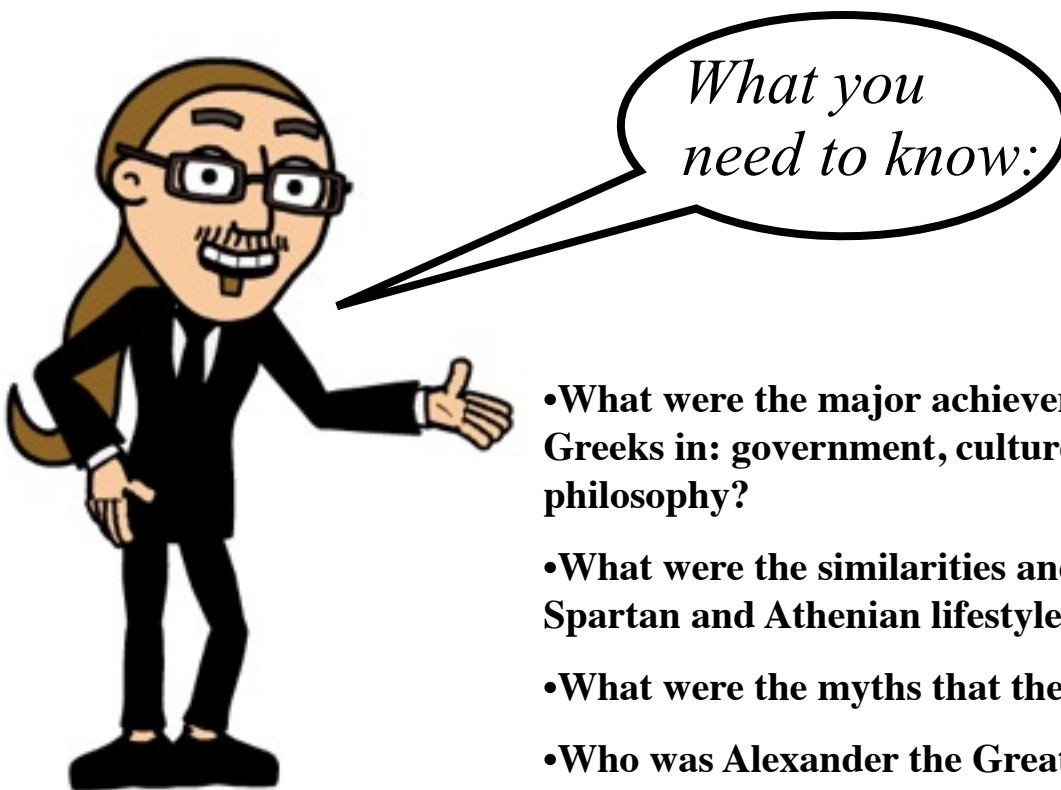


UNIT Four: Ancient Greece



- What were the major achievements of the ancient Greeks in: government, culture, art, science, and philosophy?
- What were the similarities and differences of the Spartan and Athenian lifestyles and governments?
- What were the myths that the Greeks believed?
- Who was Alexander the Great? How was he able to control such a large empire?

Section one - Sparta

Section two - Athens

Section three- Golden Age Greece

Section four- Alexander the Great

Unit four: Prove it!

Section one

Sparta

Lycurgus and Sparta

Questions:

What was the purpose of the educational system of Sparta?

Who were the Helots and Perioiki? What did they do for Sparta?

What was the government of Sparta like?

Why did the Spartans have two kings?

What was life like for Spartans?



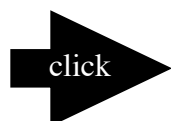
Take Me Back: Your City State Needs You pg. 50-51

Questions:

Who were the enemies of the Spartans (list all three)?

What was the training like for Spartans?

What were their weapons and armor like?



answer online

LYCURGUS AND SPARTA

According to the Spartans, about 700 B.C. a semi-legendary figure named Lycurgus established a number of social and political institutions that made Sparta a great power of Greece.

He started an educational system that produced men of military strength and loyal soldiers. It all began at birth. If a newly-born baby was weak or sickly, it was abandoned and left to die on a mountain slope. At the age of seven, a boy came under the control of the city and remained so until his death. He was to live together with the other boys in a camp, and the training process started. The boys learned to read and write and were taught music and poetry. Most importantly, however, they were taught discipline, courage, and virtue. Each boy exercised a lot and competed in violent games and fights. They were forced to steal, but if caught, the boys were punished for being careless and unskillful. Their training continued into manhood. The girls were also brought up in a strict manner. They had to exercise their bodies to make them grow strong in order to be able to deal easily with childbirth.

Sparta did not adopt a coinage system like other Greek cities because wealth was not desirable and was regarded without envy and prestige. Trade was forbidden both within and outside the city. Every citizen had an equal share of land to live on. They were also forbidden to travel, except on army expeditions during times of war, in order that they might not be exposed to foreign behaviors and ideas. The Spartans were very patriotic Greeks and fought for their state until their death. They had adopted a system of living where there was little individual freedom and where order and discipline ruled.

Lycurgus also set up a type of government at Sparta that was a form of oligarchy. A few wealthy aristocrats held the power, but the city's constitution retained its kings of the previous age. No individual was able to become too powerful. The government consisted of two *kings* who were the generals of the army. The executive power lay in the hands of five magistrates, called *ephors*. The ephors were the judges of the city and dealt with internal and foreign affairs. They obtained advice from the *council of elders*, which consisted of 28 ex-magistrates. A second council of the Spartan people (*Spartiates*), called the *assembly*, also existed. This council had the right to reject or approve any proposals put before them.

Sparta controlled about two-fifths of the Peloponnese. During the eighth century B.C., Sparta conquered Laconia and Messenia and their inhabitants. (See map on page 87.) In the Spartan social structure, these inhabitants were divided into two groups: the *helots*, who were slaves who worked the land to supply food for the Spartiates, and the *perioiki*, who were freedmen but were socially inferior. Both groups would also have to join the Spartan army in times of war.



Heavily-armed hoplites became the backbone of Greek armies.

YOUR CITY-STATE NEEDS YOU



JOIN THE SPARTAN ARMY

The Ancient Greek mainland and islands are ruled by hundreds of different city-states, all struggling for supremacy. Obviously, Sparta is the best, and you're privileged to be able to defend it.

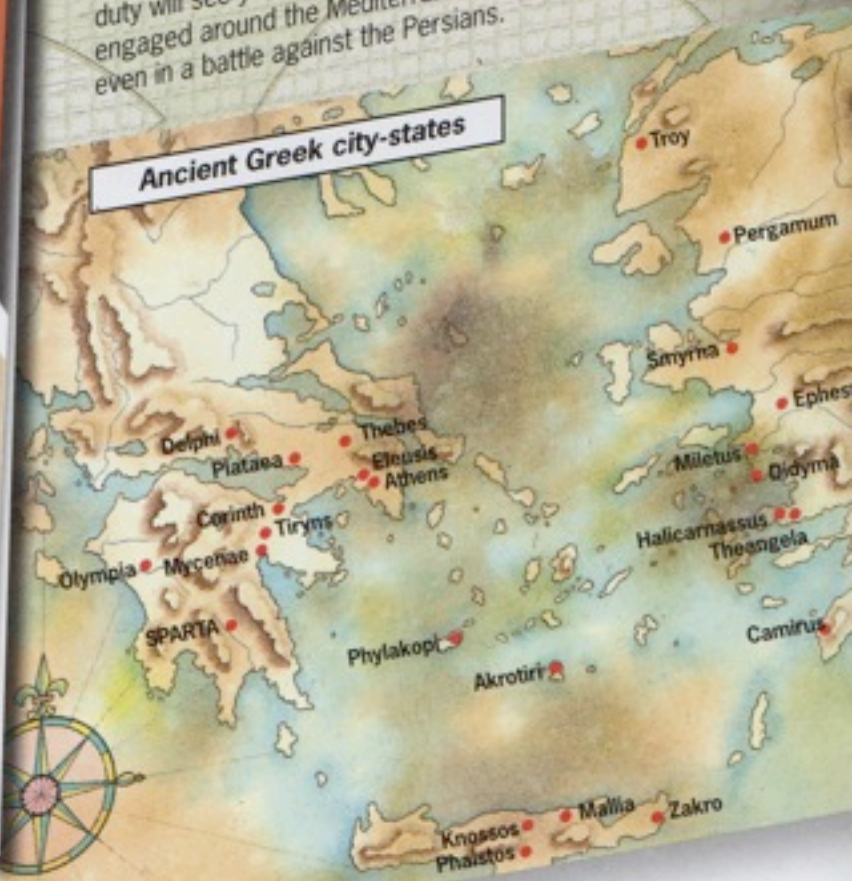
WHY JOIN UP?

Because you have to! Our system of rule by aristocrats and kings leaves no room for confusion—or wimps. Unlike Athens, a city packed with useless culture and wishy-washy liberal ideals like democracy, we know what's important. We have strong leadership and a stunning tradition of military excellence. All male citizens of Sparta must serve.

A life of excitement lies ahead. Living with a band of tough hoplites (foot soldiers), you'll eat, sleep, train, and fight. State slaves will farm your land while you're away, so if you survive you'll have a comfortable retirement.

You'll travel to many of the Greek city-states. Most tours of duty will see you heading toward Athens, but you could be engaged around the Mediterranean coast of North Africa or even in a battle against the Persians.

Ancient Greek city-states



KNOW YOUR ENEMIES

● Spartan enemy no. 1: Athens

Our sworn enemy. They have a strange system of government called "democracy," where the laws are decided by popular vote.

● Troublesome tyrants

Many city-states are run by tyrants (strong leaders). Sparta is proud to run a tyrant-eradication program.

● Pesky Persians

The Persians have been attacking Greek territories for years. Working with Athens (for once) we defeated them in 480 BCE—but you can bet they'll be back for more!

WE'LL MAKE A MAN OF YOU!

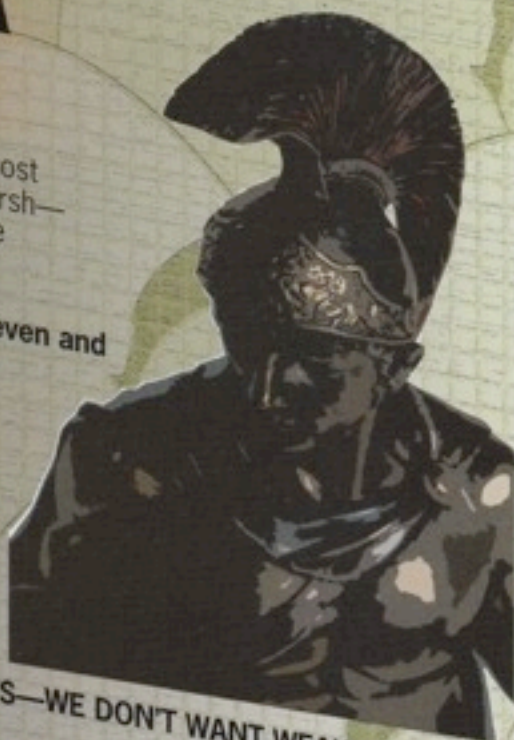
Our training regime is the most rigorous in the world. It's harsh—but you'll become one of the elite. Be prepared to:

● leave home aged seven and train until you're 20

● manage without sleep for days

● be beaten

● have little food and no home comforts



STRICTLY NO HOME VISITS—WE DON'T WANT WEAKLINGS!

FIGHTING FORM

Spartan hoplites fight in a phalanx—a block of soldiers marching together. This formation lets each soldier engage in hand-to-hand fighting with the enemy while protected by the shield of the man on his right.



BATTLE GEAR Q & A



Q WHAT WEAPONS DO I GET TO USE?
A A short spear and a sword.

Q IS THERE A STYLISH UNIFORM?
A You'll have 70 lb (30 kg) of bronze armor to protect your head, body, and lower legs. A distinctive red cloak and long hair will show you're a Spartan.

Q WHAT DO I WEAR WHEN I'M NOT FIGHTING?
A A thin tunic and no shoes—so no dreary washing or boot-polishing.

OLYMPIC GAMES

When we're not at war, you'll have a chance to compete in the Olympic Games, one of four "Panhellenic Games" contests with competitors from all over Greece. A tradition that's been going since 776 BCE, it's great training for war, and fun, too.



Section two

Athens

Athens and Democracy

Questions:

What did Solon do to help bring democracy to Athens?

