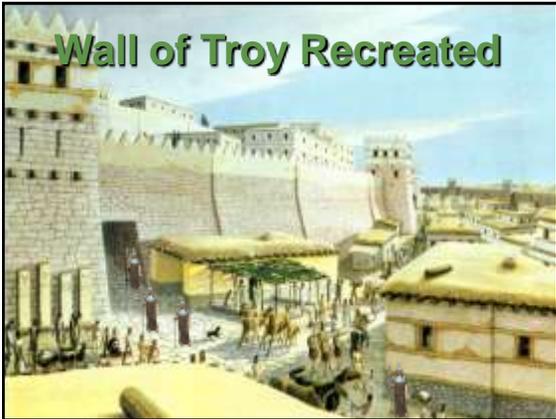
The Seven "Layers" of Ancient Troy



Original Wall of the City



Wall of Troy Recreated



What were the Historical Causes of the Trojan War??

Desiring to control the seas, the Mycenaean (Achaean) kings launched a famous expedition against Troy in 1250 B.C. in order to eliminate a powerful commercial rival.

Bronze Age Enemies:



Causes of War According to Homer

- Historians' theories do not correspond with Homer's view that the Trojan War was caused by the abduction of **Helen**, queen of Sparta, by the Trojan prince **Paris**.
- Led by **Agamemnon**, king of Mycenae, the wrathful Achaeans besieged Troy for ten long years. Homer's *Iliad* deals only with a few weeks during the tenth year of the siege.

Mask of Agammemnon



Helen of Troy: “The Face That Launched 1000 Ships”

What
did she
look
like?



King Priam: A Real or Mythological King?



Actor Peter O'Toole plays King Priam in the movie Troy.

- In Greek mythology, **Priam** was the king of Troy during the Trojan War.
- Priam had several wives and was the father of 50 sons and many daughters. His chief wife, Hecuba, bore him 19 children, including Hector, Paris, Polyxena, Helenus, Cassandra, Troilus, Creusa, Polydorus, and Deiphobus.
- When the Greeks sacked and burned Troy, Priam was killed by Neoptolemus.

King Priam's Treasure: Sofie Schliemann, the Archaeologist's Wife, with King Priam's Jewels



The "Trojan Horse"?



Brutal Comb at



Troy Grave Circles



Documentary--Beyond the Movie: Troy

- **Introduction and Directions:** A few years ago Hollywood made the movie "Troy." Did Hollywood "get it right?" Based on your viewing of the documentary, list 10 historical facts as well as 5 possible misconceptions (myths) about Troy and the Trojan War. Then, finally, answer this question: Is there any value to watching a Hollywood movie of an important historical event? Back up your argument!

Click the link below:

http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/beyond_the_movie_troy/

The Fall of Mycenaean Civilization



- About 1200 B.C. a new wave of Indo-Europeans--the **Dorian Greeks**--invaded Greece.
- The Mycenaean center Pylos was sacked and burned, and the destruction of the other major Mycenaean citadels soon followed.
- Mycenaean refugees fled to Athens and to Ionia on the western coast of Asia Minor.

The Greek "Dark Ages"

1100 - 750 BCE

From the Darkness Arose Hellenic Civilization

- After the Dorian invasion, Mycenaean civilization disappeared including centralized administration, wide-ranging commerce, sophisticated art forms and architecture, and writing.
- Yet, a unique **Hellenic** (from "Hellas," the Greek name for Greece) civilization arose.

Migrations in the



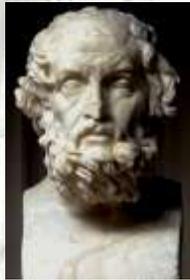
The Influence of Geography

- The numerous mountain ranges made communication difficult, leading to the development of fiercely independent city-states.
- The major cleft is the Gulf of Corinth, which made southern Greece almost an island - hence, it was called the Peloponnesus ("Pelop's island").
- In order to secure more fertile lands and sea trade, the Greeks established colonies abroad.

