Ancient Greece - The Ancient Greeks

1. Ancient Greece was a community that was located around the Mediterranean Sea thousands of years ago. The Greeks came before the Romans. The Roman culture was influenced by the Greeks.

What were the Ancient Greek's homes like?

2. Greek homes were built around an outdoor courtyard. The courtyard was the center of family activity. It usually had a well for water, an altar to worship the gods, and was a good place for the kids to play. Around the courtyard were the rooms of the house. Different rooms included a workroom, store room, and bedrooms. The walls of Greek homes were made from sun-dried bricks. They also had small windows. These were set high in the walls. They were designed to keep the house cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

What was it like growing up in Ancient Greece?

3. Greek children had toys and spent the day playing games. When boys became seven years old, they started school. They learned math, reading, and writing. Sometimes they would also learn a musical instrument. When they got older, they learned how to debate. Girls did not go to school. Children were considered adults by the age of thirteen.

What food did they eat?

4. The Ancient Greeks mostly ate bread dipped in wine and cheeses, fish, olives, and vegetables. Meats, like pork and beef, were only eaten on special occasions.

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What clothes did they wear?

5 The ancient Greeks wore a tunic called a chitin. Both men and women wore the chitin. It was a basic tunic made from a single rectangle of cloth cut into two. It was fastened at different places, and a belt was used at the waist. There were chitins of different lengths and colors. They were generally made out of thin wool material. Some people could afford linen or even silk chitins.

Jobs in Ancient Greece

6 There were many jobs for men in Ancient Greece, including farmer, fisherman, soldier, teacher, government worker, and craftsman. The women, however, were generally homemakers and would raise the children and cook the meals.
Ancient Greece – Sparta

The Spartans didn't study philosophy, art, or theatre; they studied war. The Spartans had the strongest army. They also had the best soldiers of any city-state in Ancient Greece.

All Spartan men trained to become warriors from the day they were born. The Spartans spent their lives practicing for battle, and it showed. They could defeat much larger armies. The basic equipment used by the Spartans included their shield, a spear, and a short sword. The most important piece of gear to a Spartan was their shield. The biggest shame a soldier could have was to lose his shield in battle.

Spartan society was split into social classes. At the top of Spartan culture were the Spartans. There were only a few Spartan citizens. Spartan citizens were those people who could trace their roots to the original people who formed the city of Sparta.

The Perioikoi were free people who lived in Spartan land. They were not Spartan citizens. They could travel to other cities, own land, and were allowed to trade.

The Helots made up the largest part of Sparta. They were slaves or serfs to the Spartans. They farmed their own land. They had to give half of their crops to the Spartans as payment.

Spartan boys were trained to be soldiers from their youth. They were raised by their mothers until the age of seven. Then, they would enter a military school. At the school, the boys would learn how to fight. They also learned how to read and write. It was a tough school. The boys lived in barracks. They were often beaten to make them tough. They were given little to eat. This way, they would know what life would be like when they went to war. When the boys turned twenty, they entered into the Spartan army.
Spartan girls also went to school at the age of seven. Their school wasn't as tough as the boys. They did train in sports and exercise. It was important that women stay fit. This way, they would have strong sons who could fight for Sparta. The women of Sparta were allowed to go to school. They were also given more rights than the women of most Greek city-states. Girls usually were married at the age of eighteen.
Ancient Greece - Gods and Goddesses

14 Everyone believed in different gods and goddesses in Ancient Greece. Each one had a different job to do. They also had different powers. All of the gods and goddesses worked to help the people of Ancient Greece as they went about their day-to-day activities.

15 The head god was Zeus. He was the father of many other gods, including Hermes, Apollo, and Athena. He lived at the top of Mount Olympus. He was called the king of the gods. When Zeus was angry, he would throw lightning bolts down from the sky. When he was happy, good things would happen to the people of Greece. If you had bad luck, you knew Zeus was mad at you.

16 Zeus' grandmother was called Gaia. She was known for creating the planet Earth. She was also known as the Earth Mother. Besides making the Earth, her main job was to protect Zeus from harm.

17 One of Zeus’ daughters was Athena. She was the goddess of wisdom and helped people make decisions. She also guided them to make good choices. Her symbol is the owl, an animal known for its wisdom.