What did Persistratus do to help bring democracy to Athens?

What did Cleisthenes do to help bring democracy to Athens?

What did Pericles do to help bring democracy to Athens?

How did ostracism work in Athens?

How was the system of government in Athens different from the one Sparta (be specific)?



Take Me Back: A Greek Epic pg. 52-53

Questions:

Who were some of Athens great “thinkers”? What are some of ideas did the came up with? What are some of their accomplishments? ONE

PARAGRAPH



[answer online](#)

ATHENS AND DEMOCRACY

The oligarchy of Sparta was radically different from the type of government practiced by the Athenians, who set up a *democracy*. The constitution was not in the hands of the few; rather, it was controlled by the many—the *demos* or people. Four men were responsible for the development of democracy in Athens. Solon, in 594 B.C., was the first. He made social and political reforms to lessen the conflict between the rich and poor in the city. In order to free all citizens from debt and enslavement, he cancelled all debts and abolished slavery. Politically, he reduced the power of the wealthy aristocrats by giving more power to the people.

The government already consisted of two leaders called *archons* who held the executive power. These men were advised by an aristocratic council of elders called the Council of the Areopagus (the Areopagus was a hill in Athens where its meetings were held). To these Solon now added three new political bodies that gave more power to the average citizen: a People's Court where all disputes, public or private, were settled by the people; the People's Assembly (to which all Athenian citizens belonged) that decided on the matters of the state; and a Council of 400 (which consisted of 100 citizens from each of the four tribes that made up the Athenian citizenry) that prepared business for the Assembly to consider. Solon's reforms, however, pleased neither the populace, because not enough power was given, nor the aristocrats, because their power was decreased. Unrest followed.

Peisistratus then became tyrant in 560 B.C. Among his benefits to the city, he continued the process of democratization by redistributing the land (previously owned by the rich nobles) to farmers and making loans to poor farmers to start anew.

In 508 B.C. a third influential figure, Cleisthenes, came to power in Athens. He did much to develop Athenian democracy. Cleisthenes divided the citizens into ten new tribes (from the four old tribes) and mixed them up so that no one tribe was dominated by the rich as had been the case before. He increased the Council of 400 to the Council of 500, which now consisted of 50 citizens from each tribe. He also introduced the practice of *ostracism*. Every year the Athenians could banish from the city any man they deemed threatening. This was done by writing his name on a potshard or *ostraka*. The man with the most votes was then exiled for ten years.

It was in the time of Pericles (461–429 B.C.), one of Athens' best statesmen, that democracy was completely attained. He made all offices in the government payable, and all officers were elected by lot rather than by vote, so that even the poorest citizens now could participate in the government.

Athenian democracy has influenced many democratic governments in world history, including the American governmental system.



Examples of ostraka (potshards) cast against Themistocles

A GREEK EPIC

Competitors, gods, and friendly spectators alike, welcome one and all to the Festival of Zeus, also known as the Olympic Games. Don't worry about getting here—all wars are put on hold so that we can travel safely. The Olympics are always much more than a sporting event, but this year there's a twist. On the bill we have some of the inspiring thinkers from Athens, the center of Greek culture. Since 509 BCE, the Athenians have governed themselves with a new system they call "democracy" (that's "people power" to you and me). Enlightening stuff, I tell you.

HEADS IN THE CLOUDS

We Greeks worship an array of gods (Zeus is their king), each with many an exciting story of love and war. Offerings are given to the gods, who each rule over a particular area of life, such as war or marriage. We use oracles and offerings to ask them what's on the horizon and what we should do. You have to be good at seeing patterns in sacrificed chicken guts to get the message!

LET'S HEAR IT
FOR THE GREEKS.
WOO-HOO!

GAME FOR ANYTHING

Athletes at the Olympic Games compete in a wide variety of events, including running, jumping, discus throwing, wrestling, and chariot racing.

I HAVE THE
WINNING
FORMULA

A TRUTHFUL HISTORY

Make way for Thucydides and his epic *History of the Peloponnesian Wars*, about the wars between Greece and Sparta. His rigorous analysis of the plain and simple facts set the standard for future historians.

A EUREKA MOMENT

Next up is Archimedes, one of the greatest mathematicians ever. When he noticed the water level in his tub rise as he stepped in, he suddenly realized how to measure the volume of objects. He was so excited he ran naked into the street shouting "Eureka!"

ARISTOTLE VS. PLATO

And now for the sparring match between Plato and Aristotle. Both of these philosophers wanted to use reason to find out how the world works, but Aristotle also believed in using facts to back up his theories.



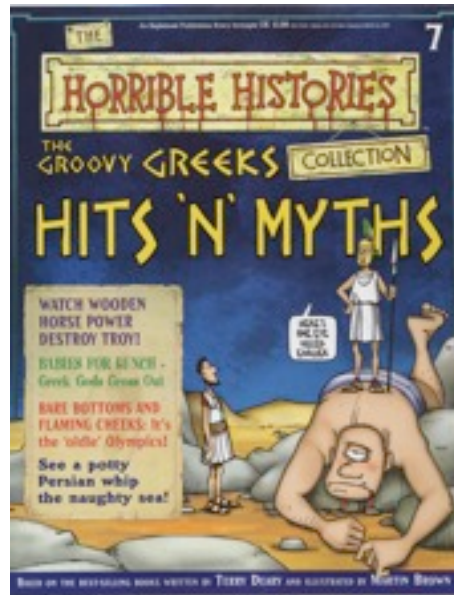
Next gallops in Euripides. If we're lucky, he might quote a snippet from his play in honor of Dionysus, god of drama, wine, and partying. The Greeks invented theater, and Euripides helped shape the great tradition of Greek tragedy.

Later on the bill we have Hippodamus. This architect designed towns by grouping into different categories people (soldiers, farmers, and crafts people) and land (public, sacred, and private). His ideal city was diamond-shaped.

Hang fire for this fight between intellectual heavyweights. Founder of debating, Socrates believed in questioning everything, while the sophists ("wise men") simply sought to persuade others of their own views.

Section three

Golden Age of Greece



Horrible Histories -Hits and Myths

Questions:

What events led up to the Golden Age of Greece? What ended it?

What were the Greek gods like? Choose one god and share some important things about him or her (use google for more info).

What type of ruler was Draco?

What were some of Pericles' accomplishments?

Why did the Spartans lose the battle of Thermopylae?

What was life like for a Spartan child?

What were the Olympics like in Ancient Greece?



[answer online](#)

THE

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7

HORRIBLE HISTORIES

THE
GROOVY GREEKS

COLLECTION

HITS 'N' MYTHS

**WATCH WOODEN
HORSE POWER
DESTROY TROY!**

**BABIES FOR LUNCH -
Greek Gods Gross Out**

**BARE BOTTOMS AND
FLAMING CHEEKS: It's
the 'oldie' Olympics!**

**See a potty
Persian whip
the naughty sea!**

HERE'S
ONE EYE
KILLED
EARLIER

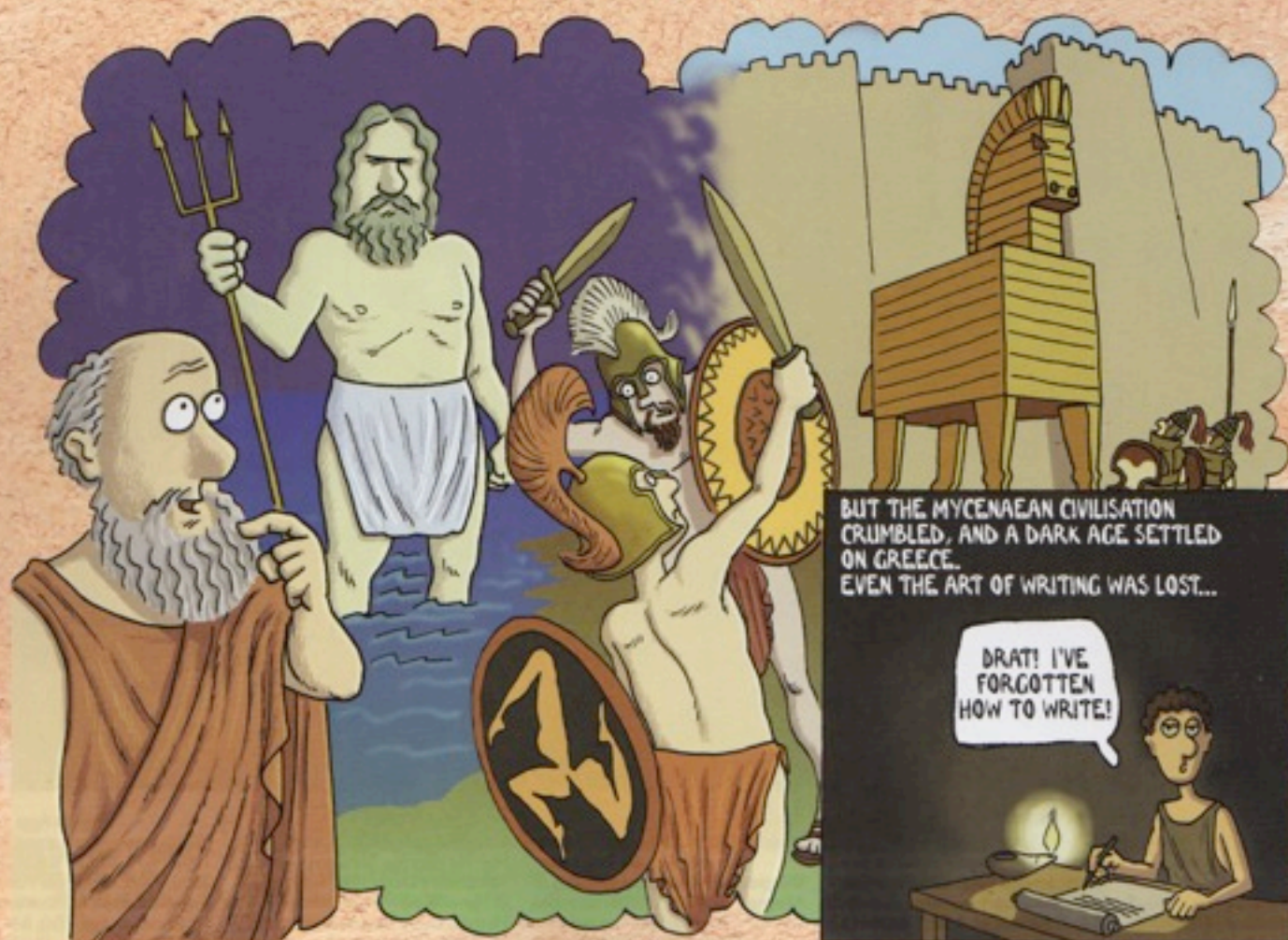
BASED ON THE BEST-SELLING BOOKS WRITTEN BY TERRY DEARY AND ILLUSTRATED BY MARTIN BROWN

Acropolis Now!

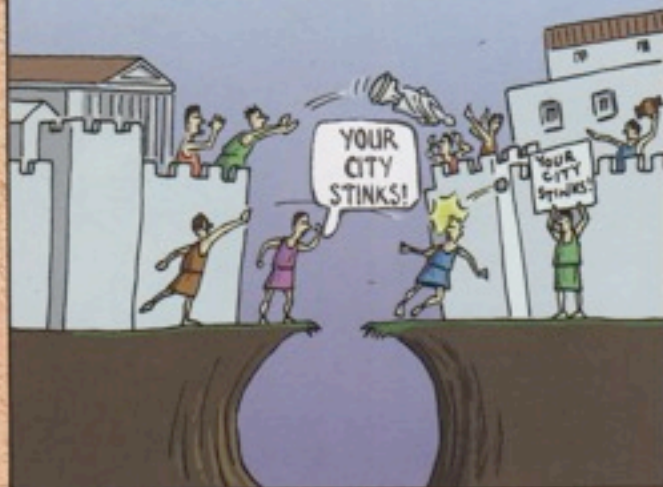
FROM THE MAD MYCENAEANS TO THE GROOVY GOLDEN AGE – THE TRUE STORY OF ANCIENT GREECE.



LATER, POETS TOLD THE STORIES OF THE BATTLES AGAINST TROY – ADDING IN SOME EXTRA STUFF LIKE GODS, HEROES AND A WOODEN HORSE AS THEY WENT ALONG.



