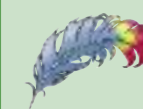




- 5 Introduction
- 6 Dinosaurs
- 8 About dinosaurs
- 10 Stone Age
- 12 About the Stone Age
- 14 Ancient Egypt
- 16 Ancient Greece
- 18 Ancient Rome



- 20 The Great Wall of China
- 22 Castle
- 24 About castles
- 26 American Indians
- 28 Pirates
- 30 Index



IN THIS ENCYCLOPEDIA, you will find out about what life was like in different parts of the world many years ago. You can still see some very ancient things: for example, the pyramids, Roman roads or castle ruins. Even the bones of dinosaurs have lasted to this day!

Each subject is presented with an introductory text to explain what it is about.

There are lots of things to see in the main illustration that accompanies each subject

Most (but not all) of the items pictured can be found somewhere in the main illustration.

The text that accompanies each item explains what it is and provides more information about it.

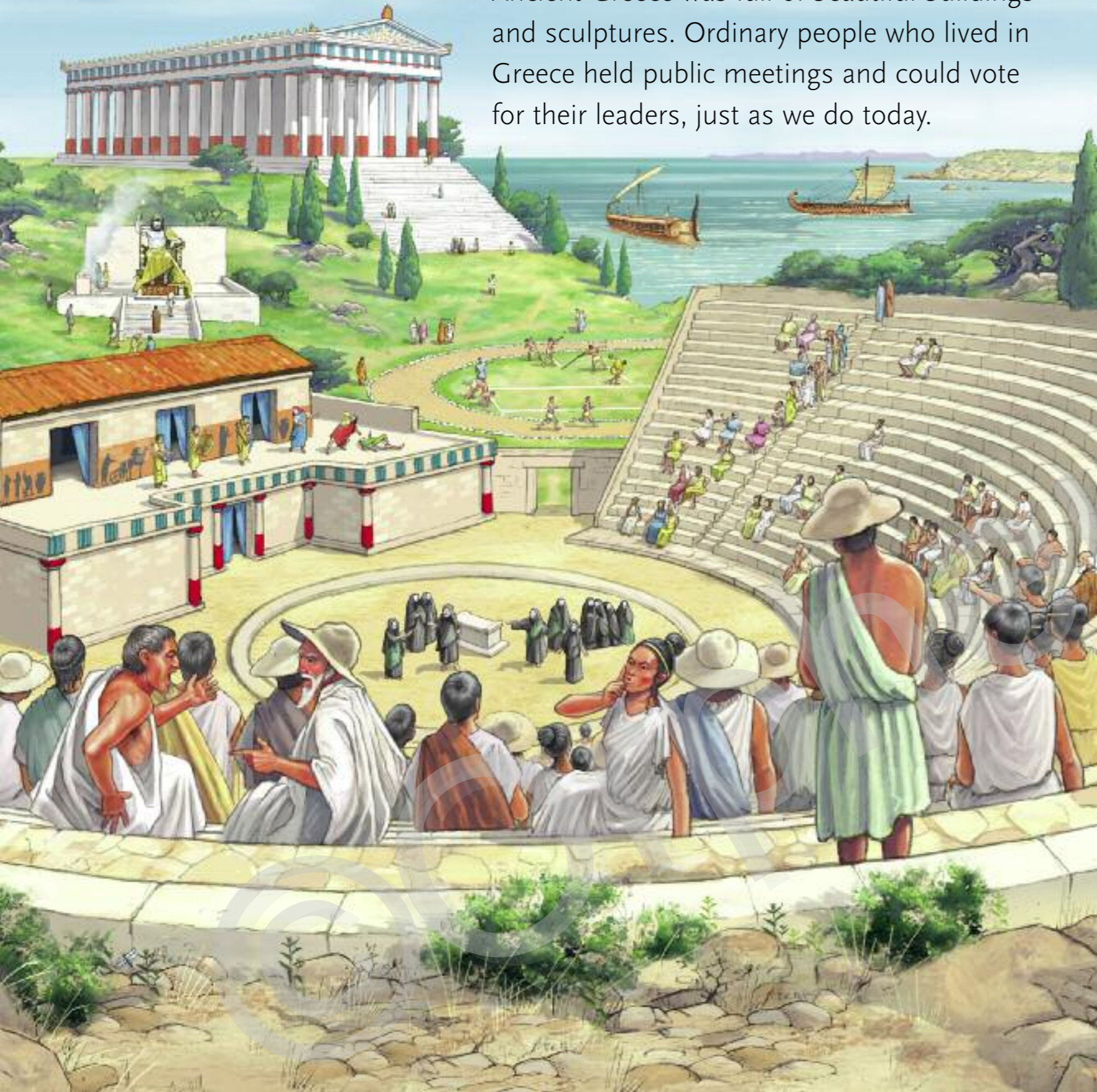
<p>Pirates</p> <p>Since people first began to sail ships, there have been pirates. Pirates were men who tried to capture other ships at sea and steal their cargoes. They could be hanged for their crimes.</p>	<p>Treasure</p> <p>Pirates used to fill chests of gold and diamonds on the ships they captured. When they did, they always divided between them. In the end, the booty was often so small the pirates robbed the passengers instead.</p>	<p>Cannon</p> <p>Pirates used large gun-castled cannons to attack enemy ships from a distance. Cannon were tanks with gunpowder and could fire cannonballs. Great big waves could be blown out.</p>
<p>Jolly Roger</p> <p>When a pirate ship they would take up a black flag to create a deadly warning to other ships. At the last minute they would fly the Jolly Roger, the pirate flag, warning to nearby ships to surrender. The Jolly Roger was usually a skull and crossbones on a black ensign.</p>	<p>Cutlass</p> <p>A one-edgedly fought with cutlasses. These curved swords were quite heavy, so did not get caught in the fighting. Pirates also fought with axes and pistols.</p>	<p>Galleon</p> <p>Galleons were very large sailing ships with several decks. They were used both as warships and cargo ships to carry treasure such as gold and silver to America. Because of their huge size, galleons were slow and difficult to steer. This made them a good target for pirates. The galleons were made of delicate wood so they could not hold a great deal of cannon and other armaments.</p>



