Updated: Unit 4 Greece (6th Grade)

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s):
Time Period: **MP4**
Length: **9 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Targeted Standards

6.2.8.GeoPP.3.a	Use geographic models to describe how the availability of natural resources influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural systems of each of the classical civilizations and provided motivation for expansion.
6.2.8.GeoPP.3.b	Explain how geography and the availability of natural resources led to both the development of classical civilizations and to their decline.
6.2.8.HistoryCC.3.a	Determine the extent to which religion, economic issues, and conflict shaped the values and decisions of the classical civilizations.
6.2.8.HistoryUP.3.a	Compare and contrast social hierarchies in classical civilizations as they relate to power, wealth, and equality.
6.2.8.HistoryCA.3.b	Determine common factors that contributed to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, Gupta India, and Han China.

21st Century Skills: Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

9.4.8.GCA.1	Model how to navigate cultural differences with sensitivity and respect (e.g., 1.5.8.C1a).
9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal.
9.4.8.IML.5	Analyze and interpret local or public data sets to summarize and effectively communicate the data.
9.4.8.IML.7	Use information from a variety of sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures for a specific purpose (e.g., 1.2.8.C2a, 1.4.8.CR2a, 2.1.8.CHSS/IV.8.AI.1, W.5.8, 6.1.8.GeoSV.3.a, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.4.b, 7.1.NH. IPRET.8).
9.4.8.TL.3	Select appropriate tools to organize and present information digitally.

Rationale/Goals

This sixth-grade unit on Ancient Greece introduces students to one of the most influential civilizations in world history. Students will explore how Greece's geography, political systems, beliefs, and cultural achievements shaped the development of Western civilization. Through the study of Greek city-states, mythology, democracy, philosophy, art, literature, and military conflicts, students will examine how ancient Greeks contributed ideas and innovations that continue to impact modern society. This unit encourages students to analyze how geography influenced Greek life, how different forms of government developed, and how Greek achievements in science, politics, and culture continue to influence the world today.

Essential Questions: Main Essential Question

How did the geography, ideas, and achievements of Ancient Greece shape the development of the modern world?

Essential Questions: Guiding Questions

Unit Guiding Questions

- How did geography influence the development of Ancient Greek civilization?
- Why did Ancient Greece develop into independent city-states rather than one unified country?
- How did Greek ideas, beliefs, and achievements influence the modern world?
- How did government systems in Ancient Greece shape the way people lived?
- How did conflict and cooperation impact the growth of Greek civilization?
- What makes a civilization's achievements significant and lasting?

Geography of Ancient Greece

- How did Greece’s mountains, islands, and seas influence settlement and trade?
- Why did Greek communities develop into separate city-states?
- How did the Mediterranean Sea affect Greek exploration and communication?
- How did geography influence the Greek economy and way of life?
- How did the geography of Greece compare with other ancient civilizations?

Greek City-States

- What was a Greek city-state, and how was it organized?
- How were Athens and Sparta similar and different?
- How did the governments of Athens and Sparta reflect their values?
- What role did citizens play in Greek city-states?
- How did social classes affect daily life in Ancient Greece?

Ancient Greek Religion and Mythology

- Why were Greek myths important to ancient Greek culture?
- How did Greek gods and goddesses influence daily life?
- What do Greek myths reveal about Greek values and beliefs?
- How did religion influence Greek art, literature, and traditions?

Athens and Democracy

- How did Athens develop the first democracy?
- What were the strengths and weaknesses of Athenian democracy?
- Who was allowed to participate in the Athenian government?
- How was Athenian democracy different from modern democracy?

- How did leaders such as Pericles influence Athens?

Sparta and Greek Society

- How did Sparta organize its society to create a strong military?
- Why was military training important in Spartan culture?
- How did Spartan government differ from Athenian government?
- What were the roles of men, women, and enslaved people in Sparta?
- What values did Spartan society emphasize?

Greek Conflicts

Persian Wars

- What caused the Persian Wars?
- How did the Greek city-states work together to defeat Persia?
- Why were battles such as Marathon and Thermopylae important?
- How did the Persian Wars affect Greek identity and power?