BUT THEN, AROUND 800BC, THE GREEKS GOT CIVILIZED AGAIN. WRITING AND ART WERE RE-DISCOVERED, AND NEW CITIES WERE BUILT. THE CITIES WERE ALL GREEK, BUT THEY WEREN'T UNITED. IN FACT, THEY SPENT A LOT OF TIME FIGHTING EACH OTHER.



THE ATHENIANS ALSO INVENTED 'DEMOCRACY' (A FANCY WORD FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT PEOPLE GET TO VOTE FOR).



BUT IT WAS TWO CITIES IN PARTICULAR THAT WOULD CONTROL GREECE'S DESTINY...

ATHENS WAS TOPS WHEN IT CAME TO STUFF LIKE ART AND SMART THINKING. THEY EVEN INVENTED COMEDY!

SPARTA WAS A COUNTRY WHOSE ONLY INTEREST WAS WAR. EVERY MALE SPARTAN WAS A FIERCE FIGHTER.

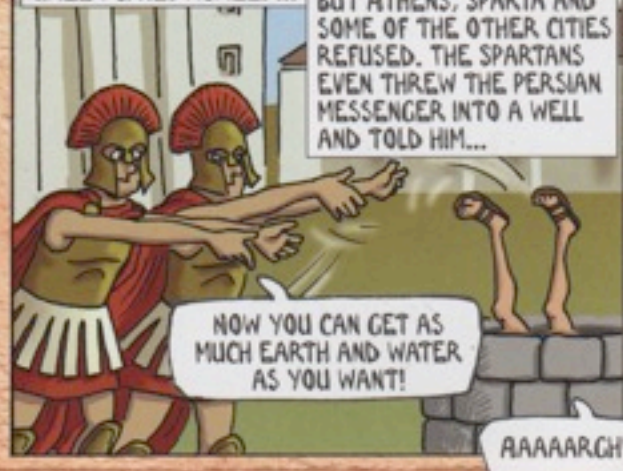


BUT IN THE EAST TROUBLE WAS BREWING. THE MIGHTY PERSIAN EMPIRE WAS GROWING - AND WANTED TO CONQUER THE GREEK CITIES.



THE PERSIAN KING, DARIUS, DEMANDED THAT THE GREEK CITIES SURRENDER TO HIM AND SEND HIM 'EARTH AND WATER' AS GIFTS. SOME GREEK CITIES AGREED...

BUT ATHENS, SPARTA AND SOME OF THE OTHER CITIES REFUSED. THE SPARTANS EVEN THREW THE PERSIAN MESSENGER INTO A WELL AND TOLD HIM...



THE PERSIANS ATTACKED GREECE - BUT GOT BEATEN BY THE ATHENIANS AT THE BATTLE OF MARATHON.



IN 480BC, DARIUS' SON XERXES CAME BACK FOR A REMATCH. HE INVADED GREECE, BEAT THE SPARTANS AT THERMOPYLAE, AND BURNED ATHENS. BUT THE GREEKS Banded TOGETHER AND GOT THEIR OWN BACK BY SINKING XERXES' SHIPS AT THE BATTLE OF SALAMIS.



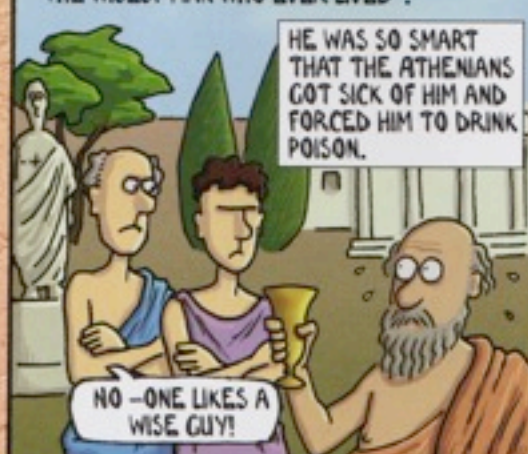
AFTER THE WAR, THE GREEKS WERE VERY PROUD OF THEMSELVES. THE GOLDEN AGE OF GREEK CIVILISATION BEGAN.



IN ATHENS, PERICLES BECAME THE LEADER. HE GOT MANY OTHER GREEK CITIES TO JOIN A LEAGUE LED BY ATHENS. THE OTHER CITIES HAD TO PAY TAXES, WHICH PERICLES USED TO BUILD FANCY NEW BUILDINGS IN ATHENS.



THE ATHENIANS GREW RICH AND POWERFUL, AND THEY CREATED ALL KINDS OF GREAT PLAYS, ART AND NEW IDEAS. ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS ATHENIANS WAS SOCRATES, 'THE WISEST MAN WHO EVER LIVED'.



IT WASN'T LONG TILL THE OTHER GREEK CITIES GOT SICK OF THE ARROGANT ATHENIANS. THE SPARTANS DECLARED WAR ON ATHENS, AND THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR STARTED...



IN THE END THE SPARTANS WON, BUT IN REALITY EVERYONE LOST. ATHENS WAS IN RUINS, AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF GREECE WAS OVER.



Golden Oldies

The ancient Greeks were clever, cruel and crackers. They believed in a mind-boggling bunch of grisly gods and monsters.

Gruesome Gods

Tetchy and terrible, paranoid and peculiar – this lot were never happy!

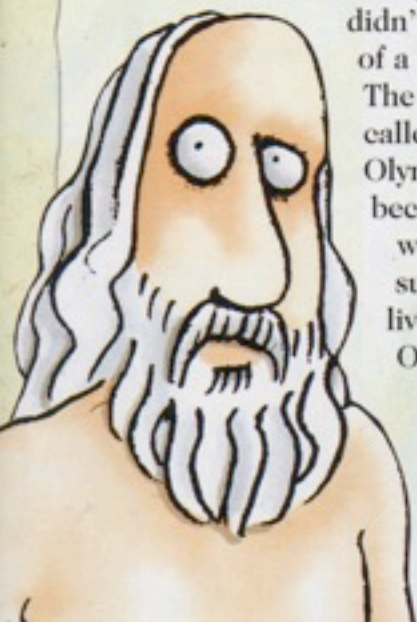
CRONOS...

Cronos' reign in the heavens was the Golden Age of gods. It didn't last – Cronos and his old cronies were driven out by his own kids. But don't feel too sorry for Cronos. He had only become top god by killing his own father, Uranus. (He chopped off his naughty bits and scattered them in the oceans!)

and his kids

The new gang was run by Cronos' three sons: Zeus, Poseidon and Hades (their sisters didn't get much of a look in). The kids were called the Olympian gods because they were supposed to live on Mount Olympus.

They were one big, unhappy family ...



'BRINGING UP' BABY

You'd have thought that being chief god would have made Cronos feel safe... but no. Somebody told him that one of his children would take his place. He figured that if none of his kids were alive, then they couldn't give him any bother. So Cronos ate his new born child. In one godly gobble.

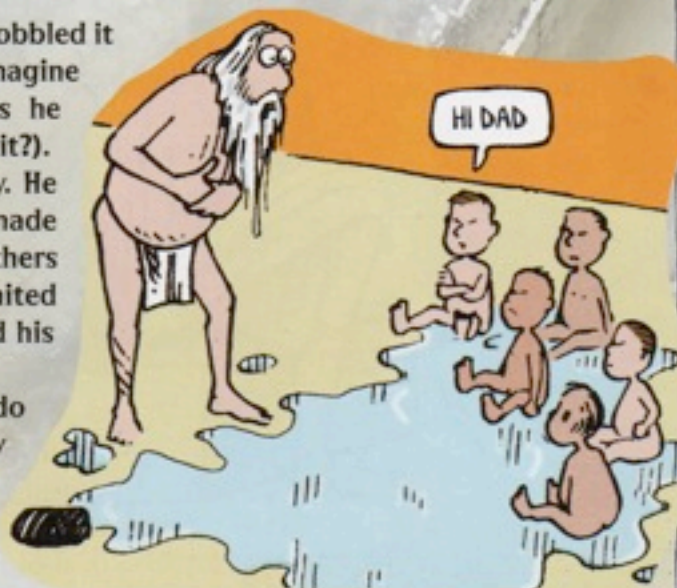
Mrs Cronos had four more babies... but each time they were born, Cronos scoffed them down.

One day, Mrs Cronos had another baby – little Zeus. Fed up with having her babies eaten, she decided to hide this one on the island of Crete and put a rock in his place instead.

Cronos came home, saw a new baby-sized bundle in the cot, and gobbled it just like all the rest. (Imagine the guts ache! Perhaps he felt a little bolder. Geddit?).

Zeus grew up grumpy. He returned home and made his dad sick up his brothers and sisters. Cronos vomited up the five babies... and his stony snack.

So did the children do for their dad? Well, how would you feel if your dad had eaten you alive?



ZEUS

When the three big brothers drew lots for who got what, Zeus got the top job – ruler of the land and sky. Of all the groovy gods, Zeus was the grooviest. When he wasn't flirting with women he was frying somebody with a thunderbolt. He could do anything. ANYTHING! He started a lot of stuff, like the Olympics... and the Trojan war (he thought there were too many people!)

HERA

Hera eventually became Zeus' wife, but she wasn't happy about it. Well, you wouldn't be if your husband was your brother, and he had tricked you into liking him... by turning himself into a cuckoo!

Zeus was always running off with other women, so it's not surprising his wife was upset. She once helped other gods revolt against Zeus by giving him a potion. When Zeus woke up, he chained Hera to the sky. Nice guy!

HADES

Brother Hades was the real loser. He won the job of ruling the underworld. That must have been hell! There was nothing that horrid Hades liked more than increasing the number of his subjects. So you had to watch out for him – which wasn't easy, because Hades wore a helmet that made him invisible!

POSEIDON

Zeus' brother, Poseidon, got the sea. A wet blanket of a job! Old Po' wasn't too happy with this because he was a really bad loser. That's why he sulked and went stomping around, whipping up the seas with a huge fork called a trident, creating storms.

His trident could shake the Earth and shatter any object – so best not get him grumpy! He didn't like Trojans – his brother, Zeus, was on their side, and the two were always falling out, so Po' gave the Greeks a helping hand.

He fathered lots of monsters – including giants, a half-human half-fish and a cyclops (a one-eyed giant)!

ATHENA

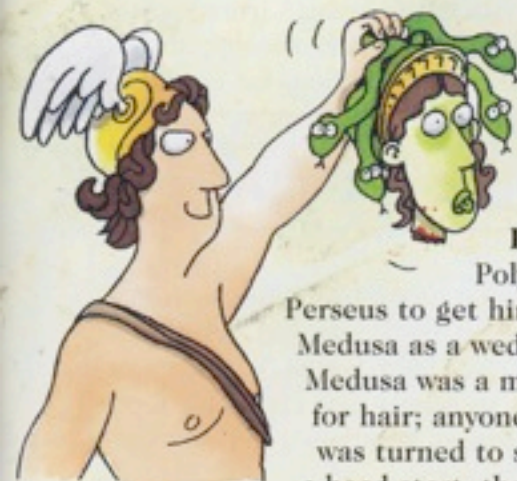
If you thought Cronos' kids had a tough start in life, well, what about the children of Zeus...? Athena, one of his daughters, was born from Zeus' head!

Even though that must have given him quite a headache, she was her daddy's favourite girl. Zeus let her play with his thunderbolts. Athena loved owls, olives – and Athens. In fact, she loved the place so much she gave it her name.



Hulking Heroes

Half-gods, half-mortals, these monster mashers had their work cut out.



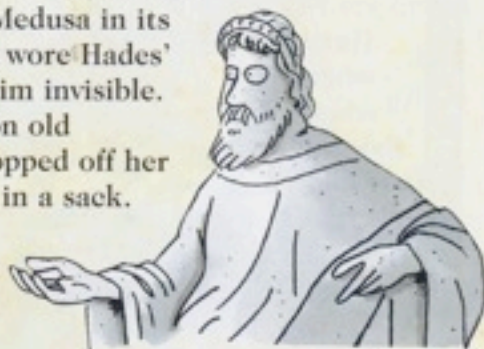
PERSEUS

Who was he? Son of Zeus and Princess Danae.

Bravest bash: King Polydectes challenged Perseus to get him the head of the Medusa as a wedding present. The Medusa was a monster with snakes for hair; anyone who looked at her was turned to stone. To give Perseus a head start, the goddess Athena gave

him a polished shield, so that he could see the Medusa in its reflection, and he wore Hades' helmet to make him invisible.

