

Ancient Greece

Ancient Greece has a huge impact on our culture. It 11
influences many parts of the United States today. Our 20
country's democratic government was first used by Ancient 27
Greece. They had the first democracy in the world. A 37
democracy is when the citizens of a country choose its 47
leaders. The Ancient Greeks used a form of democracy 57
called a direct democracy. In the United States, we have a 67
representative democracy and elect leaders to vote for us. 76

Ancient Greeks also started the idea of a trial with a 87
jury. The Ancient Olympics originally began in Athens, Greece. 99
We still enjoy the Modern Olympics today. The Ancient 107
Greeks also first created the columns that you see in front 117
of homes and courthouses. You can see examples of columns 126
on many monuments and buildings in Washington, D.C. Ancient 135
Greece also has an important influence on doctors today. In 144
fact, that is where the first medical school was formed. 154

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Olympics

Greece is the home of the Olympic games. It was an 11
athletic competition, and a celebration and religious festival 19
to honor the god Zeus. All of the participants in the Olympic 28
games were citizens of Greece. Athletes competed in 36
running, chariot and horse races, javelin throwing, jumping, and 45
wrestling. Winners were given a wreath of olive branches. 55
In Ancient Greece only men could participate in the Olympics, 66
and women were not allowed to participate or attend the 75
games. 76

People now travel all over the world to compete in the 87
modern day Olympics. Modern day Olympics are held every 96
four years. Both men and women are now allowed to 106
participate in the games. There is now a winter Olympics, as 117
well as a summer Olympics. The next summer Olympics will be 127
in 2016 in Brazil, and the next winter Olympics will be in 2018 in 139
South Korea. Olympic winners receive a gold, silver, or bronze 148
medal. 149

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Mountains

There are two major mountain ranges in the United States. One of the mountain ranges is the Appalachian Mountains. They can be found in the eastern part of the United States from Canada to the middle of Alabama. The foothills of the Appalachian Mountains can also be found in Georgia. The mountains are over 1,500 miles long. Since the Appalachian Mountains are very old, they have eroded and are not tall mountains. Some scientists think these mountains are the oldest mountains in the world.

The second longest mountain range is the Rocky Mountains. The Rockies can be found in the western part of the United States. They start in Canada and end in New Mexico ranging from over 3,000 miles. The Rocky Mountains are much younger than the Appalachian Mountains and are very tall. The sharp pointy peaks can be over 10,000 feet above sea level. The Continental Divide can be found in the Rocky Mountains.

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Longitude and Latitude

Latitude and longitude are imaginary lines drawn on maps. 9

Lines of latitude run east to west and help us locate places 21
on the earth. Latitude measures distance north or south of 31
the equator. The equator is an imaginary circle around the 40
earth halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole. 50
The equator shows the line of zero degrees latitude. It is 61
the starting point for measuring latitude. Anything above the 70
equator is in the northern hemisphere, and everything below 79
the equator is in the southern hemisphere. 86

Lines of longitude run north and south. Longitude is 95
distance east or west of the prime meridian. The prime 105
meridian is an imaginary line running from north to south 115
through Greenwich, England. Everything to the right of the 124
prime meridian is in the eastern hemisphere, and everything 133
to the west of the prime meridian is in the western 144
hemisphere. 145

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Levels of Government

Government is a group that sets laws and runs a community.	11
Local government is what leads a town or city. State	21
government is what leads a state. National government leads	30
the entire country. Laws may differ between communities,	38
states, and the nation. Local and state laws cannot conflict	48
with national laws. The mayor is the elected leader of local	59
government. Some communities also have city councils. The	67
local government runs the school system, organizes	74
emergency services, and sets laws to keep its members	83
safe. The state government runs the entire state. The	100
governor is the elected leader of a state government. Each	110
state also elects two senators and representatives to	118
represent their state in the national government. State	126
government is in charge of the state's education and health	136
systems, protecting the state's environment, and building and	144
maintaining roads. National government protects our country	151
and our freedoms.	154

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Executive Branch

The leader of the executive branch of our national government is the President of the United States. He or she is both the head of state and the Commander-in-Chief of the US armed forces. One of the main powers of the President is the power to sign legislation from Congress into law or to veto it. A veto means that the President does not agree with the bill. One of the jobs of the President is to enforce the laws set in place by Congress. Other responsibilities of the President include meeting with other nations, including signing treaties.

