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Ancient Greece: The Trojan War

Aim:
Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources. Make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.

I can use a range of sources to find out about the past and then present my findings.

Success Criteria:
I can think of questions about Greek artefacts.

I can use the artefacts to learn about the past.

I can use the story from Homer's Iliad to learn about the Trojan War.

I can choose an key moment in the story to freeze frame.

I can write a chronological diary entry to recount the story of the Trojan War.

Resources:
Lesson Pack
Camera

Key/New Words:
Artefact, archaeologist, Sparta, Troy, Trojan, Iliad.

Preparation:
Priam's Treasure Photo Pack - 1 per table.
Priam's Treasure Fact Cards - 1 per table.
Diary Template as required

Prior Learning: It would be helpful if children had previous knowledge of the Greek gods, goddesses and regions.

Learning Sequence

Priam's Treasure Children look at the artefacts in **Priam's Treasure Photo Pack**, a collection found by archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann in the 1870s. The finds are believed to date back the time of ancient Troy. Give a picture to each table and ask them if they think they know what it is. Do you have any questions about the artefact? Feedback ideas and questions to the class.
Give out **Priam's Treasure Fact Cards**. Were we correct? What have you learnt about Greek life from the artefacts?

The Trojan War Use the **Lesson Presentation** to explain the Trojan War. Our evidence comes from The Iliad, a poem written by Homer. Can you retell the story of the Trojan War?

Let's Act it! Allocate each group a different scene to freeze frame, e.g. the Greeks arriving for battle, men hiding inside a wooden horse while the Greeks pretend to sail away, the Trojans bringing the horse into the gates, the Greeks climbing out at night and letting the army in and the final battle. Take photos and upload.

Write a Diary Entry

★ Shared writing: use the **Diary Template** to write a diary entry as either a Greek or a Trojan.

★★ Use the **Diary Template** to write a diary entry as either a Greek or a Trojan.

★★★ Children use the **Diary Template** to write two parallel diary entries from the night of the attack; one as a Trojan, one as a Greek.

Choose children to read a paragraph from their diary entry. Who could have written this? What is our evidence?

If photos from group work have been uploaded, order or write captions for each photo as a whole class.

Task*it*

Makeit: Ask the children to design and make their own Trojan Horse. What materials will they use? Will they conceal anything inside?

Actit: Can the class think of another trick? Imagine they are an army trying to get into a city. How could they do it? The children can make their 'plans' in groups, act out and write up as a story.

Hearit: Listen to a more detailed version of the story of the Trojan War on the **BBC website**.