Perseus crept up on old serpent-locks, chopped off her head and slung it in a sack. He showed it to Polydectes... who, er, turned to stone.



ODYSSEUS

Who was he? A Greek king who fought in the Trojan war. (Odysseus invented the Trojan Horse.)

Bravest bash: Odysseus is famous for his great voyage home – the 'Odyssey', which took ten years. On the way he had to deal with monsters, magic and mayhem. His men got trapped by Polyphemus (one of Poseidon's kids – a one-eyed giant or 'cyclops'). Odysseus killed it by poking it in the eye with a red-hot, sharpened olive stick.

HERCULES

Who was he? Son of Zeus and Alcmene, a mortal. He was the strongest man in the world! So tough in fact that he strangled two snakes when he was only a baby.

Bravest bash: Completing 12 terrible tasks, including killing a fanged horse, a nine-headed serpent, a beastly boar, a three-headed dog and a massive lion, which he skinned to make a cloak. He also had to divert a river to flush away a mountain of cow poo and steal some golden apples.



THESEUS

Who was he? Son of King Aegeus of Athens.

Bravest bash: Killing the bull-headed Minotaur. The Minotaur belonged to cruel King Minos of Crete. He kept it in a maze underneath his palace and fed it on Athenians. Theseus volunteered to sail to Crete and put an end to the bull-brain's savage snacking habits. He sneaked into the maze, killed the Minotaur, then found his way out by following the thread he'd let out behind him on the way in.



Mere Mortals



DRACO

Draco was one of the first rulers of the people of Athens, the most important city of ancient Greece. He was a bit like the most terrifying teacher you could ever tangle with – the forget-to-say-'sir'-and-you're-in-detention type.

Draco wrote the first law book of Athens and criminals were executed for almost any crime. Under his laws...

- you could have someone made your personal slave if they owed you money.
- the theft of an apple or a cabbage was punishable by death.
- people found guilty of idleness would be executed.



Draco admitted that it was unfair that little crimes and big crimes got the same punishment. But he just said: 'If only I could think of a punishment worse than death for the serious ones'. (It was later said that Draco's laws weren't written in ink – they were written in blood.) Others thought that Draco's

They didn't have the power of the gods or the strength of heroes, but this awesome bunch were often cruel and definitely cool.

DEAD POPULAR DRACO

Draco was cruel, but he was also popular – too popular! A special show was put on in his honour in the theatre of Aegina. When Draco walked in the crowd showered him with their hats and cloaks at him in praise. But the 'shower' was too heavy and Draco suffocated.



laws were better than no laws. At least for the first time it was up to the government to punish people – instead of victims taking their own rotten revenge.

PEISISTRATUS

Another ruler, Peisistratus, (say pie-zee-stratus) wasn't quite so harsh. He was still a 'tyrant' – in Greece that meant someone who took control of the state by force. Plotting Pie did this in a very cunning way – he had to as he was very unpopular. One day he drove his cart into the market place in a terrible state. He and his mules were cut and bleeding. 'I've been attacked!' he cried. 'I barely escaped with my life.'



The Athenians were worried they would lose their leader – not a popular leader, but the only one they had. They organised the strongest men to be his bodyguards. He then used them to seize control of the city. The attack had put Pie in power. Just as he meant it too. For there had been no attack. The crafty leader had simply made the wounds himself!



PERICLES

Pericles (say 'Perry-cleese') was a brilliant leader. He helped turn Athens into a city full of splendid sights and happy citizens. He ruled during a time that was so good for Athens it became known as the Golden Age.

You may have seen the most famous site in Greece – the ruins on a hill in Athens, called the Acropolis. (Acropolis just means city on a hill.) Well, Pericles had them built (not as ruins – they were brand new then!).

The most spectacular building that Perry had made

on the Acropolis was the Parthenon. It had a huge statue of the goddess Athena at its centre, and was considered to be one of the most mind-bogglingly wonderful things in all Athens.

He wasn't quite as good as gold, though. Some griping Greeks said that he was popular because he handed out cash and gifts. They also said his head was shaped like an onion!

It's true that Perry got the money for buildings and other public treats from the other cities that Athens was bossing about (a bunch they called the Delian League). He was accused of spending too



much time on his special projects and picking his mates for the top building jobs. Some even said that Perry had started the war with Athens' rival, Sparta, to divert everyone's attention. (Politicians wouldn't dream of doing that nowadays, would they?)

Pericles was as smart at making war as he was at making buildings. He worked out that the Spartans were unbeatable on land – so he attacked them at sea. And when the war wasn't going well, Perry gave the people of Athens a few handouts – and they soon stopped grumbling. Perry survived all sorts of wars and worries, but he couldn't survive the plague, which did him in after it had ravaged Athens. Golden Age over!

KING LEONIDAS

Leonidas was a warrior king of Athens' big rival, Sparta. He specialised in being tough, fighting, fighting and fighting. OK, that's not much use in peaceful times, but it came in handy when Greece was under attack from the powerful Persians.

Leo had been told that in the battle, either he would die or Sparta would be destroyed – so he decided to fight to the death. If he died, then at least his beloved Sparta would be saved. Brave or bonkers? You decide.



Thermopylae

When the Persian king Xerxes invaded Greece with his huge army, he was expecting the Greeks to be pushovers. But in a narrow pass called Thermopylae he ran into a small force of Spartans – Greece's toughest (and barmiest!) warriors.



SHHH!

This Spartan warrior has been blinded by an eye infection – but he fights on. 'Spouse that's what you call 'blind fury'.

This Spartan has lost his sword, so he chomps on the enemy with his teeth. Tasty!

HOW'S THINGS, MYRON?

Look behind you, Leonidas! The Persians are creeping up behind the Spartans using a secret path.

Awful Ambush

At first the Spartans were winning the battle. The Persians kept attacking the Greeks... and kept getting chopped to bits. King Xerxes was hopping mad.

But his fortunes changed when a sneaky Greek traitor showed the Persians a secret path through the mountains. They used this to creep up behind the Spartans.

When the Spartan king, Leonidas, saw that his men were going to be bashed from behind, he told them to leg it. But he and his bodyguards stayed put, 'cos there was nothing a Spartan liked better than getting killed in battle. Leo and his men got surrounded, but they refused to surrender – even when the Persians pincushioned them with arrows!

King Xerxes is definitely NOT pleased with the way things are going.

Spot the slimy traitor! What a secret-route-revealing rotter!

Some of the Persians make a big splash in the battle as they get shoved off the cliff by the Greeks!

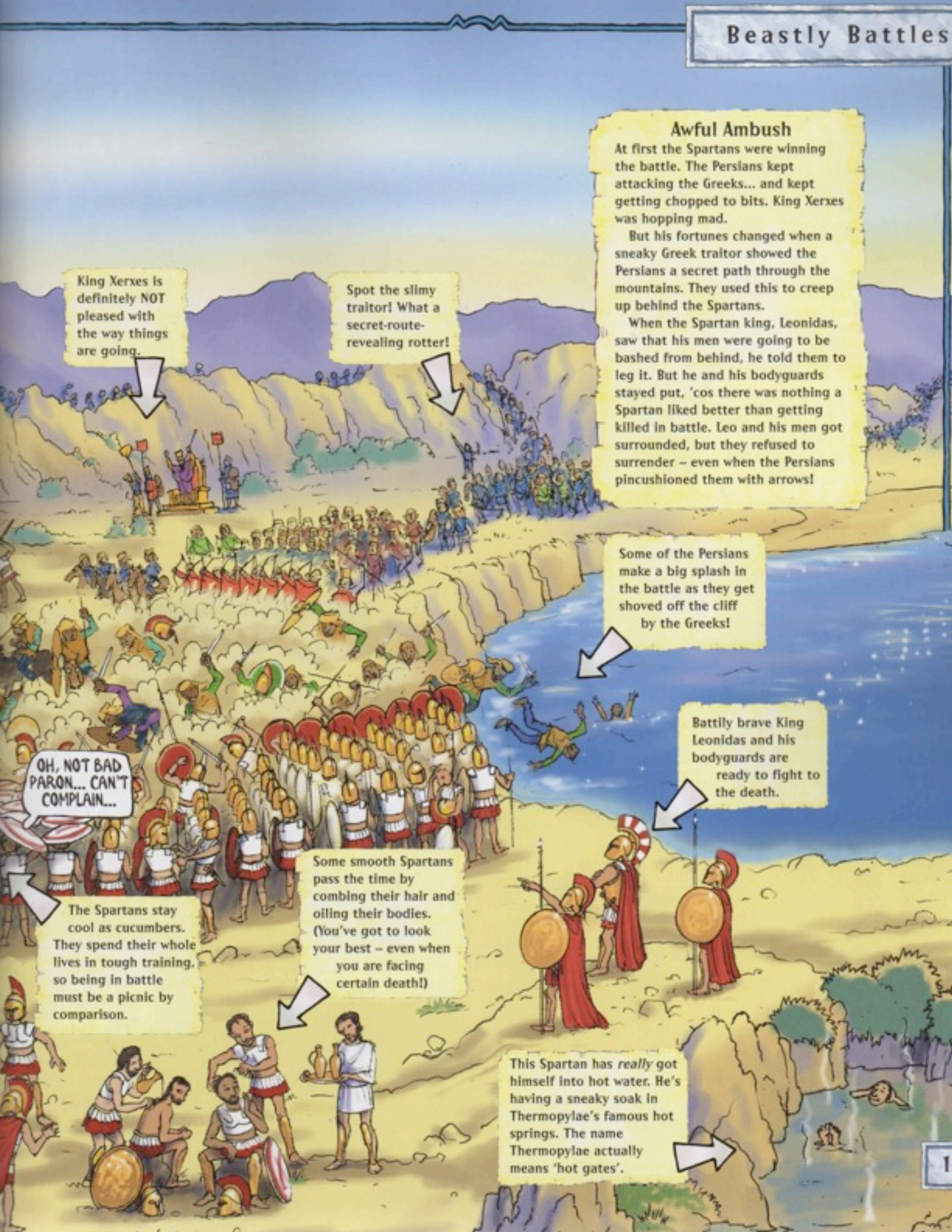
Battily brave King Leonidas and his bodyguards are ready to fight to the death.

OH, NOT BAD PARON... CAN'T COMPLAIN...

The Spartans stay cool as cucumbers. They spend their whole lives in tough training, so being in battle must be a picnic by comparison.

Some smooth Spartans pass the time by combing their hair and oiling their bodies. (You've got to look your best – even when you are facing certain death!)

This Spartan has really got himself into hot water. He's having a sneaky soak in Thermopylae's famous hot springs. The name Thermopylae actually means 'hot gates'.



Savage Spartans

Fighting to the death was the Spartan way. Find out how these gory Greeks got to be so tough...



The first great state to grow in Greece after the Dark Ages was based around the city of Sparta. The Spartan people were a bit odd. In fact, they were probably the

ungrooviest lot in Greece. If they wanted more land they just moved into someone else's patch. The Spartans simply turned the people who were already living there into slaves.

Of course, a lot of people didn't enjoy being slaves. They argued with the Spartans in the only language they knew – the language of violence. So the Spartans probably were the toughest of Greek peoples, if only because they were always having to fight to prove how good they were at it.

YOU HAVE A CHOICE. GIVE UP ALL YOUR LAND AND POSSESSIONS AND BECOME OUR SLAVE, OR WE KILL YOU



Raised to be Ruthless: Painful Parenting, Spartan style

Poor Spartan sprogs – they were put through a terribly tough training regime from the minute they were born!

Children slept on rushes that they gathered from the river bank themselves. If they were cold in winter then they mixed a few thistles in with the reeds... the prickling of the thistles gave them a feeling of warmth.

THISTLE KEEP YOU WARM!

WE SPARTANS ARE NOT NOTED FOR OUR SENSE OF HUMOUR



in with the reeds... the prickling of the thistles gave them a feeling of warmth.

Spartan children were kept hungry to encourage them to steal food – sneakiness is a good skill if you're out on a battlefield. If they were caught stealing, they'd be beaten. They weren't beaten for stealing, you understand – just for getting caught! Sometimes boys were beaten to toughen them up. If the beating killed them... tough luck!