The leader of the executive branch of state government is the governor. Citizens of a state elect a governor every four years. He or she is responsible for signing or vetoing bills written by the STATE legislature.

The leader of the executive branch of local government is the mayor. The mayor leads city council meetings and is considered the head of the city.

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Legislative Branch

The legislative branch for our national government is	9
also called Congress. There are two parts that make up	18
Congress: the House of Representatives and the Senate.	26
Each state has a different number of representatives	33
depending on their total population. States with more people	41
get more representatives. Each state has two Senators, so	51
the Senate has 100 members. The legislative branch of the	59
government writes laws. Congress has other responsibilities	68
and powers such as creating a budget for the government	81
and taxing the citizens to pay for the budget. Another	91
important congressional power is the power to declare war.	99
There is also a legislative branch of state government,	108
that is sometimes called the General Assembly. In state	118
government, there is state Senate and a state House of	126
Representatives. They are responsible for writing state laws.	133
The legislative branch of local government is called the city	143
council or county commission.	147

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Judicial Branch

The judicial branch of government is made up of judges and courts. At the top of the judicial branch is the Supreme Court. Supreme Court justices are appointed for life. They can only be removed from office by death or by Congress. This is so they can make decisions based on what they think is right and not on what they feel they need to do to get elected. The job of the courts is to interpret the laws written by Congress. The justices do not make laws.

If accused of a crime, a person has the right to a fair trial before a judge and a jury. If the jury determines that a person is not-guilty, then charges are dropped. If there is a guilty verdict, the judge determines the punishment. If one feels that the trial wasn't handled fairly, they can appeal to a higher court.

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Productive Resources

Productive resources are the resources used to make 8
goods and services. These resources are broken into three 17
groups. One group is natural resources. Natural resources 25
refer to things such as coal, water, trees, and land itself. If 37
you built a tree house, the wood you used would be a 49
natural resource. Raw materials come from natural 56
resources. Another type of resource is a human resource. 65
Human resources describe the human work effort, both 73
physical and mental, used in production. It is sometimes 82
called labor. While you are building the tree house, the skill 93
and effort you use would be a human resource. The third 104
type of productive resource is a capital resource. Capital 113
resources are man-made resources (such as buildings, tools, 122
machines, and equipment) used in production. For example, to 131
build the tree house you would need a capital resource of a 143
hammer and nails. 146

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Goods and Services

We buy and sell goods and services almost everyday. 10

Goods are things that are made or grown. Some goods are 21

man made. They can be clothes, computers, and cars. Other 30

goods are grown. Those goods can be fruits, vegetables, 39

and flowers. Many goods are made from natural resources. 48

For example, wood is used to make pencils, paper, books, 58

furniture, and more. 61

A service is a job that someone does for someone else. 71

A doctor, barber, and postal worker are all people who 80

provide services. Some people's services are paid for by 89

taxes, or money paid to the government. Taxes pay people 99

like teachers, fire fighters, and police officers for their 108

services. Individuals pay for other services like barber 116

shops and lawn care. 120

People that make goods are called producers, because 128

they make or produce goods. People that purchase goods 137

and services are called consumers. Many people are both 146

producers and consumers. 149

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Imports and Exports

Imports and exports are an important part of our 9
economy. When a country sells goods to another country, the 19
goods are called an export. For example, if oranges grow 30
easily in the United States, we might export oranges to 39
another country. We would export the oranges to a country 50
that does not have the right climate for growing oranges. 60

When a country buys goods from another country, the 69
goods are called imports. If people in the United States 79
need sugar, but do not have the right climate to grow 89
sugar, they import it. They would import sugar from a 99
country where it grows easily. 104

We are interdependent, because we depend on each 111
other for products we cannot make ourselves. We do not 121
always trade natural resources but trade products or 129
parts of products as well. The exchange of imports and 138
exports is called trade. A good trade should help both 148
countries. 149