Peloponnesian War

- Why did Athens and Sparta become enemies?
- What were the causes and effects of the Peloponnesian War?
- How did the war change the balance of power in Greece?

Greek Philosophy

- Why did Greek philosophers seek explanations about the world?
- What questions did Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle explore?
- How did Socrates influence the way people think and learn?
- How did Plato’s ideas influence government and education?

- How did Aristotle contribute to science, logic, and philosophy?
- How do Greek philosophical ideas continue to influence the world today?

Greek Achievements and Culture

- What achievements did Ancient Greece make in art, architecture, literature, and science?
- Why were Greek theaters and Olympic Games important?
- How did Greek architecture influence modern buildings?
- What contributions did Greek mathematicians and scientists make?
- How did Greek literature and storytelling influence future generations?

Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic Era

- How did Alexander the Great build one of the largest empires of the ancient world?
- How did Alexander spread Greek culture throughout his empire?
- What was the Hellenistic Era?
- How did Greek ideas mix with other cultures during the Hellenistic Era?
- What lasting contributions came from the Hellenistic world?

Vocabulary

People	Terms	Places/Events
Homer	Ancient Greece	Greece
Zeus	Balkan Peninsula	Balkan Peninsula
Athena	Peloponnesus (Peloponnese)	Peloponnese (Peloponnesus)
Poseidon	Aegean Sea	Aegean Sea
Hades	Ionian Sea	Ionian Sea
Solon	Mediterranean Sea	Mediterranean Sea
Cleisthenes	Crete	Crete
Pericles	Mountains	Mount Olympus

Leonidas I	Peninsula	Delphi
Draco	Island	Thermopylae
Darius I	Natural Harbor	Athens
Xerxes I	Polis (City-State)	Sparta
Themistocles	Democracy	Corinth
Leonidas I	Oligarchy	Thebes
Socrates	Monarchy	Olympia
Plato	Tyrant	Mycenae
Aristotle	Citizen	Troy
Homer	Assembly	Acropolis
Pythagoras	Council	Parthenon
Hippocrates	Jury	Rise of the Greek city-states (Poleis)
Archimedes	Constitution	Development of Athenian democracy
Euclid	Direct Democracy	Growth of Sparta as a military state
Philip II of Macedon	Republic	First Olympic Games
Alexander the Great	Rule of Law	Construction of the Parthenon
	Social Class	Mount Olympus
	Slavery	Delphi
	Athens	Temple of Apollo at Delphi
	Sparta	Olympia
	Helots	Development of Greek mythology
	Hoplite	Oracle of Delphi's influence on Greek leaders
	Phalanx	Religious festivals honoring the Greek gods
	Military Society	Ancient Olympic Games
	Education	Marathon
	Citizenship	Thermopylae
	Polytheism	Salamis

Mythology	Plataea
Olympians	Persian Empire
Oracle	Ionian Revolt
Oracle of Delphi	Persian Wars
Mount Olympus	Battle of Marathon
Zeus	Battle of Thermopylae
Hera	Battle of Salamis
Athena	Battle of Plataea
Poseidon	Greek victory over Persia
Hades	Athens
Apollo	Acropolis
Artemis	Parthenon
Ares	Golden Age of Athens
Aphrodite	Leadership of Pericles
Hermes	Construction of the Parthenon
Persian Empire	Growth of democracy
Battle of Marathon	Advances in art, architecture, drama, and philosophy
Battle of Thermopylae	Athens
Battle of Salamis	Sparta
Persian Wars	Delos
Peloponnesian War	Peloponnese
Delian League	Formation of the Delian League
Peloponnesian League	Formation of the Peloponnesian League
Civil War	Peloponnesian War
Alliance	Defeat of Athens
Philosophy	Spartan victory
Socrates	Teachings of Socrates

