

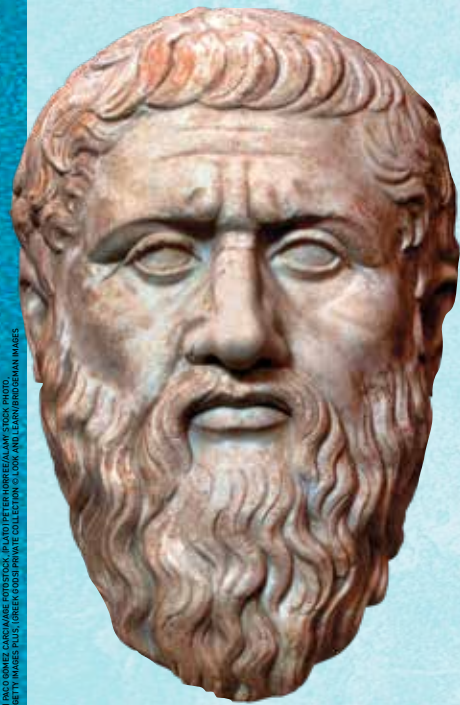
Life in Ancient Greece

The ancient Greeks were great thinkers, warriors, athletes, artists, and politicians. They were also great builders. Their cities had beautiful temples, open-air theaters, and other dazzling public buildings.

Art and Artisans

The Greeks were famous for their clay pots. They came in many shapes and sizes depending on their purpose. They were often beautifully decorated with scenes from daily life.

The Greeks were really good at making statues, too. Master sculptors carved life-like statues out of a rock called marble.



Great Thinkers

The Greeks created a new way of thinking that emphasized logic, reasoning, mathematics, and careful observation. Plato (on the left) and Socrates were famous thinkers of the time. Hippocrates, a doctor, and Archimedes, an inventor and mathematician, were well-known scientists.

Bold Builders

The ancient Greeks had a grand style of architecture that is still copied today. The Greeks believed that the secret to making a great building was math. They carefully designed their buildings, making sure all the angles, shapes, and sizes were just right.

frieze: a decorative panel of sculpture

pediment: a triangle-shaped area with more sculpture

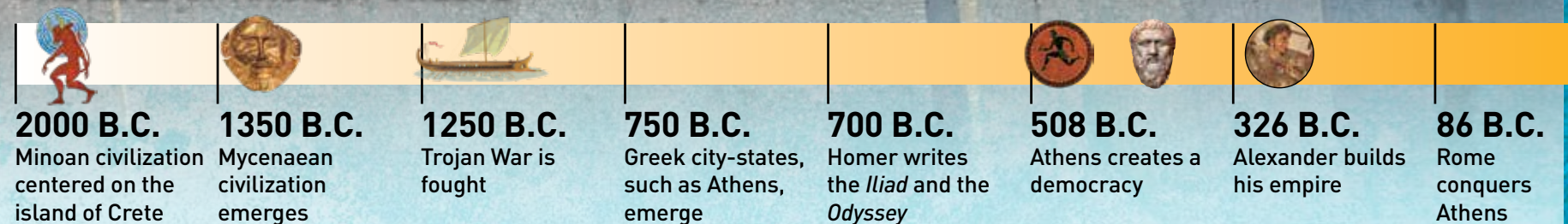
inner chamber: a room that held a statue of the god or goddess of the temple

column: a long post used to support a building; built around temples



The most famous Greek temple is the Parthenon in Athens. It was built for the goddess Athena.

THE AGES OF ANCIENT GREECE



Watchful Gods

The Greeks believed that gods and goddesses watched over them from Mount Olympus. Every city had a favorite god or goddess. People believed the gods protected them from harm. To please the gods, people brought gifts of money, flowers, food, and drink to temples like the Parthenon.

Greek Gods

Zeus: king of the gods; father of many children

Poseidon: brother of Zeus and Hades; god of the sea

Hermes: son of Zeus; messenger of the gods

Hera: queen of the gods; wife of Zeus

Hades: brother of Zeus; ruler of the underworld



Athena Heracles Apollo Poseidon Hermes Dionysus Hera Zeus Hades

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