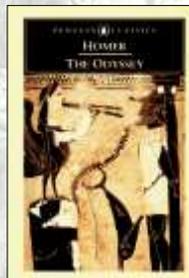
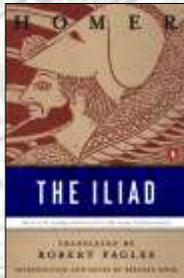


The Homeric Age

- The blind poet **Homer** created the epics the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.
 - The *Iliad* describes the Trojan War.
 - *The Odyssey* tells of Odysseus returning from war (after twenty years)--and his trials in which he had to overcome.
- The poet described details of political, economic, social, religious life.
- Homer's epics emphasize heroic values - the strength, skill, and valor of the preeminent warrior.



Homer's Great Epics



Homer's View of the



Greek Myths



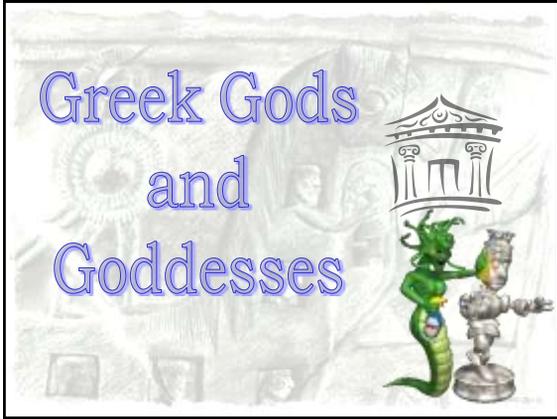
- **Myths** are stories about divine beings and nature.
- Before the world understood science, the Greeks explained their world through their myths.
- These stories reveal Greek history, their understanding of nature, and the values of the mythmakers.

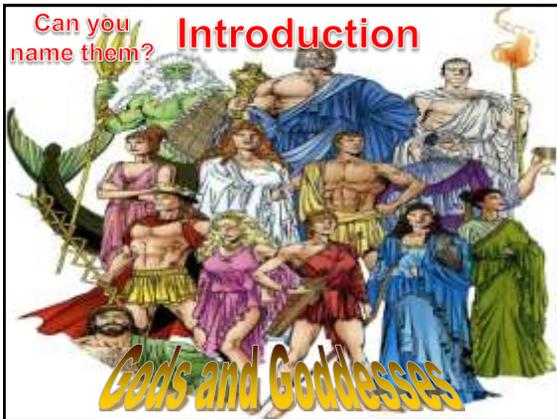
Clash of the Titans – Medusa

Rating: PG (Violence/Brief Nudity/Suitable for Children)

-- A film adaptation of the myth of Perseus and his quest to battle both Medusa and the Kraken monster to save the Princess Andromeda.

View the clip from the classic movie on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBtAO4dYL98>





WHAT DO YOU ALREADY KNOW?

MATCHING THE GODS AND THEIR REALMS - QUIZ (put the correct letter on the line)

Cronus _____	f. God of War
Zeus _____	b. God of the Heavens and the earth, Ruler of the Gods
Hera _____	h. Goddess of Agriculture
Poseidon _____	m. Goddess of Love and Beauty
Hades _____	n. God of the Underworld, Brother of Zeus
Ares _____	g. Ruler of the Titans, Father of Zeus
Apollo _____	a. God of the Sun (and medicine, poetry, music), A twin
Artemis _____	l. Goddess of the Moon, A twin
Athena _____	k. Goddess of Wisdom (and unmarried girls)
Aphrodite _____	d. God of the Sea, Brother of Zeus
Eros _____	i. God of Love
Hephaestus _____	j. God of Fire
Hermes _____	i. Messenger of the Gods
Demeter _____	c. Goddess of Marriage, Wife of Zeus
Dionysus _____	e. God of Wine and Revelry

Zeus
King of heaven and earth and of all the gods on Olympus



"Zeus." Museum of Olympia, Greece.
Image courtesy of Corel Corporation.
Credit (button images): courtesy of Corel Corporation.



