

Watch the video below and pause to have a look at the structure of the buildings. Which is your favourite one?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4zidtrhQRg

Follow the directions below to design your own Greek city-state.



Creating Your Own Greek City-State

Directions:

You and a partner are going to create a drawing of your own Greek city-state (polis) using the characteristics you learned about in class. You both must decide on what you think will be the most important locations and buildings to have in it.

Step 1 – Determine the name of your polis. You may use the name of a real city-state in Ancient Greece, or you may make up your own name.

Step 2 – With your partner, decide how you want your government to run. First discuss each form of government and then choose one.

- <u>Monarchy</u> is a government ruled by a king or a royal family. This was the first type of rule in Mycenaean and Minoan civilizations.
- <u>Oligarchy</u> is a government in which a small group holds political power.
- <u>Tyranny</u> is a government in which power is in the hands of a person who has seized control. Tyrants usually make many reforms.
- <u>Democracy</u> is a government in which citizens hold power.
- <u>Aristocracy</u> is a government in which high-ranking members of society (nobles/aristocrats) hold power.

Step 3 – Using your new form of government, choose an economy for your city-state. First discuss each type of society and then choose one.

- <u>Militaristic Society</u> Your city-state depends on warfare to survive. You conquer other city-states and take slaves to run your farms. You also have a standing army, which means that there is a group of people in your city-state who are professional soldiers and are always prepared to battle.
- <u>Educated Society</u> Your city-state values education. You set up great schools where the best teachers in the world instruct each new generation. You develop new technology, advanced medicine, beautiful architecture, and art.
- <u>Commercial Society</u> Your city-state pushes to become an economic power through trade. You develop a powerful navy to protect your goods, and you profit from brining products to those who will pay lots of money.
- <u>Agricultural Society</u> Your city-state serves as the "breadbasket" for the ancient world. Most of your citizens are peasant farmers, and your crops make your city-state wealthy and prosperous. People are afraid to attack you in fear that you may stop trading food with them.
- <u>Religious Society</u> Your city-state honors and worships the gods. Other cities look to you for help in understanding the heavens and the mysteries of the ancient world. You have oracles (priests or priestesses who act as mediums) on site that give advice to kings from all over the world. These kings make your city rich and powerful by giving money to the temples and build beautiful monuments to make your city one of the most well known in the ancient world.

Step 4 – Choose the god or goddess of your city-state. You are polytheistic (believe in more than one deity), so you may pick two if you want. Be careful, don't just pick randomly. You will want to be sure you choose the god or goddess that best fits the type of society and government of your city-state.

- Zeus Ruler of Olympian Gods; God of Sky and Thunder
- Hera Wife of Zeus; Goddess of Marriage and Childbirth
- Poseidon Brother of Zeus; God of the Sea
- · Hades Brother of Zeus; God of the Underworld
- · Ares Son of Zeus and Hera; God of War
- <u>Athena</u> Daughter of Zeus; Goddess of Wisdom, Arts, and Literature
- Apollo Son of Zeus; God of Music, Light, and Truth
- <u>Aphrodite</u> Daughter of Zeus; Goddess of Love, Desire, and Beauty
- <u>Hermes</u> Son of Zeus; Messenger of the Gods
- <u>Artemis</u> Daughter of Zeus; Goddess of the Hunt, the Moon, and the Environment
- · Demeter Goddess of Grain and the Harvest

Step 5 – Design and create your city-state based on the choices you have made. This drawing of your city-state may be computer generated, hand drawn, or a combination of both! Your map must be in colour and should include the following:

- Title with the name of your city-state.
- 6 labeled buildings or locations.
- 2 labeled geographical features (ex. mountains, islands, coastlines, etc.).

With your drawing, you need to include the following on separate pieces of paper:

- Paragraph that explains your government, your economy, your goals, and practices, beliefs or customs.
- One (per group) role card describing an individual that might live in your city-state.
- Flag of your polis (in colour) optional for bonus marks.