Plato	Founding of Plato's Academy
Aristotle	Aristotle establishes the Lyceum
Logic	Growth of philosophy and scientific inquiry
Reason	Rise of Macedonia
Ethics	Philip II unites Greece
Olympics	Alexander the Great conquers the Persian Empire
Olympic Games	Founding of Alexandria
Theater	Beginning of the Hellenistic Era
Tragedy	Spread of Greek culture (Hellenization)
Comedy	Death of Alexander the Great
Architecture	Division of Alexander's Empire
Columns	
Parthenon	
Acropolis	
Sculpture	
Mathematics	
Geometry	
Medicine	
Science	
Astronomy	
Macedonia	
Philip II	
Alexander the Great	
Hellenistic Era	
Cultural Diffusion	
Empire	
Conquest	

Content/Enduring Understandings

Early Greek Civilization

Content Knowledge

- The Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations and their contributions.
- The impact of the Trojan War on Greek history and literature.
- The Greek Dark Age and its effects on society.
- The rise of the polis (city-state).
- The development of Greek culture and identity.

Greek City-States

Content Knowledge

- The organization and purpose of Greek city-states.
- The similarities and differences between Athens and Sparta.
- The governments of Athens and Sparta.
- The roles of citizens, women, enslaved people, and other social groups.
- Daily life, education, and military training in Greek society.

Greek Government

Content Knowledge

- The development of democracy in Athens.

- The roles of the Assembly, Council, and juries.
- The contributions of Solon, Cleisthenes, and Pericles.
- The strengths and limitations of Athenian democracy.
- Comparison of democracy, oligarchy, monarchy, and tyranny.

Greek Religion and Mythology

Content Knowledge

- Greek polytheism and the Olympian gods.
- The role of myths in explaining the natural world and teaching values.
- Religious festivals and ceremonies.
- The Oracle of Delphi and its influence.
- The importance of Mount Olympus and sacred sites.

Persian Wars and Peloponnesian War

Content Knowledge

- Causes and effects of the Persian Wars.
- Major battles, including Marathon, Thermopylae, Salamis, and Plataea.
- The growth of Athenian power after the Persian Wars.
- Causes and effects of the Peloponnesian War.
- The decline of Greek unity following the war.

Greek Philosophy and Achievements

Content Knowledge

- The teachings of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
- Greek contributions to philosophy, science, mathematics, medicine, and history.

- Greek achievements in architecture, sculpture, theater, and literature.
- The Olympic Games and their significance.
- The lasting influence of Greek culture on later civilizations.

Macedonia and the Hellenistic Era

Content Knowledge

- The rise of Macedonia under Philip II.
- The leadership and military achievements of Alexander the Great.
- The spread of Greek culture throughout Alexander's empire.
- The characteristics of the Hellenistic Era.
- Cultural diffusion and the blending of Greek and other cultures.

Enduring Understandings

- **Geography influences the development of civilizations. Mountains, seas, and natural resources shaped the growth of Ancient Greece and its independent city-states.**

- Different forms of government reflect the values and needs of societies. The development of democracy in Athens and the military government of Sparta demonstrate different approaches to leadership and citizenship.
- Ideas and philosophies can have a lasting impact on the world. The teachings of Greek philosophers continue to influence education, government, ethics, and scientific thinking.
- Conflict can unite or divide civilizations. The Persian Wars strengthened Greek identity, while the Peloponnesian War weakened the Greek city-states.
- Culture, art, literature, and innovation leave lasting legacies. Ancient Greek achievements in architecture, theater, sports, mathematics, and science continue to shape modern society.
- Leadership can influence the rise and expansion of civilizations. Leaders such as Pericles, Philip II,

and Alexander the Great transformed Greece and expanded its influence beyond its borders.

- The exchange of ideas between cultures shapes civilizations. The Hellenistic Era demonstrates how cultural diffusion can spread knowledge, beliefs, and innovations across regions.

