

Ancient Greece - The Battle of Marathon

Lesson Learning objectives: *To understand the Battle of Marathon and the clothing and weapons that were used by Greek soldiers.*

Warm your brain up!

Read the PowerPoint presentation explaining the story of the Battle of Marathon.

The facts you need!

All the men living in a Greek city-state were expected to fight in the army. In most cases, these weren't full time soldiers, but men who owned land or businesses were fighting to defend their property.

Each Greek warrior had to provide his own armour and weapons. Typically, the wealthier the soldier the better armour and weapons he had.

A full set of armour included a shield, a bronze breastplate, a helmet, and greaves that protected the shins. Most soldiers carried a long spear called a doru and a short sword called a xiphos.

A full set of armour and weapons could be very heavy and weigh well over 60 pounds. The shield alone could weigh 30 pounds. The shield was considered the most important part of a soldier's armour.

Below is a picture of what a Greek soldier may have looked like - similar to those in the Battle of Marathon.



- ★ This infantry soldier (foot soldier) is called a Hoplite.
- ★ They wore a tunic, a helmet, sometimes with a plume (feathers) and a breastplate (known as a Cuirass).



- ★ On their legs they wore guards called Greaves, and sandals on their feet.



- ★ Their weapons were a spear and shield.



Your Creative Task!

Your task is to create your own Greek soldier, piece of Greek soldier clothing or a Greek soldier's weapon.

You can create your model/piece of clothing from anything that you like. You might choose to draw and label it too. You could even choose to create it out of food!

There are some ideas below to give you some inspiration.

Once you have finished, you can write a short paragraph explaining what it is you have made, how you made it and the materials you used. You could then present your masterpiece to members of your household.



A soldier created from a toilet roll tube and other recycling.



Cardboard spear heads to go on the spear pole.



A shield made from strawberries, blueberries and yoghurt covered raisins.



Drawing of a soldier - don't forget to label your drawing if you choose this option.

Don't forget to tweet a photo of your creation to @ChurchHillJS. We would love to see them.