## WORLD NOTES - ANCIENT GREECE – Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* Greece is a peninsula surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea

\* Most cities were located by the sea for trade & transportation

\* Greece has many mountains and very narrow plains (farmland)

\* Crops - wheat, olives, grapes

Olive Oil - food, soap, lamp fuel

Grapes - wine, juices, raisins

# Sheep - clothes, milk, cheese

### Basic Greek Government

\* Each city was an independent city-state

\* All Greek men were citizens

\* Most were ruled by democracies or oligarchies

Democracy - ruled by the people

Oligarchy - ruled by a few

**SPARTA** - Greek city with a very strong government (oligarchy) and was not opened to outside trade. Boys left home at age 7 to train for war (wolfcubs). Stayed outside to become “tough” and were underfed. They were encouraged to steal food and usually went without clothes. They tested from the ages of 16 - 20 to become soldiers and could serve in the army until they were 60 years old. Girls were also expected to be tough and were trained at home.

**ATHENS** - Greek city with a very strong government (democracy) and was opened to outside trade. Boys received formal education while living at home. Around 16 years of age they began their training for the army and were expected to serve for at least 5 years although most served longer. Girls were trained at home and were taught the same basic skills as the boys except for military skills.

### The Persian and Peloponnesian Wars

#### First Persian War

Greeks on the coast of Asia-Minor were required to pay a tribute to the Persian King Darius. The Greeks refused to pay and asked their homeland (Greece) to send help. Athens and a few other cities sent soldiers but were defeated.

#### Second Persian War

Persia invaded Greece (to reach Athens) to seek revenge for sending troops to Asia-Minor. The Persians landed at Marathon and were soundly defeated by the Greeks. (Marathon legend.)

#### Third Persian War

Persia, now under the rule of King Xerxes, invaded Greece again. Sparta and Athens joined together and defeated Persia after many fierce battles. Persia never invaded directly again and the war was over.

### Delian League

Athens emerged from the Persian Wars as the leader of Greece. Sparta was no longer considered the strongest city- state in Greece.

### Peloponnesian War

Sparta, jealous of Athenian rule, ended up fighting Athens. Sparta was financially backed by Persia (who was still seeking revenge against Athens from the Persian Wars) and was able to quickly rebuild its forces. Eventually, Sparta would defeat Athens. However, no Greek city-state would again be able to rule all of Greece. This led to the invasion of Greece by Alexander the Great’s father, King Philip II.

### Greek Religion - Mythology

Greeks were polytheistic or worshipped many gods and goddesses. Their gods looked and acted like humans and sometimes had special powers. Unfortunately, since Greeks believed that their gods were just like humans, they tended to spend all their time fighting or scheming against each other and didn’t provide much help in the daily life of the Greeks.

## A FEW FAMOUS GREEKS

AESOP WROTE FAMOUS FABLES

HERODOTUS RECORDED GREEK HISTORY - WRITER DARIUS PERSIAN KING - INVADED GREECE

ARISTOTLE PLATO’S STUDENT - “THE WALKER” PLATO FOUNDED ACADEMY

# XERXES PERSIAN KING - LOST PERSIAN WARS

ARCHIMEDES SCIENTIST - ADVANCED MATH AND SCIENCE

PERICLES ATHENIAN SPEECH WRITER

SAPPHO FEMALE POET - LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP SOCRATES PHILOSOPHER- CRITICAL THINKING

HOMER BLIND POET- WROTE ILIAD & ODYSSEY ALEXANDER THE GREAT RULED ANCIENT WORLD

EUCLID MATHEMATICIAN