Skills

- use geographic tools
- explain
- cause and effect
- use sources (primary and secondary)
- make evidence based inferences and claims
- cite textual evidence
- argue
- identify
- examine
- analyze
- cite primary and secondary sources
- assess
- compare and contrast

Learning Targets (examples)

Geography of Ancient Greece Learning Targets

- I can locate Ancient Greece and identify its major geographic features.
- I can explain how mountains, islands, and surrounding seas influenced Greek civilization.
- I can describe how geography led to the development of independent city-states.
- I can explain how trade and travel helped Ancient Greece grow.
- I can analyze the relationship between geography and the success of Ancient Greece.

Early Greek Civilization Learning Targets

- I can describe the achievements of the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations.
- I can explain the importance of the Trojan War in Greek history and literature.
- I can describe how the Greek Dark Age affected the development of Greece.
- I can explain how the polis became the center of Greek life.

Greek City-States Learning Targets

- I can explain the purpose and characteristics of a Greek city-state.
- I can compare and contrast Athens and Sparta.
- I can describe the roles of citizens, women, and enslaved people in Greek society.
- I can explain how education and daily life differed between Athens and Sparta.
- I can analyze how different forms of government reflect the values of each city-state.

Greek Government Learning Targets

- I can explain how democracy developed in Athens.
- I can identify the roles of the Assembly, Council, and juries.
- I can describe the contributions of Solon, Cleisthenes, and Pericles.
- I can compare democracy, oligarchy, monarchy, and tyranny.
- I can evaluate the strengths and limitations of Athenian democracy.

Greek Religion and Mythology Learning Targets

- I can explain the importance of religion in Ancient Greece.
- I can identify the major Greek gods and goddesses.
- I can explain how myths reflected Greek beliefs and values.
- I can describe the importance of Mount Olympus and the Oracle of Delphi.
- I can explain how religion influenced Greek culture, festivals, and daily life.

Persian Wars and Peloponnesian War Learning Targets

- I can explain the causes of the Persian Wars.
- I can describe the significance of the Battles of Marathon, Thermopylae, Salamis, and Plataea.
- I can explain how the Persian Wars strengthened Greek civilization.
- I can explain the causes and effects of the Peloponnesian War.
- I can analyze how war changed the balance of power in Ancient Greece.

Greek Philosophy and Achievements Learning Targets

- I can identify the major ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
- I can explain how Greek philosophers influenced education, government, and science.
- I can identify important Greek achievements in art, architecture, theater, mathematics, medicine, and science.
- I can explain the significance of the Olympic Games.
- I can evaluate the lasting impact of Greek achievements on the modern world.

Macedonia and the Hellenistic Era Learning

Targets

- I can explain how Philip II strengthened Macedonia.
- I can describe how Alexander the Great built a vast empire.
- I can explain how Alexander spread Greek culture throughout his empire.
- I can define the Hellenistic Era and describe its importance.
- I can explain how cultural diffusion influenced the spread of Greek ideas.

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Topic	Lesson	Subtopics
Topic 6: Ancient Greece	Lesson 1: Early Years of Greece (week of April 19th)	*Main Focus* -How did geography shape the Greek World? -Who Influenced the Early Greeks? -Trojan War -Emergence of City-States *Additional Focus* -Minoans/Mycenaeans -polis/acropolis -aristocracy
	Lessons 2: Democracy in Athens week of April 26th	*Main Focus* -Experimenting with forms of government. -What is an oligarchy? -Military Tactics in Government (phalanx).

	-The World's First Demoncracy -The age of Pericles -How did democracy work?
	Additional Focus: -citizenship -direct vs representative democracy
Lesson 3: Oligarchy in Sparta week of May 3rd	*Main Focus* -Sparta in contrast with Athens -Military Training in Sparta *Additional Focus* -Education in Sparta -Spartan Social Classes -Unique Role of Women
Lesson 4: Society and Economic Expansion week of May 10th	*Main Focus* -Social Divisions -The Greek Economy *Additional Focus* -tenant farmer -slavery -trade in Athens -the effects of expansion
Lessons 5: Warfare in Ancient Greece week of May 17th	*Main Focus* -The Persian Wars