If you look very carefully, you will find a tiny dragonfly in each of the main illustrations in this book. Turn to page 31 to find out where they are hidden.



THOUSANDS of years ago, in ancient Greece, there were many great cities. Ancient Greece was full of beautiful buildings and sculptures. Ordinary people who lived in Greece held public meetings and could vote for their leaders, just as we do today.



Vase

Ancient Greece was famous for its pottery. Vases like this were used to contain oils. They were decorated with scenes from famous battles and stories of great heroes.



Temple

The Greeks built temples as grand monuments to their gods. Each city had its own temple dedicated to its own god or goddess.



Gods

The ancient Greeks worshipped hundreds of different gods and goddesses. Zeus, who controlled the sky and thunder, was the most powerful and ruled over the other gods.



Olympic Games

The Olympic Games were first held in ancient Greece. The games took place every four years at Olympia. Each competitor took part in as many as twenty events, including boxing, chariot racing and discus throwing.



Trireme

A trireme was a type of warship used by the ancient Greeks. There was room for over one hundred men to row, making it very fast and agile—particularly good in battle.



Amphitheatre

The Greeks built outdoor theatres in every large city. Ordinary people came to watch actors perform plays. Only a few actors appeared on the stage at once. They wore masks so that the audience could see their faces from a distance. A group of actors called the chorus also stood on stage and spoke together to describe the action.





A CASTLE was a large, stone building with thick walls and battlements. It was a home for a king or a lord. He would live there with his family, his servants and his guards. Many castles were built hundreds of years ago, at a time called the Middle Ages.

Castles were often built on hilltops. This made them easier to defend. The outer wall was often surrounded by a ditch filled with water, called a moat. The drawbridge across the moat could be pulled up if the castle was attacked.





Knight

Knights were trained to fight for their lords. To protect themselves in battle, they wore chainmail, tiny rings of metal linked together, with thick armour plates on top.

Blacksmith

Blacksmiths were skilled metalworkers. They made and repaired tools and shod horses. They would heat the metal until it glowed red hot and then hammer it into shape.



Sword

A knight's sword was a very valuable weapon. Swords were made of steel and their blades were very sharp. They were kept in holders called sheaths to avoid accidents.

Portcullis

Castles had heavy iron or wooden gates at their entrances called portcullises. These were lowered in the event of an attack.



Drawbridge

A drawbridge was a simple wooden bridge that allowed castle visitors to cross the moat into the castle. If the castle was threatened, the drawbridge was raised. The guards quickly winched up the chains from above the archway.



Spinning wheel

Before machines did all the work, all cloth had to be made by hand. Women worked spinning wheels like this to turn raw wool or cotton into long strands. This could then be woven into cloth.



Jousting

Great tournaments were often held at castles. Knights would fight against each other to see who was the bravest. The most important event was the joust. Knights would charge towards each other on horseback, trying to knock the other from his horse. This was a very dangerous sport. Tournaments also included events such as archery and hunting.



Jester

Jesters were employed by lords to entertain them and their important visitors. They would tell jokes, juggle and generally act the fool! They wore brightly coloured clothes and funny hats with bells on.



Dungeon

A dungeon was a room in the castle, often below ground, where prisoners were locked up. Some prisoners were left to starve, while others were tortured in order to force them to reveal information about the enemy.



Banquet

The lord of the castle would often hold banquets in the Great Hall. The hall was the largest room in the Castle and was covered with beautiful tapestries to impress visitors. The lord and his most important guests would sit along the high table and have many different courses of food and drink.