

Knowledge Organiser – Greek Vases

Key Information

Greek potters were constantly changing the shape of their famous vases and pots. In ancient Greece, it was not enough to create something that was beautiful. It also had to be comfortable. If the vase, pot, or pitcher had a handle, that handle had to be easy to hold and fit comfortably into the grip of your hand. The Greeks considered themselves scientists as well as artists. Everything had to be perfectly proportioned.

The designs on their pottery told a story. Some told stories of daily life. Others told stories of wars and heroes. All designs, whatever they were, had to represent something that people would find pleasing. Geometric designs had to be familiar, a design perhaps that could be found in a temple or a fabric. The colours were soothing and comfortable.



Scan to find out all about Ancient Greek Art.

Key Vocabulary

Ancient	Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.
Clay	A stiff, sticky fine-grained earth that can be moulded when wet, and is dried and baked to make bricks, pottery, and ceramics.
Paper Mache	A substance made of pulled paper.
Accuracy	The quality or state of being correct or precise.
Components	A part or element of a larger whole, especially a part of a machine or vehicle.
Functional	Of or having a special activity, purpose, or task.
Terracotta	A type of fired clay, typically of a brownish-red colour and unglazed, used as an ornamental building material and in modelling.
Proportioned	Having dimensions or a comparative relationship of parts of a specified type.



