















# Ancient Greece: The Battle of Marathon

<p><b>Aim:</b> Make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses of the Battle of Marathon.</p> <p>I can compare different city states and recall facts about the Battle of Marathon.</p>	<p><b>Success Criteria:</b> I can explain how Athens and Sparta are similar and different.</p> <p>I can order the events of the Battle of Marathon.</p> <p>I can think about the events of the Battle of Marathon from the point of view of someone involved in the Battle.</p>	<p><b>Resources:</b> <a href="#">Lesson Pack</a> Internet access</p>
	<p><b>Key/New Words:</b> city states, battle, Marathon, eye witness, Sparta(n), Athens(ian), Persia(n), battle formation, hoplite, defensive, strategy, retreat.</p>	<p><b>Preparation:</b> <a href="#">Athens or Sparta Activity Sheets</a> as required. <a href="#">Ordering Battle of Marathon Events Activity Sheets</a> as required.</p>

**Prior Learning:** It would be helpful if pupils understood the basic system of the Greek city states.

## Learning Sequence

	<p><b>Athens and Sparta:</b> Explain that the different parts of Ancient Greece were made up of different city states, e.g. Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia. Look at the map and then read about the main differences between Sparta and Athens.</p>	
	<p><b>Can you remember the main differences between Athens and Sparta?</b> Children to complete table showing the main differences.</p> <p>★ Children to sort and stick statements into Athens or Sparta using <a href="#">Athens or Sparta Activity Sheet</a>.</p> <p>★★ Children to complete own table. Use this <a href="#">website</a> for further ideas and research.</p> <p>★★★ Children to write a report explaining the differences and similarities. Use this <a href="#">website</a> for further ideas and research.</p>	
	<p><b>The Battle of Marathon:</b> Explain that the city states often fought but the only time they came together was when they faced an external threat; Persia. Discuss how Persia tried to attack Athens in 490BC. The Athenians tried to ask for help from Sparta but they didn't arrive in time!</p>	
	<p><b>Help!</b> Roleplay the conversation between the Athenians and the Spartans where the Spartans refuse to help. What do the Athenians say? Why don't the Spartans help? How do the Athenians feel about the Spartans reason for not helping?</p>	
	<p><b>Let Battle Commence!</b> The Athenians ended up fighting the Persians alone and outnumbered. Can you explain how they managed to win so dramatically?</p>	
	<p><b>Can you order this set of events?</b> Children to order the main events of the Battle.</p> <p>★ Children order a more simple set of events.</p>	
	<p><b>Did you get them in the right order?</b> Ask the children for the events in order one at a time, revealing them in order on the <a href="#">Lesson Presentation</a>.</p>	

## Taskit

**Blogit:** Children could write a 'blog' in role as Athenian hoplite, a Persian soldier, Pheidippides, King Darius, Miltiades or Datis.

**Writeit:** Write a recount of the Battle from the point of view of an Athenian hoplite, a Persian soldier, Pheidippides, King Darius, or Miltiades.

**Debateit:** Would you rather have been an Athenian or Spartan? Debate.