A new-born baby would be examined by the oldest Spartans. If it looked fit and strong, they said, 'Let it live.' But if the poor baby looked sickly it was taken up a mountain... and left to die.

At the age of 12 boys were allowed a cloak but no tunic. They were only allowed to bathe a few times a year.

THAT THASSOS IS A CLEANLINESS FREAK

YEAH... THAT'S HIS THIRD BATH THIS YEAR



Here's a story about a good little Spartan boy and how he followed the rules – to the gruesome end.

Pinch whatever you like - but don't get caught
(He stole a fox cub belonging to somebody else.)

Don't give up without a struggle
(The boy was seen running away from the scene of the theft. He was arrested, but before they caught him he just had time to stuff the fox cub up his tunic.)

Cheat, lie and trick your way out of trouble
(The boy's master asked the boy where the fox cub was. The boy replied: 'Fox cub? What fox cub? I don't know anything about a fox cub!')



It's better to be a dead hero than a live whinger
(The master's questioning went on... and on. Until suddenly the boy fell down. Dead. When the guards examined the body they found the fox cub had eaten its way into the boy's guts.)

The tough Spartan lad hadn't given any sign that he was in pain – even though it cost him his life.)

Could you be as dumbly deceitful as this young savage Spartan?

The story of the boy and the fox might not be true – it simply shows the sort of people the Spartans admired. But the story of the Battle of Thermopylae is almost certainly true. Again it shows the Spartans would rather die than give in.

Tall Tales of Potty Persians

The savage Spartans liked to win, so they were more than a little miffed at losing to the Persians at Thermopylae. But at least they could make sure that when the event was recorded in history, their enemy wouldn't look that clever (make that positively potty). Here's one story from Greek history...

On his way to Thermopylae, the Persian king Xerxes and his massive army had to cross a stretch of water. So they built a bridge. But a storm came up and smashed the bridge. Xerxes was furious.

So, what did the potty Persian do? (according to the Greeks, that is!)

1. Order the bridge-builder to be flogged?



2. Order the sea to receive three hundred lashes? Or...



3. Order his army to swim across?



#!!*☆!

MORE LIKE BERSERXES
IF YOU ASK ME



'Orrible Olympics

The groovy Greeks liked sport almost as much as fighting. Every four years athletes from all over Greece competed at the Olympic Games...

If a sprinter wanted to get a sneaky head start, he'd better make sure he could run fast... because if he was caught, he'd get a good hiding!

Boxers didn't wear gloves – they just wrapped leather strips around their hands. No wonder they ended up as ugly as old boots.

The Greeks didn't go in for fancy trainers or shirts with their sponsor's name on it. They competed completely nude!

Read everything carefully if you want to know why these women are wearing disguises?

Discus-throwing could be a very big hit with the spectators...

The Olympics wasn't just about sports. During the games there were also feasts and festivals to honour the god Zeus.

Married women weren't allowed into the Olympics. Any caught sneaking in were thrown off a cliff.

YOU'RE FOR THE HIGH JUMP!

As if the long jump wasn't hard enough, it was done from a standing start in these Olympics. The athlete swung weights to help them jump, while a musician warbled nearby to take his mind off things.

Javelin and running-in-full-armour contests were excellent training for battle. (Not so excellent if you got in the way.)

Cheating paid! Well, at least it paid for some new statues of Zeus for the temple at Olympia. If he coughed up for the statues, the winning cheat could keep his crown!

OOOPS!

AND THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT...

In the relay race, runners passed a flaming torch instead of a baton. Things could get too hot to handle...

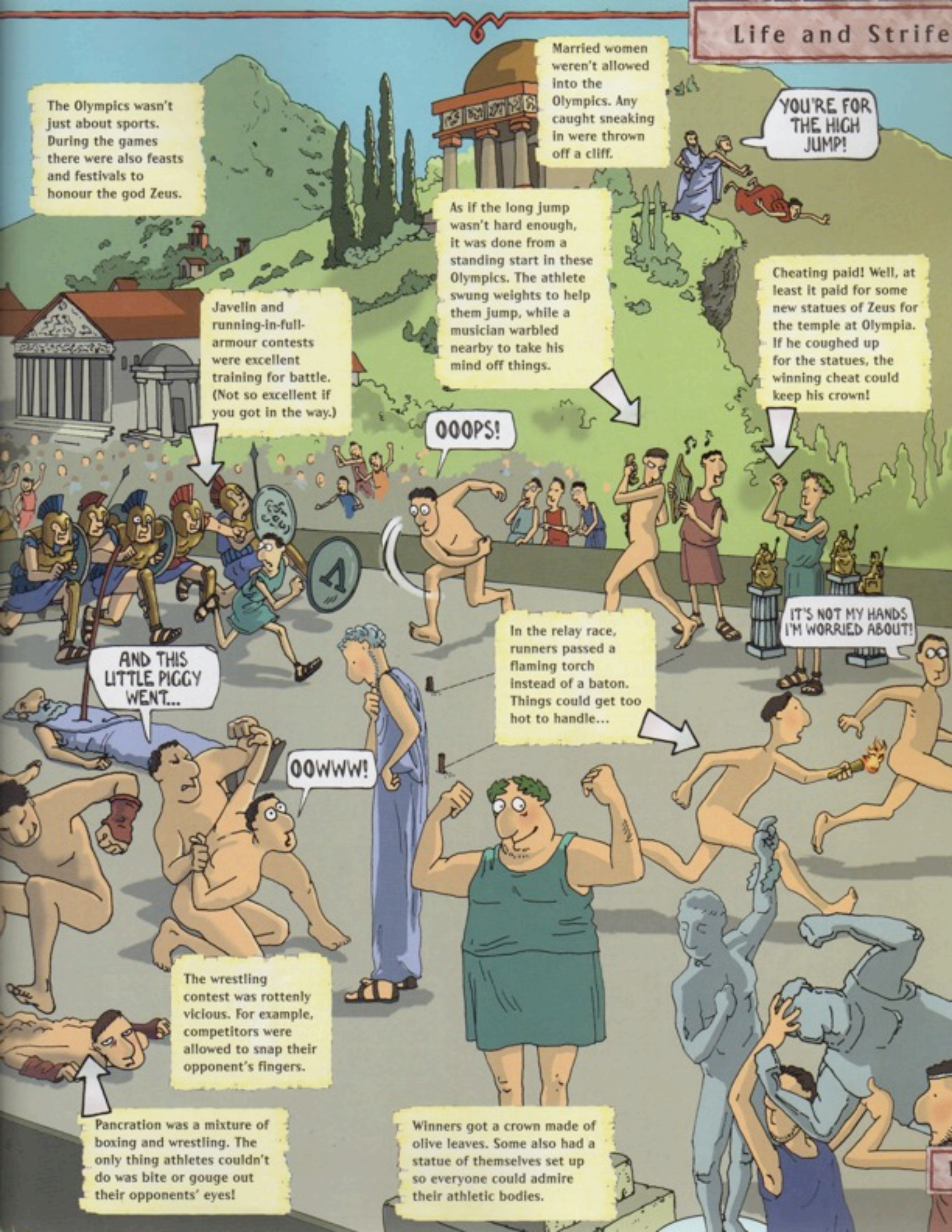
IT'S NOT MY HANDS I'M WORRIED ABOUT!

OOWWW!

The wrestling contest was rottenly vicious. For example, competitors were allowed to snap their opponent's fingers.

Pancration was a mixture of boxing and wrestling. The only thing athletes couldn't do was bite or gouge out their opponents' eyes!

Winners got a crown made of olive leaves. Some also had a statue of themselves set up so everyone could admire their athletic bodies.



Electrifying Epics... and Petrifying Plays

Running around in their birthday suits wasn't the only way Greeks had a good time. Poems were top of the pops, as was a brand new pastime... going to the theatre.



The Greeks loved stories about gods and heroes. A favourite story about the siege of Troy and a wooden horse is still told today. It's the one about a gang of Greek soldiers who hid inside a wooden horse which was given to the Trojans. The soldiers snuck out at night and opened the gates

of the city to the rest of their army... who hacked the dopey Trojans to bits (Gory = Good).

Wordy wonder

These stories were told as poems, and were sung in the palaces. Then, after the Dark Ages, poems were written down. The first one

to be written down was called the *Iliad*, and was by the Greek, Homer. No, not the dad of Bart Simpson! This was the original Homer. And he was no doughnut-eating dumbo – he was the Greeks' greatest poet. Homer lived sometime between 1200 and 700BC – depending on who you

Wooden Gee-Gee Japes... a Trojan 'toon

If your enemy left a huge wooden horse outside your gate, what would you do?



Masks and Monsters

Greek theatre...

- was usually out in the open air.
- had no women actors – only men actors who also played the women's parts. (Must have been pretty funny if the actor was a deep-voiced dude from Delphi!)
- had the actors wearing face masks and crazy costumes. The first masks were the simple happy 'comedy' and sad 'tragedy' masks shown here. Big-nosed, bearded, funny faces were a huge hit, too. The masks' mouths were shaped a bit like loudspeakers – to



OK... IN THE NEXT SCENE
YOU HAVE TO PLAY
SHORT PEOPLE

make the actors' voices louder. The costumes were just as wild – actors wore hairy body stockings with tails to look like satyrs (goaty monsters) and fake bellies and bottoms in the comedies.

Sometimes actors wore high platform shoes to make them look huge. They had to move around very slowly in case they fell over.



believe – and is supposed to have been blind. His poems retold the ancient Greek stories of heroes and monsters in a brilliant new way. The Olympian gods fighting each other, Odysseus killing the cyclops, the scary singing ladies called the Sirens, the Trojan War – these are all in Homer's humungous poems.



'Rip'-ping yarns

The Greeks heard the poems read on stage while a group of dancers performed. Then a clever poet called Aeschylus (say *ees-kill-us*) came along and had a great idea. He put a second reader on stage. Now you had a 'play' – the first drama in the world.

Another groovy Greek invention!

Another famous playwright was Euripides (say *you-rippa-deeze*), whose name has given a lot of joy to suffering students of Greek...



FREAKY FURIES

One of Aeschylus' plays featured the Furies – monstrous clawed hags who punished evil-doers. The Furies' costumes were supposed to scare the audience to death... and that's *exactly* what they did! When the actors appeared in their ghastly Furies masks, women collapsed, and several boys died of fright on the spot!



High drama

Two types of play soon developed. Serious ones where lots of people died miserably – they were called 'tragedies'. Funny ones full of groovy jokes and rude bits – they were called 'comedies'. And there was wacky stuff in the intervals, too. Of course, like everything else in Greece, play-writing became a competition. You went to see which play was the best and would win the prize.

Perry's posh places

The world's first 'theatre' was built in Athens on the orders of Pericles. It was open air, so if it rained, everybody got wet – so the performance would be a real washout! Pericles didn't stop there – he had another amazing theatre built next door, and with a roof this time! It was called the Odeon. That's why big cinemas and halls are called Odeons today.



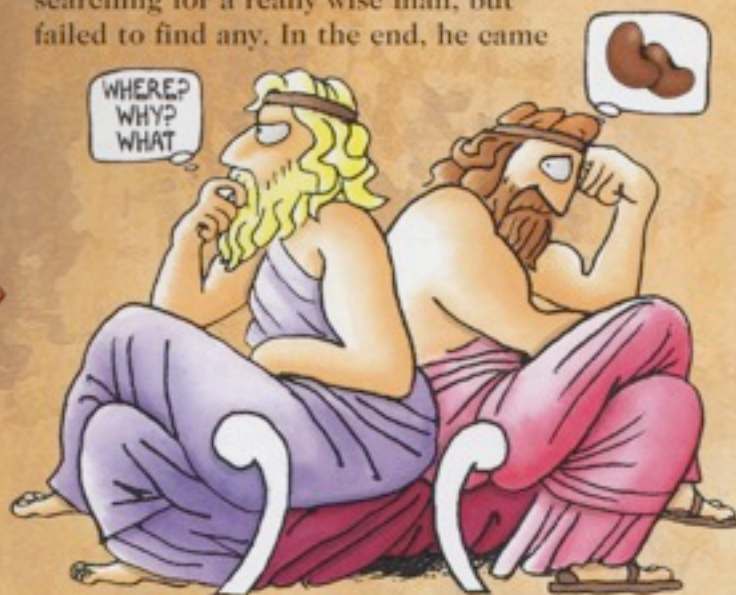
Think Like a Greek

One thing the Greeks had in abundance was new ideas. Great ones, bad ones, wacky ones, super scientific or superstitious rot – they had the loopy lot.