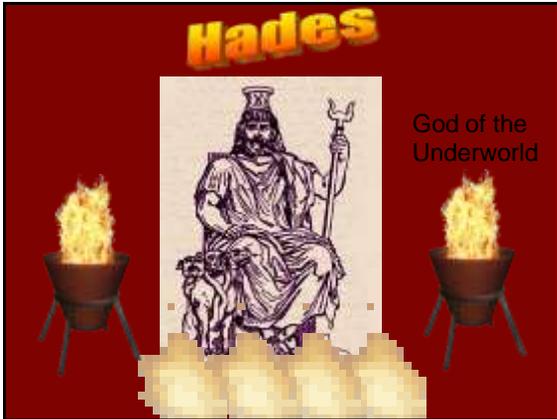
Hera

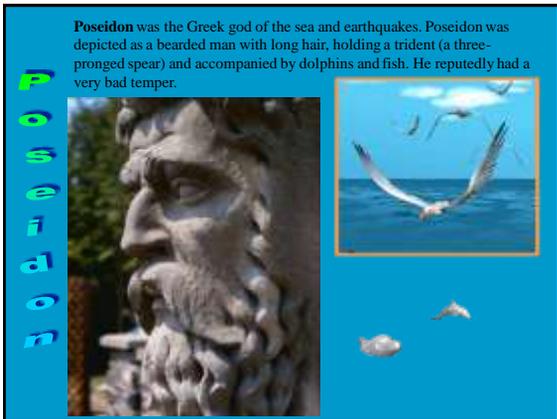
As the wife (and sister) of Zeus, Hera is the patron of marriage. She is also known as Juno (Roman). She has no unique attributes in iconography and so can only be identified by context or inscription.



Athena

Goddess of wisdom, reason and purity







Demeter



Demeter is the giver of grain. She is also known as Ceres (Roman) and sometimes Deo. Her attributes in iconography can include a torch, a crown, a sceptre, and stalks of grain. She is often portrayed with her daughter, Persephone/Kore.

Aphrodite



Aphrodite was the Greek goddess of love and beauty.



Left section of the frieze (c. 525 B.C.) of the treasury of Siphnion, entitled "Symposium of the Gods." Delphi, Greece. From left to right we can see Aphrodite, Artemis, and Apollo.
Image courtesy of the Superintendency (Ephoria) of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Delphi, Greek Ministry of Culture-Archaeological Receipt Fund. (c) Greek Ministry of Culture.



In Greek mythology, Artemis was born with her twin brother Apollo in the island of Delos. Their parents were Zeus and Leto. Artemis was the goddess of woodland and the personification of the Moon. She was also known as the goddess of the hunt.

Artemis

**H
E
R
M
E
S**



GOD OF
CHANCE
AND
GAMING



Head of Hermes. Statue of the 2nd century A.D. from Turkey.
Image courtesy of Corel Corporation.

Apollo



GOD
OF
THE
SUN,
LOGIC
AND
MUSIC

In Greek mythology, Apollo was the son of Zeus (Jupiter) and Leto (Letona). He was the twin brother of the goddess Artemis

**H
E
R
M
E
S**



God of
Fire and
artisans.
He was
ugly and
lame.
Protector
of smiths.

Government and Social Class

- By the 700's B.C.E., kings had lost power to the **aristocrats**, or wealthy nobles.
- Many farmers were unable to pay back their debts and were forced to become sharecroppers or slaves to the aristocrats.
- Many non-land holding merchants and artisans began to acquire some political rights as members of the assembly.
- The economy was a simple, self-sufficient agricultural system.

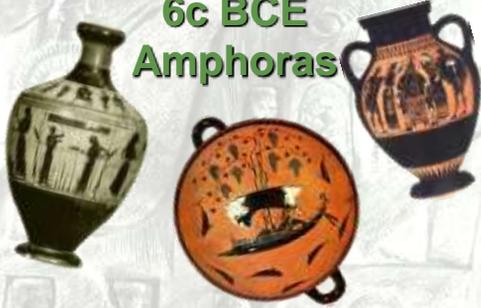
Greek & Phoenician Colonization:



The Benefits of Colonization and Trade

- From 750 to 550 B.C. the Greeks planted colonies along the northern coast of the Aegean and around the Black Sea.
- Greek colonies supplied grain to help feed the overcrowded city-states.
- Merchants transported bulky cargo—animals, textiles, timber, and jugs of olive oil—throughout modern-day Europe.
- By the 600's B.C.E., the Greeks replaced their barter system with a money economy and their trade expanded further.

Trade Resumes: 6c BCE Amphoras



"Iron Age" Trade Routes



Evolution of Our Alphabet: From Phoenician to Latin