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Paul Revere

Paul Revere was an important person in our country's fight 10
for independence. He was born in December 1734. He lived in 20
Boston, Massachusetts, with his many children. He was a 29
silversmith and sometimes even a dentist. Revere was also a 39
member of the Sons of Liberty, a secret patriot group. He 50
was an excellent horse rider and carried messages between 59
the different groups. Revere participated in the Boston Tea 68
Party to protest the tea tax. He is famous for his midnight 80
ride warning the American colonists that "The redcoats 88
were coming". The British soldiers were heading to Lexington 97
and Concord to destroy the weapons of the local militia. This 107
was the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He was a very 117
important person in the fight for America's independence. 125
After the Revolutionary War, Revere ran a hardware store 134
and opened the first copper rolling mill. Revere's courage 143
showed that he believed in liberty and independence. 151

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Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was born a slave in Maryland. Unlike most 10
slaves, he was taught to read and write. Douglass worked 20
in shipyards in Maryland. He was later able to escape from 31
slavery through the Underground Railroad. Douglass worked 38
for the Anti-Slavery Society for many years. He traveled to 49
many states, giving lectures and speaking firsthand about 57
slavery. Douglass became a speaker, telling others about his 66
life as a slave. He later began his own newspaper called the 77
North Star. Douglass published his life story, Narrative of 86
the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave. He was 95
an advisor to President Lincoln and later named marshal for 105
Washington, D.C. His actions showed that he believed in the 115
freedom of expression, which is the right to share one's 125
beliefs. Douglass died in 1882 after a long illness. His voice 136
continued to be heard long after his death. 144

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Susan B. Anthony

Susan B. Anthony was a women's rights leader in the late 11
1800's. She helped lead the way for women's suffrage in the 22
United States, which is the right to vote. Susan B. Anthony 33
was born in Massachusetts in 1820. She went to school and 44
became a teacher. She had very strong beliefs against 53
slavery, but she was not allowed to vote or speak because 64
she was a woman. She became involved in trying to get the 76
government to let women vote and to make laws so that 87
women could have equal rights with men. At first, she would 98
speak at conventions and meetings. Then she helped run a 108
civil rights newspaper. Susan B. Anthony voted in the 117
November 1872 elections. This was illegal at the time, and she 128
was fined \$100 for voting. She refused to pay and never did 140
pay the fine. She worked her entire life to give women the 152
right to vote and own property. 158

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Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune grew up in South Carolina. She was 10
the child of former slaves. She was the only child in her 22
family that was able to go to school. Mary had to walk five 35
miles each day, and she shared what she learned with her 46
family. She saw a need for education for the children of 57
railroad workers in Florida. She rented a two-story house in 68
Daytona and started a school for African American girls. 77
This was a time when most African American children 86
received little or no education. The school started with six 96
students. Charcoal was used for pencils, and ink came from 106
crushed berries. Bethune searched for used items that the 115
school could restore, such as old furniture. To help pay for 126
the school, Bethune and her students baked pies and made 136
ice cream to sell to nearby workers. The school is now known 149
as Bethune–Cookman Collegiate College. Bethune served as 157
president of the college until her retirement. 164

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Franklin D. Roosevelt

Franklin Roosevelt grew up in a wealthy New York family. He 11
married his distant cousin Eleanor Roosevelt. He became 19
active in politics in 1910 when he was elected to the New 31
York State Senate. In 1921, he became sick with polio. He 43
nearly lost the use of his legs. In 1932 the country was in the 57
Great Depression. People elected Franklin Roosevelt hoping he 65
would be able to help. When Roosevelt entered office, he 75
signed many new bills to fight the Great Depression. All of 86
these programs together were called the New Deal. He was 96
also president when World War Two began. When Japan 105
bombed Pearl Harbor, Roosevelt had no choice but to 114
declare war. As the war was coming to an end, Roosevelt's 125
health began to fail, and he died from a stroke. He is 137
considered by many to be one of the greatest presidents in 148
the history of the United States. 154