	-Battle of Marathon -Battle of Salamis -Battle of Thermopoly -The Peloponnesian War *Additional Focus* -Athen's Alliance: Delian League -Sparta Alliance: Peloponnesian League - *Main Focus* -Greek Religion and Mythology -Arts in Ancient Greece -Greek Literature
Lesson 6: Greek Beliefs and Arts week of May 24th	*Additional Focus* -Olympian Gods/Goddesses -The Olympics -Painting and Sculpture -Greek Literature (Homer: The Odyssey) -Greek Drama -Lyric Poetry *Main Focus*
Lesson 7: Greek Learning and Philosophy week of May 31st	-Greek Philosophy (Socrates and Plato) -Socratic Method -How did politics shape Greece? -Science and Technology

		-Math and Medicine
	Lesson 8: Alexander and the Hellenistic World week of June 7th	*Additional Focus* -Hyppocratic Oath *Main Focus* -What fueled Macedonian Rise? -Alexander the Great -Hellenistic Period -What is Hellenistic Learning?
Benchmark Review/Benchmark	week of June 14th	*Additional Focus* -Spread of Greek Culture

Evidence/Assessments

- tests/quizzes
- writing
- primary source analysis
- benchmark assessment
- image analysis
- map and chart analysis
- warm ups
- exit tickets

Interdisciplinary Connections

ELA

- RI.CT.6.8: Compare and contrast informational texts in different forms, by different authors, or from different genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.
- RL.CT.6.8: Compare and contrast literary texts in different forms, by different authors, or from different genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.
- RL.PP.6.5: Determine how an author conveys or develops perspective in a text.
- RL.CR.6.1: Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what a literary text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- W.AW.6.1: Write arguments on discipline-specific content to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Math/Science

- MS-ESS2-2: Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.
- MS-ESS2-1: Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.

Art / Visual Arts

- 1.5.8.Cn10a: Generate ideas and engage in thoughtful inquiry to make art that connects with personal experiences, cultural perspectives, and/or contemporary issues.
- 1.5.8.Cr1a: Conceptualize early stages of the creative process by exploring a variety of ideas, forms, and media.
- 1.5.8.Pr4a: Analyze the various roles of artists and how artistic work is presented, interpreted, and experienced.

Intersections of History

Black:

- Connections between Ancient Greece and North Africa through trade and cultural exchange
- Greek contact with Egypt and other African civilizations
- African influences on the Hellenistic world
- Cultural exchange between Greece, Africa, and the Mediterranean

Hispanics:

- Connections between Ancient Greece and the Mediterranean region
- Trade and cultural exchange among Mediterranean peoples
- The spread of Greek culture into areas that later became part of Spain and the wider Mediterranean

world
- How Greek ideas influenced later European and Mediterranean cultures

Women:

- The role of women in Athens and Sparta
- The unique role and greater freedoms of Spartan women
- Education and daily life for women in different Greek city-states
- Women's limited role in Athenian citizenship and government
- Comparing the lives and rights of women in Ancient Greece with women today

LGBTQIA+:

- Same-sex relationships and relationships between people of the same gender in Ancient Greek societies
- Ancient Greek ideas about gender roles, identity, relationships, and family
- Representations of same-sex relationships and gender in Greek mythology, literature, art, and pottery
- Examples of figures in Greek mythology whose stories challenge traditional ideas about gender and relationships, including Apollo, Dionysus, and Hermaphroditus
- The importance of studying ancient relationships and identities within their historical and cultural context rather than applying modern labels directly to ancient people
- Comparing ideas about gender, relationships, citizenship, and personal freedom in Ancient Greece with perspectives in the modern world

People with Disabilities:

- How Ancient Greek societies understood, represented, and treated people with physical and other disabilities
- Representations of disability in Greek mythology, literature, art, and sculpture
- Hephaestus, the Greek god associated with metalworking who is often depicted as having a physical disability, and what his stories reveal about Greek attitudes toward ability and difference
- How physical ability and military service influenced status and participation in Greek societies, particularly in Sparta
- The experiences and contributions of people with disabilities in Ancient Greek society
- Examining how societies define ability, participation, citizenship, and belonging
- Comparing attitudes toward disability and accessibility in Ancient Greece with attitudes and practices in the modern world

