**The Greeks Clash with the Persians:**

* At the time Athens was growing more powerful, Persia was the strongest military power in the world.
* Persians invaded Greece at a plain northeast of Athens called Marathon.
* After that, Athens and Sparta put aside their differences and worked together to destroy the Persian army.
* Battle at Salamis: Sea battle in which Athenian ships trapped and destroyed the Persian fleet of ships and were victorious.

**The Golden Age:**

* Athens was the city-state with the most power.
* Built magnificent new temples.

**Philosophers: Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle expanded human knowledge:**

* Tried to find natural laws that explained actions in the world, instead of thinking they were just the result of the gods/goddesses.
* Developed a respect for the power of reason (logical thinking).
* First to study the medical causes of sickness.

**Philosophers –Extra Info**

* Provide give rational explanations for physical phenomena
* Idea to look for deeper causes was the true beginning of philosophy and science
* Socrates
  + Leader in revolution in thinking
  + Spent life questioning assumptions
  + Rejected conventional wisdom
  + Examine all issues rationally through dialogue
  + Search for universal truths
  + Use reason and logic to study people
  + Group of youthful followers – Plato, Xenophon
* Plato (427–347 BC)
  + Writer of philosophical dialogues - Socrates' point of view
  + Founder of the Academy in Athens
  + Lectured on politics, ethics, metaphysics, & epistemology
  + Themes in dialogues:
  + best possible form of government
  + role of heredity & the environment on human intelligence & personality
  + distinction between knowledge and true belief

**Philosophers –Extra Info (Continued)**

* Aristotle (384 BC –322 BC)
  + Student of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great
  + Wrote books on physics, poetry, zoology, logic, rhetoric, politics, government and biology
  + One of the few figures in history who studied almost every subject possible at the time

**The Greeks Fight Against Each Other:**

* During its Golden Age, Athens became the most powerful city-state and began to act unwisely.
* Delian League
  + Alliance between leaders of Athens that forced other city-states to join.
  + Athenians used funds from league to put up public buildings in Athens.
  + Athenian generals interfered with issues in other city-states this angered other city-states.

**Peloponnesian War:**

* Athens’ strength was at sea, Sparta’s strength was on land.
* This made it hard to gain the advantage at war.
* Sparta and other city-states rebelled against Athens by joining together and fighting.
* A plague broke out in Athens and killed many, causing their government to fall and making Athens surrender.

**Decline of the Greek City-States:**

* War caused all of Greece to become weak.
* Macedonia (in the north) was growing in power and became a threat to Greece.

**Outline:**

* Alexander the Great’s Conquests
  + King of Macedonia who was a strong leader.
  + Defeated Persia, Syria, Phoenicia, and Egypt

**A Great Empire:**

* Alexander was a very good leader and was fearless on the battlefield.
* Through war and conquest he expanded the empire from Macedonia to Persia.
* As Alexander was marching his victorious army back to Greece, he fell ill and died at the age of 33.

**Hellenistic Age-:**

* A time in which new cities with Greek culture were founded, causing trade to grow between Hellenistic cities and other parts of the world.
  + A blend of Greek and Asian cultures.
  + After Alexander’s death, three generals broke apart the empire and continued to spread Hellenistic ideas and Greek culture.
  + Greek cities were founded in all parts of the empire which became the center for Greek culture in that region.

* Greek culture was spread throughout his vast empire in Europe, Africa and Asia.
* Trade between Hellenistic cities and other areas
  + India- spices and perfumes
  + China- silks
  + Africa- ivory and gold

**Discovery and Inventions:**

* During the Hellenistic Age Greek science and mathematics reached their peak.
  + Discoveries about how the human body works
  + Hippocrates was known as ‘the father of medicine’ because he discovered the natural causes of disease.
  + Archimedes- most famous inventor and mathematician
    - 1. Improved pulleys for moving heavy loads, and made discoveries about floating objects and levers.

**Pythagoras:**

* created important theories about numbers and music, and started a school that led to the development of;
  + Human Body
  + Pulley
  + Lever
  + Pythagorean Theorem