The Greeks had some of the cleverest and craziest thinkers of ancient times. Take just two of them – Socrates (a philosopher) and Pythagoras (a kind of cranky maths teacher – see box on the right).

Smart to be stupid

The Oracle (a priest who always spoke the truth) at Delphi once said that 'Socrates was the wisest man of all'. Socrates refused to believe this. He went searching for a really wise man, but failed to find any. In the end, he came



to the conclusion that if he was wise, it was only because he 'knew that he knew nothing.' If that's what wisdom is, you could be the wisest kid at school – just by knowing you didn't know anything. Cool!

Ask to annoy

Socrates invented his own type of questioning – the 'Socratic Method'. His trick was to find a person who thought they were really wise, then ask them lots of difficult and annoying questions until they finally shouted, 'I don't KNOW!' and stormed off. Why not try this groovy Greek trick on your teacher?

Socrates was always hanging around with young people, telling them not to believe in the old gods. In Athens this was punishable by death. Socrates was ordered to drink poison. (Getting your smartest thinker to kill himself – now that *is* stupid.)

PY'S POTTY PUPILS

The pupils of Pythagoras lived apart from the rest of the Greeks and had some batty rules.

1. Don't eat beans. They believed these contained the souls of the dead. (Plus they gave you wind – which ruined your concentration when you were doing some particular tricky maths.)
2. Never wear clothes that have knots in them.
3. Don't touch the fire with an iron poker.
4. Don't touch a white cockerel.
5. Don't eat the heart of an animal.
6. Don't stand on your fingernail clippings.
7. Don't leave the mark of your body on a bed when you get up. Smooth it out!
8. Don't look in a mirror beside a lamp.
9. Help a man to load something – but never help him unload.



Pythagoras was so afraid of beans that they may have 'bean' the death of him! A mob attacked the town where he and his followers lived. According to one story, Pythagoras ran away and was making a good getaway... until he came across a bean field. He refused to cross it. As he stood there the mob caught up with him... and killed him.

Strange superstitions

Potty Pythagoras' followers weren't the only ones with strange beliefs. The Greeks were very superstitious people. They believed that...

- Birds were messengers between earth and heaven, and the moon was a resting place for spirits on their way to heaven.
- Hecate, goddess of witchcraft and crossroads appeared at crossroads on clear nights, along with ghosts and howling phantom dogs. The Greeks left food at

I WISH THEY'D SEND SHORTER MESSAGES



WHAT DO THEY SAY?

IN THE FUTURE THERE WILL BE FEWER BIRDS

- They could read the future in the guts of

dead birds.

- They also thought there were spirits called 'daimons'

around. Some were good and protected you; some were evil and could lead you into wickedness. Even supposedly clever people like Socrates believed in daimons.

IT WASN'T ME SIR, IT WAS MY DAIMON



But some Greek ideas weren't quite so bonkers. One is still very popular...

Dreadful Democracy

Many countries today are run as democracies. That means every adult has a vote on who gets to be in the government.

Athens, being really groovy, had the first democracy. But because they didn't think everyone was equal, they didn't get it quite right...

EVERYBODY HAS A VOTE

HOORAY!

GROOVY

... EXCEPT WOMEN OF COURSE

HOORAY!

GROOVY

NO SLAVES WILL HAVE THE VOTE OF COURSE

HOORAY!

GROOVY

NO POOR PEOPLE OF COURSE

HOORAY!

GROOVY

AND NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF THIRTY OF COURSE!

HOORAY!

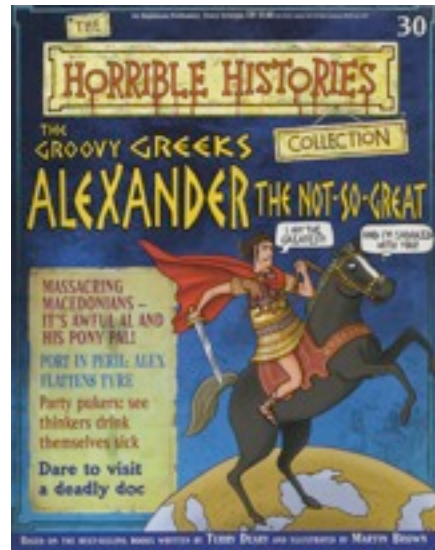
GROOVY

OTHERWISE... EVERYBODY HAS A VOTE!

GROOVY

Section four

Alexander the Great



Horrible Histories: Alexander the Not-So-Great

Questions:

What places did Alexander succeed in taking over?

What were some of the Awful things Alexander did throughout his life?

Who was Alex's teacher? What was he like? (use google for more info)

What were weapons and war machines like under Alex?

Describe a Greek symposium in one paragraph (use the text and the images)

What was life for women like in Greece?

What were some of the scientific ideas that came from Ancient Greece?

Who was NOT allowed to vote in Ancient Greece?



answer online

THE

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30

HORRIBLE HISTORIES

THE
GROOVY GREEKS

COLLECTION

ALEXANDER THE NOT-SO-GREAT

MASSACRING
MACEDONIANS –
IT'S AWFUL AL AND
HIS PONY PAL!

PORT IN PERIL: ALEX
FLATTENS TYRE

Party pukers: see
thinkers drink
themselves sick

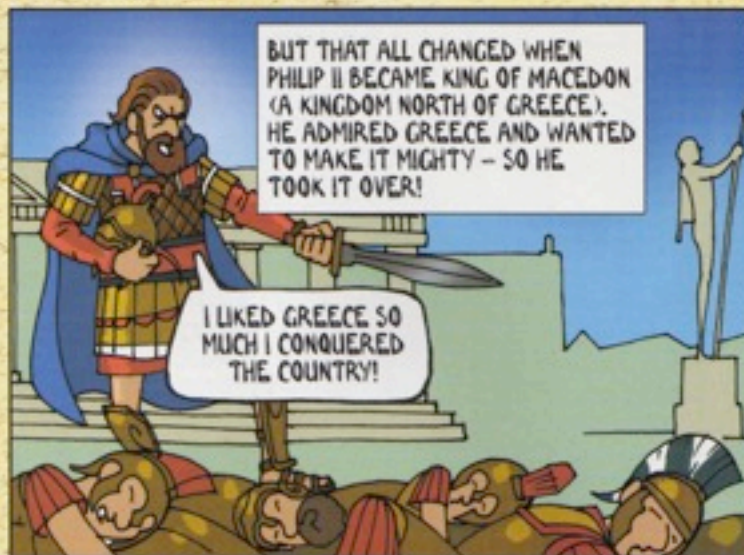
Dare to visit
a deadly doc

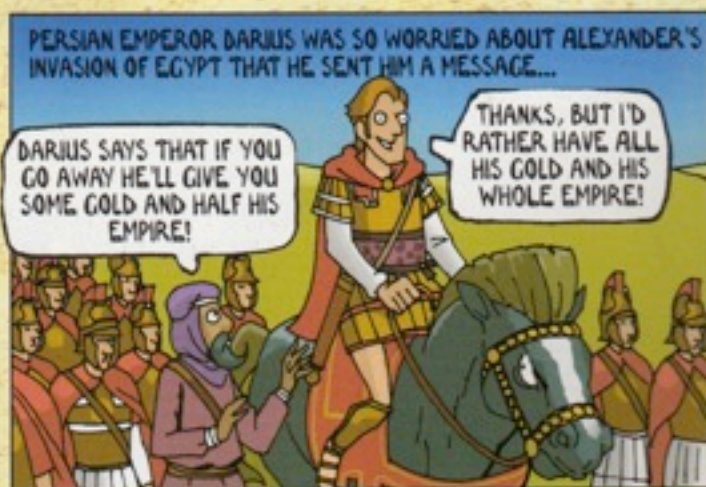


BASED ON THE BEST-SELLING BOOKS WRITTEN BY TERRY DEARY AND ILLUSTRATED BY MARTIN BROWN

Greece Lightning!

WHEN ALEXANDER THE GREAT WANTED AN EMPIRE, HE JUST WENT OUT AND GRABBED ONE. ALEXANDER DIDN'T STOP TILL HE DROPPED!





PERSIA WASN'T ENOUGH FOR ALEX. HE WANTED MORE. SO HE LED HIS ARMY FARTHER EAST - INTO INDIA. HE BATTLED INDIAN PRINCES - AND THEIR ELEPHANTS!



THAT ALEX IS REALLY TAKING US TO TUSK!

IT WASN'T THE INDIANS WHO STOPPED ALEX, THOUGH - IT WAS HIS OWN ARMY. HIS SOLDIERS GOT HOMESICK AND REFUSED TO GO ANY FURTHER...



I WANT INDIA!

BUT WE WANT OUT, DEAR!



...SO ALEX HAD TO TURN AROUND AND MARCH BACK TO PERSIA.

ALEX AND HIS MEN SPREAD GREEK IDEAS AND ART WHEREVER THEY WENT. ALEX ALSO TRIED TO GET THE GREEKS TO PICK UP SOME PERSIAN CUSTOMS...



YOU SHOULD TRY ON ONE OF THESE FAB PERSIAN ROBES - AND THESE PERSIAN WOMEN MAKE LOVELY WIVES!

IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME

BUT ALEX'S NEW IDEAS DIDN'T STOP THERE. HE STARTED DRINKING A LOT OF WINE AND DECLARED THAT HE WAS A GOD!



I AM A GOD! WORSHIP ME!

WELL, HE'S DEFINITELY IN TOUCH WITH THE SPIRITS!

AS SOON AS ALEX SNUFFED IT, HIS GENERALS STARTED SCRAPPING OVER PIECES OF THE EMPIRE THAT THEY WANTED FOR THEMSELVES. WITHIN A COUPLE OF CENTURIES, GREECE AND MUCH OF ALEX'S OLD EMPIRE HAD BEEN CONQUERED BY GREECE'S RIVALS - THE ROTTEN ROMANS.



ALEX DRANK WINE NON-STOP FOR TEN DAYS - THEN DROPPED DEAD! HE WAS ONLY 32 YEARS OLD.

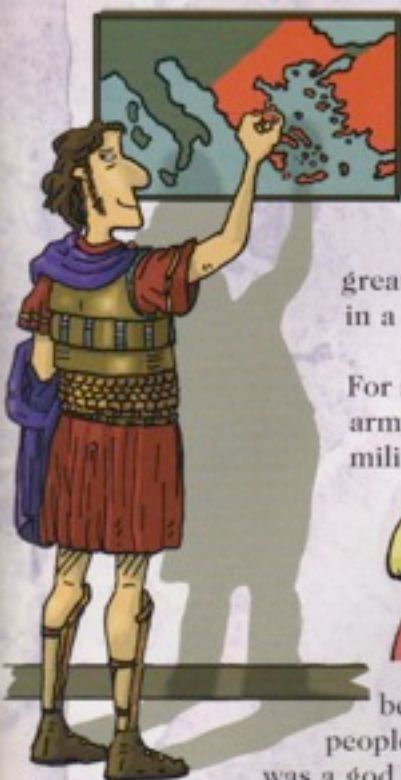


WHY BOTHER? HE'S ALREADY PICKLED

SHOULD WE MUMMIFY HIM?

Incredible Al

Meet the mighty-but-mean Alexander the Great
– he created an empire, then died in a state!



Teachers might say Alexander was the greatest Greek ever. Well, they'd be doubly wrong. Alex wasn't Greek – he was a Macedonian. And the greatest? Well, in a way.

WHY WAS HE SO GREAT?

For starters, he led his army on an awesome military campaign through western Asia and turned this huge area into his very own empire – all before he was 32!

SO?

Well, if you believe some of the stories people told about him, Alex was a god in human form who went everywhere with his best pal and his favourite horse, murdered his mates, married a beautiful princess, wore ladies' dresses in battle... and died after a ten-day party!

The truth is, incredible Al was also incredibly awful.

BLIMEY!



Alexander went everywhere with a buddy called Hephaestion. When Hephaestion died, Alex went mad with sorrow. He cut off all

his hair – and then gave all the horses in his army a savage haircut too. (Maybe he did it because Heph had been his 'mane' man?)



TALK ABOUT A BAD HAIR DAY!

WHEN ALEX ATTACKS

If more people knew about Alexander the Great's gruesome deeds, maybe they wouldn't think he was so great after all...