18 Poseidon was also a god. He ruled over the sea and could cause earthquakes. He was an angry god. He could create storms that could sink the ships of sailors. Poseidon's symbol was his trident. A trident is a spear with three sharp points.

19 Apollo was a sky god. He was one of Zeus' sons and was known for being very wise. He could see into the future. People would pray to him to help them make good decisions.

20 Another of Zeus' sons, Hermes, was known as a messenger god. He was sneaky and liked to play tricks on other gods. He also had an important job. His job was to take people to the afterlife when they died. He also protected them from anything that might get in their way.

“Ancient Greece - Gods and Goddesses” written for educational purposes.
The Ancient Greeks – Athens

21 During the time of Ancient Greece, Athens was the center of power, art, science, and philosophy. It was the birthplace of democracy and the heart of the Ancient Greek civilization.

22 Athens was named after the Greek goddess Athena. She was the goddess of wisdom, war, and civilization and the patron of the city of Athens. Her shrine, the Parthenon, sits on top of a hill in the center of the city.

The Agora

23 The Agora was the place of government for ancient Athens. It had a large open area for meetings. Many of the buildings were temples. Some of the buildings were government buildings like the Mint, where coins were made. The Strategeion was where the ten military leaders of Athens called the Strategoi met. The Agora was a place for people to meet and discuss ideas on philosophy and government. This was the place where the democracy of ancient Greece was first discussed.

The Acropolis

24 The Acropolis was built on a hill in the middle of the city of Athens. It was surrounded by stone walls. It was originally built as a fortress where the people would go when the city was attacked. Many temples and buildings were built here to overlook the city. It was still used as a fortress for some time,
The Parthenon

At the center of the Acropolis was the Parthenon. This building was dedicated to the goddess Athena. It was also used to store gold. Other temples were in the Acropolis, including the Temple of Athena. Plays were performed and festivals were celebrated on the hill of the Acropolis.

The largest theatrical celebration was at the Theatre of Dionysus, patron god of the theatre. There were competitions held there to see who had written the best play. Twenty-five thousand people could attend, and the design was so good that everyone in the theatre could see and hear the play.

The Age of Pericles

The city of Ancient Athens reached its peak when Pericles was in charge. 461 to 429 BC was called the Age of Pericles. During this time, Pericles promoted democracy, the arts, and literature. He also built many of the cities great structures. This included rebuilding much of the Acropolis and building the Parthenon.
In 2014, there were over 327,300 full-time firefighters working in the United States. Being a firefighter is no easy task. It is a job that requires courage and bravery. Firefighters must be prepared to work quickly when the bell rings signaling that an emergency call has come in. Whether a house is on fire or a man needs medical attention, firefighters must be ready and react swiftly. The job of a firefighter requires great physical strength and endurance. Most firefighters work 24-hour shifts. This requires precious time away from their families, but it is a sacrifice they accept.
To become a firefighter you must pass several written and physical tests. The prospective firefighter must complete a series of trainings. They also go through intense physical training at a fire academy. To apply for a job as a firefighter you must be at least 18 years old. Applicants must also hold an emergency medical technician (EMT) certification.

Firefighters have many duties. Typically, they are in charge of emergency response vehicles like fire trucks and ambulances. When responding to a fire they use water hoses, fire extinguishers, and water pumps to put out the flames. One dangerous part of their job is when they risk their lives to enter a fire. Some fires need to be attacked from the inside of the building or home. During a fire, part of the structure may collapse and trap the firefighter. Firefighters also must enter a fire if someone is trapped inside in order to save them.

Firefighters have one of the highest rates of injuries and illnesses compared to other careers. They often encounter dangerous situations. When inside a rescue situation, they may be trapped by collapsing floors or walls. Firefighters are also often times exposed to heavy smoke and flames which is bad for their lungs. They wear protective gear to help lower the chances of injuries or illnesses. Emergency personnel are also often exposed to infectious diseases such as hepatitis or meningitis. In 2015, there were 8,350 documented cases of firefighter exposures to an infectious disease.