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Eleanor Roosevelt

Eleanor Roosevelt was born in New York City on October 11, 11
1884. Her mother died when she was eight, and her father 22
died when she was only ten. She later married Franklin 32
Roosevelt. After they were married, Franklin became very 41
sick one summer with a disease called polio. He nearly died. 50
Eleanor was determined to help him in any way she could. She 62
often acted as his legs and traveled for Franklin. She helped 73
him become elected President of the United States. After 81
Franklin was elected president, Eleanor traveled around the 89
country to see how people were doing. She let her husband 100
know where people needed help and which programs were 108
and were not working. After Franklin died, she represented 116
the United States at the United Nations. She helped write 125
the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which described 133
that people throughout the world should be treated fairly 142
and had certain rights. Eleanor died on November 7, 1962. 151

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Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall is one of the most recognizable names of the civil rights movement. He was born on July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, Maryland. He was not allowed to attend the University of Maryland Law School because he was African-American. He went to Howard University, an African-American school, instead. Marshall became a lawyer and won many cases against segregation. Marshall won 29 of the 32 cases that were brought to the Supreme Court. His most famous victory was the famous Brown v. Board of Education. This ended segregation in public schools. In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the Supreme Court. He became the first African-American on the Court. Marshall was a powerful and tireless voice for civil rights. He also worked to expand the rights of women, children, and the homeless. He served on the Court for 24 years. Poor health forced Marshall to retire from the Court in 1991. He died two years later.

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Lyndon B. Johnson

Lyndon grew up near Johnson City, Texas. His family was poor 11
and he had to work hard to earn money. He became a 23
teacher and soon decided to go into politics. Johnson was 33
vice president when John F. Kennedy was killed, so he became 44
president. Johnson wanted his presidency to bring a new way 53
of life to America. He called it the Great Society where 64
everyone would be treated equally and have equal 72
opportunity. He passed laws to help fight crime, prevent 81
poverty, and protect the voting rights of minorities. He 90
passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This outlawed most 100
forms of racial discrimination including segregation in schools. 108
In 1965, Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act. This allowed 118
the government to protect the voting rights of all citizens 128
regardless of race. After retiring to his ranch in Texas, 138
Lyndon Johnson died of a heart attack in 1973. 147

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Cesar Chavez

Cesar Chavez grew up on a farm in Yuma, Arizona. Hard 11
times from the Great Depression caused his father to lose 21
the farm. Cesar's family became migrant workers. They 29
moved from farm to farm in California looking for work. The 40
working conditions at the fields for Cesar and his family were 51
horrible. They had to work long hours with no breaks, with no 63
bathrooms, or clean water to drink. He formed the National 73
Farm Workers Association. There were only a few members 82
at first, because people were scared they would lose their 92
jobs or get beat up for joining. One of Cesar's first major 104
actions was to strike against grape farmers. Cesar and 113
sixty-seven workers decided to march to Sacramento. It 122
took them several weeks to march the 340 miles. The 132
crowd grew larger until thousands of workers arrived in 141
Sacramento. In the end, the grape growers agreed to many 151
of the worker's demands. Cesar continued to work for the 161
rights and working conditions of the migrant farmer. 169

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Landforms

A landform is a natural formation of land. There are many	11
types of landforms on the earth's surface. A mountain is a	22
landform that rises above the surrounding area and has a	32
peak. A row of connected mountains is called a range. A	43
plateau is similar to a mountain, but it has a flat surface on	56
top. A valley is a landform that is lower than the surrounding	68
area. Valleys are often found between hills, mountains, and	77
plateaus. Water from higher areas can flow down into	86
valleys, creating rivers and streams. A canyon is a landform	96
with very steep sides or layered walls. A plain is a wide, flat	109
area of land. A prairie is a grassy plain with few or no	122
trees. A coast is where land meets an ocean. Coasts can be	134
rocky and steep, or they can be flat and sandy. A bay is an	148
area of water surrounded by land on three sides. Bays often	159
form when water wears away at the coast over thousands	169
of years. The water inside of a bay is often calm and warm.	182
An island is an area of land that is surrounded by water.	194

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