TYRE TORTURER

It took Alex eight tough months to take the city of Tyre in the eastern Mediterranean. Afterwards he relaxed... by having 2000 Tyrians crucified on the city's beaches.



PERSIAN PUNISHER

After capturing Gaza (south of Tyre), Al grabbed the city's governor. He had the man tied by his heels to a horse and then dragged through the streets.



THAT'S HIM BROUGHT TO HEEL

WHAT A DRAG!

MATE MANGLER

Alex got drunk one evening... and killed his friend Cleitus with a spear. Why? Because Cleitus said kind things about Alex's dad – and Alex got jealous!

BOY BEATER

Once, after a boar hunt, Alex had a boy whipped – for killing a boar before Alex managed to! (The boy had only killed it because it was charging at Alex.) The boy was so upset, he and some others plotted to kill Alex – but Alex found out and had them killed. What a boar!



Al's Pals...

Two of Alex's best buddies – one bold and beefy, the other mind-bogglingly brainy!

BUCEPHALUS

(say bew-SEFF-a-lus) This horse was adored by Alex. When the two first met, Buce was a crazy creature. Alex boasted that he could master the horse. He'd worked out the problem – Buce was afraid of his own shadow!



Alex turned the horse to face the sun. After that, taming Buce was easy. (At least that's what the legend says...)

Battling beast

Alex rode his favourite horse in several battles, and sat on him when having his portrait made.

Once, a hill tribe called the Uxians captured Bucephalus. Alex was so upset he threatened to kill all the Uxians – unless they returned Buce. (It would be an Uxian reduction!) Luckily for Buce, they knew Alex meant it – so they gave him back.

Did you know?



'Bucephalus' is Greek for 'ox head'. Buce was given the name because his head was so broad and strong. The Greeks didn't mind that the horse had such a beefy bonce – they thought it made him look majestic.

Sadly, Alex's beloved Buce was killed in battle in 326BC. Alex was so upset, he founded a new town and named it Bucephala after his four-legged friend.

ARISTOTLE

Imagine being taught by the brainiest teacher in the whole country. What a nightmare!

That's what happened to Alex. His teacher was Aristotle, one of Greece's biggest brainboxes.

Crackpot swot

Although he was brilliant, Aristotle did have a few odd ideas. He said that the gods made men to rule the world... but women and



slaves could not even think because they had such weak brains!

Potty, of course. But most of Ari's ideas were awesome, and that's why he's known as 'The Father of Science' today.

For one thing, he invented the camera obscura – a sort of camera. (Find out how to make one yourself on p20.)

THAT'S IT ALEXANDER, HOLD IT THERE... AND ... SMILE!



Did you know?



Before Aristotle, Alex was taught by another clever-clogs called Leonidas. One day Alex was wasteful with a handful of incense, a spicy powder used in religious rituals. Leo grumpily said, 'When you've conquered the spice-growing lands, you can throw away all the incense you like. Till then, don't waste it.'

Many years later, Alex did conquer a spice-trading port. And he sent a special present back home to Leo... 18 tonnes of spice!

Teacher's pets

Aristotle was an animal lover. Well, he loved carving them up to see how they worked! As Alexander conquered the world, he sent exotic animals back to his old teacher as presents. Ari enjoyed slicing up the specimens. He ate some of them, too – camel was his favourite.



...and a Fierce Foe

A Persian king who was great – at running away!

DARIUS III

Alex's main enemy was Darius, king of Persia. (The Persians were the top power in the ancient world – that is, until Alexander came along.) Darius commanded a great army and empire – even though it seems he was better at running away than commanding...

Tall tyrant

Darius was a huge man – he stood head-and-shoulders above his men in battle. So it's not surprising that his throne was king-sized, too. When Alex sat on it (after he'd conquered Persia) his feet didn't reach the ground. He had to rest them on a table!

Darius should have known the Battle of Issus would be a washout. He had asked one adviser, named Charidemus, to speak his mind honestly about who was more likely to win. Unhappily for Chari, Darius didn't like bad news...



Scarpering king

This wasn't the first time Darius fought Alexander – and it wasn't the last. That was at the Battle of Gaugamela. At Gaugamela, Darius assembled a vast army, which included warriors on camels and elephants... and then ran away when things started to go wrong. He hid out in the northern part of his empire – where a band of his own men turned traitor and murdered him.

Women at war

Darius came from a powerful Persian royal family. The royal women were very important, so Darius took his mum, sister, wife and daughters everywhere – even into battle! (He also took 360 girlfriends – one for each day of the Persian year.) When Darius lost a battle with Alexander at Issus in Syria, he escaped – but Alex captured his ladies. Hundreds of Persian women must have been a handful!



NOSEY NO LONGER

The traitors' leader, a man named Bessus, crowned himself king of Persia... but not for long. Alex caught up with him and gave him the traditional punishment that Persians saved for king-killers. He had Bessus' ears and nose sliced off. Then he handed Bessus over to be executed by Darius' brother.



HORRIBLE
HAPPENINGS



Wicked Weapons



When Alex attacked, his foes fought back with humps and trunks.

Alexander's army used an arsenal of awesome weapons to win their sieges and land battles. This was just as well, because some of their enemies' weapons – from slashing chariot wheels to angry elephants – were just as dangerous!

WHEELS AND WHIFFS

Alexander's great enemy, the Persian forces of Darius, had some wicked weapons. The worst were probably scythed chariots – chariots with great big blades fixed to the wheels. As they charged into their enemy, the blades would chop the Greeks into mincemeat.

At least, that was the idea. As it turned out, the Persian horses were never keen to charge at spear-waving Greeks. (Do you blame them?) And the Greeks were smart enough to get out of the way of a charging chariot anyway.



Persians also had war-camels – deadly dromedaries (one humpers) or battling bactrians (the ones with two humps). The camels had a not-so-secret weapon – their smell. Horses were horrified by the stink of camel, so camel-troopers were an excellent way of giving the enemy's cavalry the hump.



Prickly Problem

Most of Alex's troops fought on foot, using long and lethal spears. The troops' favourite trick was to get into a formation called a phalanx (say fal-anks). They would bunch up together behind their shields with all their spears pointing out. Fighting a phalanx was like having a bottom-kicking contest with a porcupine – perilous, painful and very, very prickly!



Trunk Trouble

Camels weren't the only beasts that Alex's army had to battle. In Persia and India the Greek troops had to fight off enemies on elephants.



At first the Greeks were freaked out by these big-nosed foes, but they soon found out the way to jump a jumbo – kill the driver, then attack the elephant with arrows. With any luck the jumbo would get all jittery, panic and then trample all over its own side.



When Alexander led his men on a dusty trek through a dry and dusty desert in what is now called Pakistan,

many of his troops were desperately thirsty. When they came across some water, the thirsty troops and camp followers drank and drank and drank. In fact, they drank so much that it killed many of them!



Death by Drink

Life was dangerous in Alex's army. If the enemy didn't kill you, then the booze might! Alex liked to drink alarmingly large amounts of wine – and he expected his soldiers to do the same. He once held a drinking competition. The winner, who guzzled twelve litres of wine, pocketed the prize... and dropped dead six days later from alcohol poisoning.



MEAN MACHINES

When enemies locked themselves into a city, the Greeks burnt, bashed or barged their way in with some awesome inventions.

Alex wasn't the first Greek to win a siege like the one at Tyre. Remember the Trojan horse? Well, that was just one of many tricks up their sleeves. Check out these city-busting weapons...

THE BOETIAN BLASTER

The Greeks of Boetia invented this devilish door-destroying device. It was the world's first flame thrower!

TOP SECRET

THE BOETIAN BLASTER

- 1 CUT DOWN A TALL STRAIGHT TREE. TRIM THE BRANCHES OFF THEN SPLIT THE TRUNK IN TWO



- 2 HOLLOW OUT THE TRUNK THEN JOIN THE TWO HALVES TOGETHER. YOU NOW HAVE A HOLLOW TUBE



- 3 HANG A METAL VESSEL FULL OF SMOLDERING COALS, TAR AND SULPHUR AT ONE END AND A BELLOW AT THE OTHER END



- 4 CARRY THE MACHINE TO A PLACE WHERE THE ENEMY WALLS ARE MOSTLY MADE OF WOOD. AIM THE TUBE AT THE WALLS AND SQUEEZE THE BELLOWS



PROTECTION FROM ENEMY ARROWS

- 5 A HUGE FLAME WILL SHOOT OUT OF THE METAL VESSEL, SETTING FIRE TO THE WALLS AND DRIVING THE DEFENDERS AWAY



THE SAMBUCA

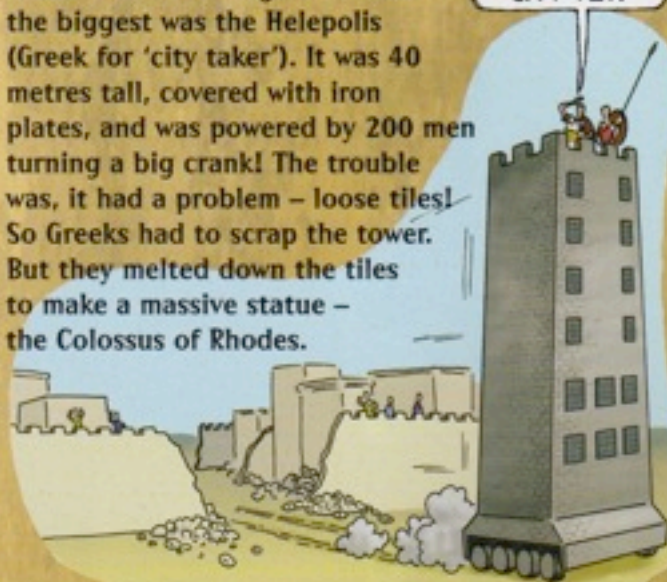
This was a giant Greek crane that could lift soldiers onto the walls of enemy cities... like a modern lift, but with more blood and violence!



TOWER OF POWER

When it came to siege machines, the biggest was the Helepolis (Greek for 'city taker'). It was 40 metres tall, covered with iron plates, and was powered by 200 men turning a big crank! The trouble was, it had a problem – loose tiles! So Greeks had to scrap the tower. But they melted down the tiles to make a massive statue – the Colossus of Rhodes.

HAVE WE REACHED THE CITY YET?



Rowdy Rave-up

While Alex was off enlarging their empire, the Greeks liked to let their hair down at a 'symposium' – a doolally drinking party!



A popular symposium game was flicking the dregs from the bottom of your wine cup!

A symposium was a place for philosophers to discuss ideas about life, the universe and everything. But discussions could turn nasty when the thinkers had too much to drink!

Party snacks could include olives, figs, goat's cheese and fresh octopus. (This octopus looks a little too fresh!)

liked to test each
with cunning riddles.
got the answer
you had to drink a
wine mixed with
water. Yuck – salty wine!

Musicians kept the party jumping by playing tunes on Greek double-flutes and tortoise-shell harps.

Oi – no ladies allowed! The only women allowed into a symposium were slaves, servants, musicians and dancing-girls. How unfair.

I SAY, WHY IS
EUROPE LIKE A
FRYING PAN?*

Dancing-girls
did a dangerous
trick. They jumped
through a hoop
over razor-sharp
sword-blades!

The Greeks drank their wine mixed with water. At each symposium, one guest was given the job of deciding how strong to make the drink.

BECAUSE IT HAS GREECE AT THE BOTTOM!

Women Go Wild!

When the women of ancient Greece finally got the chance to have some fun, they went absolutely mad.



GREEK GOOD WIFE GUIDE	
A WOMAN SHOULD	A WOMAN DOES NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAY AT HOME • BE BROUGHT UP WITH SLAVES AND LEARN HOUSEHOLD SKILLS • LEARN TO SPIN, WEAVE, COOK AND MANAGE SLAVES • HAVE A HUSBAND - CHOSEN BY HER FATHER - WHEN SHE IS 15 • WORSHIP THE GODDESS HESTIA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VOTE • BUY OR SELL ANYTHING WORTH MORE THAN A SMALL MEASURE OF BARLEY • OWN ANYTHING OTHER THAN HER CLOTHES, JEWELLERY AND SLAVES • LEAVE THE HOUSE EXCEPT TO VISIT OTHER WOMEN OR GO TO RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS AND FUNERALS

Being a woman in ancient Greece wasn't much fun. You were told what to do and what not to do – and didn't have anything like the freedom the men enjoyed (those that weren't slaves, that is). Women were kept out of parties and given all the duties.