Another danger that comes with the job of being a firefighter is the emotional and mental strain. Firefighters work long hours and often suffer from a lack of sleep. They witness serious and life-threatening situations that can affect them emotionally. Although it is a tough job, their courage allows them to push forward and keep saving lives.

applicants – a person who makes a formal application for something, typically a job.
Police officers play a very important role in communities. The job of a police officer used to be one of honor and respect. Due to all the bad news in our nation, the job of a police officer has become more dangerous than ever before. A police officer is someone hired by a police force to serve and protect its citizens. They are authorized to carry out and enforce our country’s laws. Their job is to catch and arrest criminals. They also work hard to prevent and detect crimes. Most police officers wear uniforms to be easily identified by people. This is where the term "brothers in blue" stem from. The traditional uniforms were blue; however, now they come in different colors. Police officers are very close to one another and consider each other part of a big family.

The minimal level of education needed to become a police officer is a high school diploma. Most recently, some police departments are also requiring some college coursework. In order to become a police officer, a candidate must go through a lot of training at a police academy. They must prepare for...
the responsibility of protecting lives and property in their community. Becoming a police officer requires physical and mental strength. Officers have to remain calm under stressful and dangerous situations. People in the field of law enforcement have one of the highest rates of injuries related to their job.

8 The job of a police officer is to enforce local, state, and federal laws. Sometimes doing their job means putting their lives in serious danger. Every day a police officer goes to work and takes the risk of not coming back home again. Officers are often involved in very hazardous situations. In 2014, it was reported that 51 officers were killed in the line of duty in the United States. The same reports show that in 2015, 45 law enforcement officers were killed accidentally while on the job. For example, in a car accident while responding to an emergency call. That same year an astounding 50,212 officers were assaulted while performing their duties. These drastic numbers would make anyone reconsider becoming a police officer.

9 Police officers protect the public and investigate crimes. Most police officers routinely patrol neighborhoods to make sure there is order and to help prevent crimes. They also enforce traffic laws and conduct safety inspections. Every shift may not include a violent encounter; however, every day they still take that risk.
Did you know that logging workers are considered to have the most dangerous job in the United States? A logging worker is someone who cuts down and processes mature trees. They help to transport mature trees for logging purposes. They harvest thousands of acres of forests each year. The wood that they harvest provides materials for many different products.

Although this job does not require any formal education, it does require skill. Many loggers receive on-the-job training to become familiar with forest areas and learn how to work with heavy machinery. If heavy machinery is not handled properly, it can result in serious injury or death. In the year 2015, they had over 132 people die from a fatal injury. This number may not seem large but considering there are less than 100,000 loggers in the nation, this number is high.

Logging can be physically demanding and extremely hazardous. Loggers use hand-held power chain saws to cut down trees. Sometimes they fasten chains around logs to drag them using tractors. They also are responsible for building and repairing logging roads. Due to the heavy machinery, they use to complete jobs, and they are at a greater risk for injuries. Massive weights of trees that are falling, rolling, and sliding can result in severe injury. They must be very careful always and use the proper safety equipment. Some of their safety equipment includes items such as hardhats, hearing protection, and boots.
Every building, structure, or home that has ever been built was completed by a construction worker. These workers also help build bridges, highways, and stores. Construction workers have a very labor intensive job. They must be experienced, strong, and well trained to complete their work. These workers have a high rate of injuries. In 2014, the Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA) noted...
that one in five worker deaths took place in the construction field. OSHA is an agency created by the government to assure safe and healthful working conditions for all men and women.

14 Construction workers have several different duties. Some remove obstacles that would affect the concrete that is being poured. Some work on road construction and are responsible for setting up traffic barricades. Others operate heavy equipment such as cement preparation machines.

15 Construction work is a very physically demanding job. Workers must carry heavy loads and often move their bodies into uncomfortable positions to reach certain areas. Most of the fatal injuries that happen to construction workers are falls, electrocutions, or being struck by equipment or material. To prevent bodily harm construction workers, wear protective equipment. They must be extremely careful and follow all safety rules.

16 Construction workers usually work less than 8 hours a day; however, sometimes they must work extended hours to finish a job. Some construction workers work at night. This job is very tough and requires a lot of physical activity. But hey, someone’s got to do it.

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3 barricades - an improvised barrier erected across a street to prevent or delay the movement of opposing forces

4 electrocutions - the injury or killing of someone by electric shock