Supplemental Activities

- Savvas textbook

- Timelines

- Map Analysis
- BrainPop
- EdPuzzle
- Nearpod
- National Geographic
- Metropolitan Museum of Art
- TED-Ed
- PBS Learning Media
- History Channel Learning Videos
- Kahoot/Blooket Games
- Reading passages, Readworks, NewsELA

Savvas Lesson	Lesson Focus	Student Activities / Learning Experiences
Topic 6, Lesson 1: Early Years of Greece	Geography of Greece; Minoans/Mycenaeans; Trojan War; polis; acropolis; rise of city-states	**1. Greece Geography Challenge:** Students label the Balkan Peninsula, Peloponnese, Aegean, Ionian, and Mediterranean Seas, islands, mountains, and important locations. **2. Geography → Civilization Map Analysis:** Students examine a physical map and identify how mountains and seas affected settlement, farming, travel, and trade. **3. Build a Polis:** In groups, students design a Greek city-state and decide where to place the acropolis, agora, homes, farmland, harbor, and defensive walls. Students explain their geographic choices. **4. Minoan vs. Mycenaean Evidence Sort:** Students examine images/artifacts and sort evidence into Minoan, Mycenaean, or both. **5. Trojan War Source Investigation:** Students examine excerpts from *The Odyssey* and/or information about Troy and determine what is mythology, literature, and historical evidence. **6. Cause-and-Effect Chain:** Students connect geography → isolated communities → city-states.
Topic 6, Lesson 2: Democracy in Athens	Government; oligarchy; democracy; citizenship; phalanx; Pericles	**1. Government Sort:** Students classify examples as monarchy, oligarchy, tyranny, or democracy. **2. "Who Gets a Vote?" Simulation:** Students receive different Athenian identity cards (male citizen, woman, enslaved person, child, foreign resident) and determine who can participate in government. **3. Athenian Assembly Simulation:** Students debate a classroom/city-state issue and vote directly, modeling Athenian direct democracy. **4. Cleisthenes → Pericles Timeline:** Students sequence major developments in Athenian democracy. **5. Democracy Then vs. Now:** Students complete a Venn diagram comparing Athenian direct democracy with modern representative democracy. **6. Phalanx Formation:** Students use a visual/diagram to determine how military organization affected Greek citizenship and government.