The only occasions when women were allowed to enjoy themselves were religious rituals or festivals. And because these occasions were so rare, they took the chance to go completely crazy.

Groovy girls

The women of Attica, the region surrounding Athens, were different from the women living in Athens. They helped their husbands in the fields. They also had a curious way of preparing their daughters for marriage. Girls aged about 13 were sent to the Brauron temple of the goddess Artemis. There they were trained to be mature young women, and good wives. Was this...

1) By learning how to fire bows and arrows, throw spears, mend armour, and sharpen swords?

Rotten Religious Riot

There was one other occasion when women were in charge – and were allowed to go bananas! The 'Thesmophoria festival' was a very important religious occasion. It was kept strictly secret and, for once, it was the men who weren't allowed in.

The festival was held to honour Demeter, the goddess of fertility. The idea was to please her with offerings so that she would keep the food growing – and the kids coming!

The festival itself was held in Athens every Autumn, but the preparations started in spring...



1 In spring the women made cakes in the shapes of snakes. (Snake-shaped cake bakers! Try saying that in a hurry.) But they didn't eat them. They threw them into holes in the ground and buried them – along with some freshly sacrificed piglets.

2 In autumn, on the first day of the festival, the women dug up the rotting porkers and crumbled cakes – and placed the revolting mix on Demeter's altar. Then they asked Demeter to bless the mouldy mixture.





- 2) By praying to the goddess for wisdom and learning secret spells to keep the husbands happy and healthy?
- 3) By running and dancing through the woods with no clothes on pretending to be she-bears?



(The answer is... 3.)

The idea was that they got the wildness 'out of their

systems' before they settled down to marriage. The Brauron temple proved very popular with Greek girls around 380-370BC. However, girls, you should not try this at your local place of worship - you'd only get arrested or photographed by the boys in your class, or catch pneumonia... or all three!

Dress like a Greek Lady

Instead of running naked through the local woods, you could find out what it's like to be a groovy Greek by dressing like one. Here's how to make their simple costume called a Doric chiton. Men's were the same but shorter.

(Warning: only suitable for summer weather!)

1. Fold an oblong cloth as shown. (Don't use Mum's

best sheets - use Dad's!)

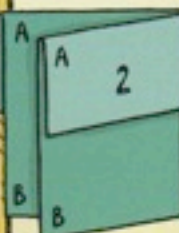
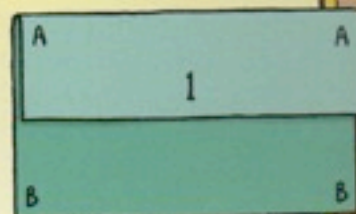
2. Fold it again.

3. Wrap it round the body and pin it at each shoulder - the Greeks didn't have safety pins, but you can cheat and use a couple.

4. Fasten the open side with pins. Tie a belt around the waist.

See picture 4 - here's one I made earlier.

5. You are now ready to be seen in public. (Try running around and find out why they took them off for sports.)



3 The putrefying piggy pieces and crumbled cakes were then collected up, mixed with seeds and scattered on the field like a foul fertiliser. The women didn't eat at all that day. (A good idea after playing with putrefying pastries and pork all day!)

4 The ladies spent the rest of the day sitting on the ground. The idea was that putting all their bottoms on the earth would make the ground beneath them full of energy! It was probably a relief to have a good sit down, too.



5 On the second night, the women shouted insults at each other! The ruder and noisier, the more holy it was supposed to be. They even slapped each other! (Next time you argue with your sister, try telling your parents that you're just worshipping Demeter!)

Brainboxes

The Greeks had some super scientists.
One even tried to save their skins...

There were plenty of Greek thinkers who weren't as dotty as the docs. Many of these ancient scientists' ideas are still used today.



Crack-a-code

A Greek brainbox called Polybius invented a secret code known as Polybius' checkerboard. Each letter has a pair of numbers – the across number followed by the up/down one. So B is 12, but F is 21. The word 'yes' is 54 15 43. Get it?

	1	2	3	4	5
1	A	B	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I/J	K
3	L	M	N	O	P
4	Q	R	S	T	U
5	V	W	X	Y	Z

Can you work out what this says? (Answer below!)

23 15 31 35! 24'32 11
35 42 24 43 34 33 15 42

What a Hero

Hero lived in one of the cities founded by Alex the Great – Alexandria, in Egypt. Here are just a few of his heroic inventions:

- **The steam engine.** Steam jetting out of the spouts of a ball made it spin. Amazing! (It was 1700 years before anyone did anything useful with a steam engine. Oh well, Hero tried!)

- **A birdsong fountain.** Water pumped through a tube made a twittering sound, like a bird.

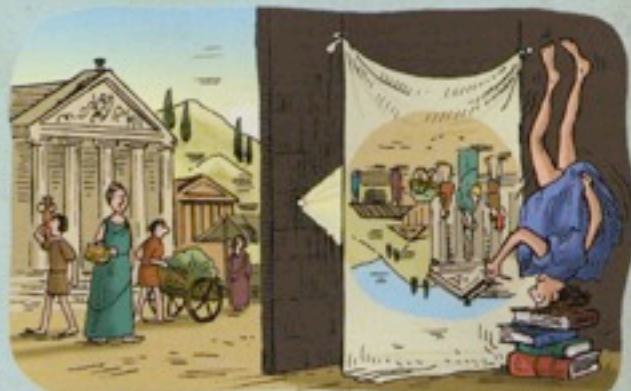
Hmm... not so useful!

- **A mechanical horse statue.** It bent down to drink water. Absolutely useless!



Can-do camera

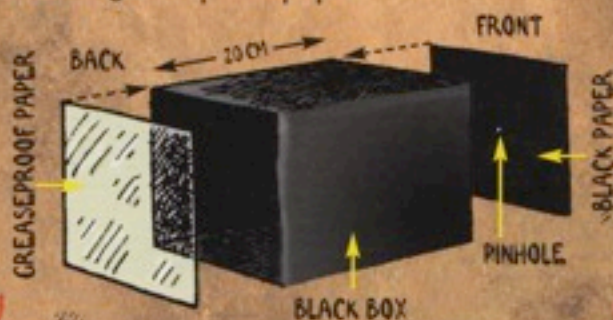
Awfully clever Aristotle invented the 'camera obscura', a sort of 'pinhole' camera. It's the idea behind today's film and television. Now that really was groovy! A window was covered with a dark material, and a tiny hole was punched in it. An upside-down image of the scene outside appeared on a sheet inside the room – which could then be traced.



Here's how to make your own, slightly smaller version. Remember that the image will appear upside down...

A BOX OF PICS

1. Make a box of black card, 20 x 10 x 10cm.
2. Make a small pinhole in the black paper at one end.
3. Place greaseproof paper across the other end.
4. Hold the pinhole end up to a bright scene.
5. The scene will appear, upside down, on the greaseproof paper.



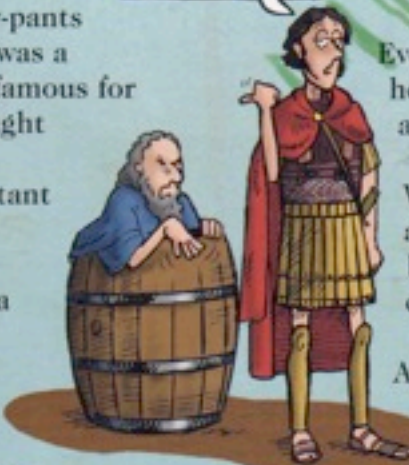


Down-to-earth Dio

Not all of Greece's smarty-pants were inventors. Diogenes was a philosopher who became famous for living in a barrel! He thought that suffering helped you concentrate on the important things in life.

Dio's only other possession was a wooden bowl... but one day he saw a peasant drinking from his cupped hands, so Dio even threw his bowl away. The Greeks dug Dio.

HE'S A BARREL OF LAUGHS, ISN'T HE?



Even Alexander thought Dio was great, so he paid him a visit and asked if there was anything he could do for Dio.

What did Dio ask for?

- a) A roast dinner
- b) A new bowl
- c) A bigger barrel

Answer: None of the above. Dio just asked Alex not to stand in the way of his sunlight!

MMMM - PIE!



Are you the greatest mathematician ever? Thought not. But

that's how today's scientists rate Archimedes. Archie was so smart he worked out the magic number called pi (say *pie*) that you need to calculate the sizes of circles. But Archie didn't just numb Greek brains with numbers. Here are just a few of his groovy inventions.

Archie's Amazing Ideas



It's 212BC, and Roman ships are attacking Syracuse. So I have invented a death ray. This uses mirrors and a lens to concentrate beams of sunlight onto enemy Roman ships in the harbour. It'll set them alight!

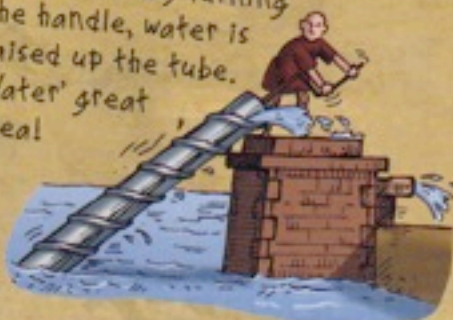


This 'planetarium' is my working model of the Sun, Earth, Moon and known planets.

This crane - I call it the claw - can be used to upend enemy boats and sink them. With the ray and the claw we should win the war!



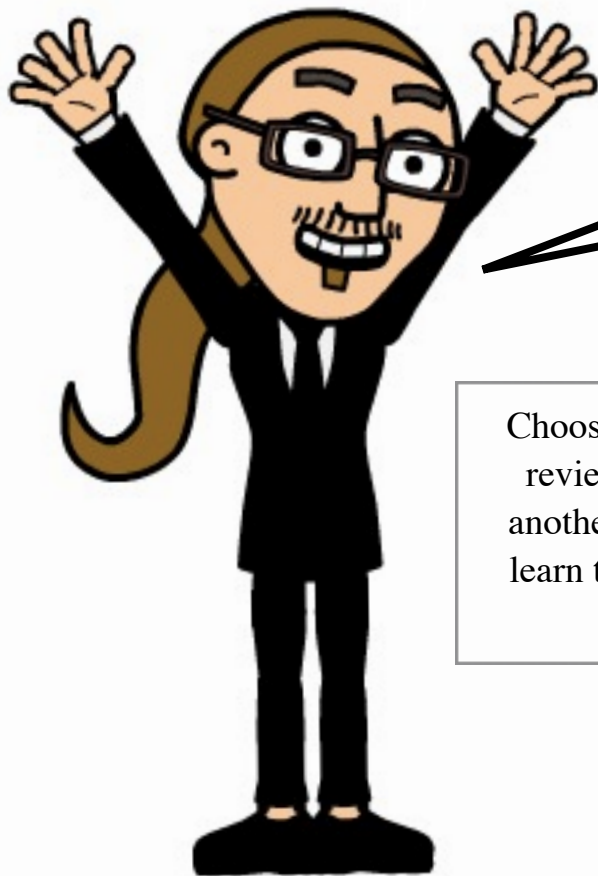
The screw. By turning the handle, water is raised up the tube. 'Water' great idea!



Sadly Archie's inventions weren't enough to save the Greeks. The Romans took the city. When Roman soldiers found Archie, he was so busy drawing a maths problem in the sand that he didn't notice. They killed the cleverest man ever on the spot.

SEEP MATHS IS BAD FOR YOU





Prove you learned it!

Choose and complete one of the following. Be sure to review the unit and you the internet as you work. If another student couldn't look at what you created and learn the main ideas of the unit then you need need to keep working!!!

Write a journal or an essay

Like to write?

Write a journal or essay that explains all of the topics.

Make sure to devote at least one paragraph to each.

Give a presentation

Create a presentation that explains all of the topics.

If you create a power point you **MUST** present it to me for credit.

Presentation must be at least 3 min (I will time you).

You must be able to answer follow up questions.

Make a comic

Use domo.goanimate.com to create a cartoon that explains all of the topics.

Make a cartoon

Use bitstrips.com to create a cartoon that explains all of the topics.

Get interviewed

Like to talk?

This time you have the option of getting questioned by ME. Use your time to put together some notes. You will be graded on how well you answer questions on the topics you were supposed to learn.