

Ancient Greek and Modern Education.

We read long poems which we have to learn by heart.

We start school when we are seven years old.

Ancient
Greece

We learn reading, writing, arithmetic, music and poetry

We start school when we are three years old.

We read lots of stories and information books.

Modern



Ancient Greek and Modern Education.

Developed by Steve Cooke

The webaddress for this activity is:

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/ancientgreekeducation.pdf>

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COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals throughout the European Union to promote inclusive education. We develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies that promote talk across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We want to encourage you to change them and adapt them to your classroom and students. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project posts online many activities in all subject areas. An online newsletter is also updated regularly.

*These activities are influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in non selective classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening. They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of speaking and listening.

*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in pupils' first languages and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work more effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

	Ancient Greek Child	Modern child
School age	We start school when we are seven years old.	We start school when we are three years old.
What they learn	We learn reading, writing, arithmetic, music and poetry	We learn English, maths, science, ICT and lots of other things.
Reading	We read long poems which we have to learn by heart.	We read lots of stories and information books.
Arithmetic	We use an abacus to help us learn to add and subtract.	We do mental maths and use calculator.
Exercise	We have P.E. every afternoon.	We have P.E. once or twice a week.
Writing	We write on wax tablets with a sharp stylus.	We write on paper with pens and pencils.
Who the school was for	Only children from rich families go to school.	There are boys and girls at our school.
What kind of children go to school	Only boys go to school. Girls stay at home	All children go to school
Class size	There are eight children in our class.	There are twenty-seven children in our class.
Classroom furniture	We sit on stools in a circle around the teacher.	We sit in groups at tables.
Getting to school	A slave brings me to school	I walk to school by myself
Discipline	The slave hits me if I am naughty	The teacher tells me off if I am naughty.

	Ancient Greek Child	Modern child
School age		
What they learn		
Reading		
Arithmetic		
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Discipline		

	Ancient Greece	Modern
They start school at seven years old.		
They start school at three years old.		
They learn to read and write.		
They write the Greek alphabet		
They write with pens and pencils		
They write with a sharp stylus.		
They write on wax tablets.		
They write on paper.		
They learn to add and subtract.		
They use an abacus.		
They use calculators.		
They read poetry.		
They have music lessons.		
They do P.E. every afternoon.		
They do P.E. once or twice a week.		
Only boys go to school.		
Boys and girls go to school.		
Only children from rich families go to school.		
There are about eight children in the class.		
The children sit down in the classroom.		
They sit on stools.		
They sit at tables in groups.		
Slaves bring the children to school.		
The children come to school on their own.		

Ancient
Greece

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