Topic 6, Lesson 3: Oligarchy in Sparta	Sparta; military society; education; social classes; women; helots; oligarchy	**1. Athens vs. Sparta Mystery:** Students examine clues about education, government, military, women, and daily life and determine which city-state each clue describes. **2. Spartan Education Simulation:** Students compare the educational experiences of an Athenian child and Spartan child using source cards. **3. Spartan Social Pyramid:** Students construct a hierarchy showing Spartiates, Perioikoi, and Helots and analyze power and inequality. **4. "Would You Rather Live in Athens or Sparta?":** Students choose a city-state and defend their decision using evidence. **5. Spartan Women Source Analysis:** Students examine evidence about the roles and freedoms of Spartan women and compare them with women in Athens. **6. Government Comparison:** Students compare Athenian democracy and Spartan oligarchy using a graphic organizer.
Topic 6, Lesson 4: Society and Economic Expansion	Social classes; economy; farming; trade; slavery; expansion	**1. Greek Society Social Pyramid:** Students create and annotate a social hierarchy. **2. "A Day in the Life" Stations:** Students rotate through stations representing a farmer, merchant, artisan, citizen, woman, enslaved person, and aristocrat. **3. Greek Trade Simulation:** Students receive resources from different Greek regions and must trade with other groups to obtain needed goods. **4. Mediterranean Trade Map:** Students trace possible trade routes and identify natural resources and products exchanged. **5. Expansion Cause-and-Effect:** Students analyze why Greeks established colonies and how expansion affected trade and society. **6. Slavery Source Analysis:** Students examine evidence about slavery in Ancient Greece and discuss how slavery supported economic and social systems.
Topic 6, Lesson 5: Warfare in Ancient Greece	Persian Wars; Marathon; Thermopylae; Salamis; Plataea; Peloponnesian War; alliances	**1. Conflict Timeline:** Students sequence the Ionian Revolt, Marathon, Thermopylae, Salamis, Plataea, Delian League, and Peloponnesian War. **2. Battle Map Analysis:** Students analyze maps of Marathon, Thermopylae, and Salamis and determine how geography influenced military strategy. **3. Persian Wars Jigsaw:** Groups become experts on one major battle and teach the class the causes, strategy, outcome, and significance. **4. Greek Alliance Simulation:** Students represent different poleis and negotiate whether they should unite against Persia. **5. Peloponnesian War Investigation:** Students analyze Athens and Sparta's competing alliances and identify causes of the conflict. **6. "Who Won?" Evidence Debate:** Students evaluate whether the Persian Wars or Peloponnesian War strengthened or weakened Greece.
Topic 6, Lesson 6: Greek Beliefs and Arts	Mythology; Olympian gods; religion; Olympics; art; architecture; literature; theater	**1. Greek Gods Artifact Stations:** Students rotate through images of Greek gods/goddesses and infer what each reveals about Greek beliefs. **2. Mythology Source Analysis:** Students read a short myth and identify Greek values, beliefs, conflict, and explanations of nature. **3. "Myth Detective":** Students identify the lesson/value represented in myths such as Prometheus, Pandora, or Theseus. **4. Greek Art Gallery Walk:** Students analyze pottery, sculptures, temples, and architecture using an observation/inference/evidence organizer. **5. Design a Greek Temple:** Students use Greek architectural principles to design a temple and label columns, pediment, symmetry, etc. **6. Ancient Olympics:** Students investigate the purpose of the Olympic Games and compare Ancient and Modern Olympics. **7. Greek Theater Mini-Performance:** Groups create a short tragedy or comedy based on a Greek myth.

Topic 6, Lesson 7: Greek Learning and Philosophy	Socrates; Plato; philosophy; Socratic Method; science; mathematics; medicine	**1. "What Do You Know?" Socratic Seminar:** Students explore a question such as **"What makes a good citizen?"** using questioning rather than simply providing answers. **2. Philosopher Jigsaw:** Groups investigate Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle and create a "Philosopher Profile." **3. Socratic Method Practice:** Students use questioning to investigate a modern classroom issue. **4. Philosophy Speed Dating:** Students rotate through philosopher stations and determine which philosopher's ideas they find most convincing. **5. Greek Thinkers Challenge:** Students match Pythagoras, Hippocrates, Euclid, and Archimedes with their contributions. **6. Science vs. Myth:** Students compare an ancient Greek explanation of a natural phenomenon with a modern scientific explanation. **7. Legacy Investigation:** Students identify modern examples of Greek influence in education, government, medicine, mathematics, and science.
Topic 6, Lesson 8: Alexander and the Hellenistic World	Macedonia; Philip II; Alexander; conquest; Hellenistic Era; cultural diffusion; learning	**1. Macedonia Map Investigation:** Students examine Greece and Macedonia and determine why Macedonia was positioned to expand southward. **2. Philip II Strategy Challenge:** Students analyze how Philip strengthened Macedonia and identify military/political strategies. **3. Alexander's Conquests Map:** Students trace Alexander's route and identify the geographic extent of his empire. **4. "You Are Alexander" Decision-Making Activity:** Students make decisions about military expansion, governing conquered peoples, and spreading Greek culture. **5. Cultural Diffusion Stations:** Students examine examples of Greek, Egyptian, Persian, and Asian influences and identify evidence of cultural blending. **6. Hellenistic Alexandria:** Students investigate Alexandria as a center of learning and culture. **7. Hellenistic World Museum:** Groups create an exhibit showing one major contribution of the Hellenistic Era. **8. Final Legacy Challenge:** Students determine which Greek contribution has had the greatest impact on the modern world and defend their claim.