

The Olympics





Almost 3,000 years ago the first Olympic Games were held in Olympia, Greece around 776 B.C.

In the Ancient Olympics only Greek citizens could participate. Since you had to be a male, property owner to be a citizen women could not participate in the games.





Before the Olympics begin, athletes travel to the temple of Zeus to promise that they have prepared and are ready for the games.

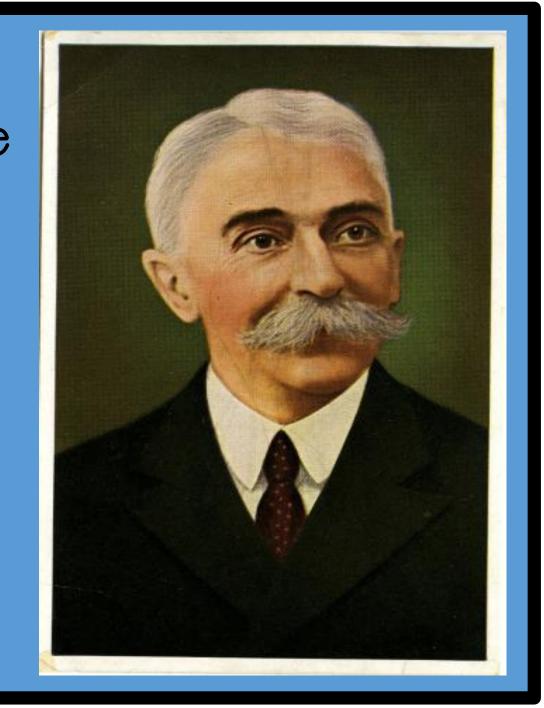
The Olympic events consisted of discus and javelin throwing, a 26 mile race called a marathon, wrestling, and chariot races.





The athletes try their hardest to win a gold medal, the highest award at the Olympic Games, and a crown of olive branches.

Did you know that we went 1,500 years without having the Olympics? A French man, Pierre de Coubertin, decided that the Olympics should start back again. He famously said, "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning, but taking part."

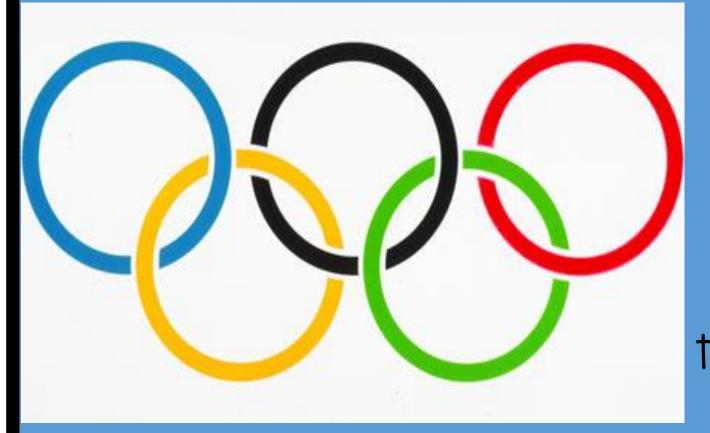


Modern Olympics take place every four years. The summer Olympic games take place one year, then the winter games take place two years later alternating back and forth.



The next
Olympic
Games!





The Olympic rings associated with the modern Olympic games symbolize the activity of the Olympic Movement. It represents the union of the five continents and the meeting of athletes from throughout the world at the Olympic Games.

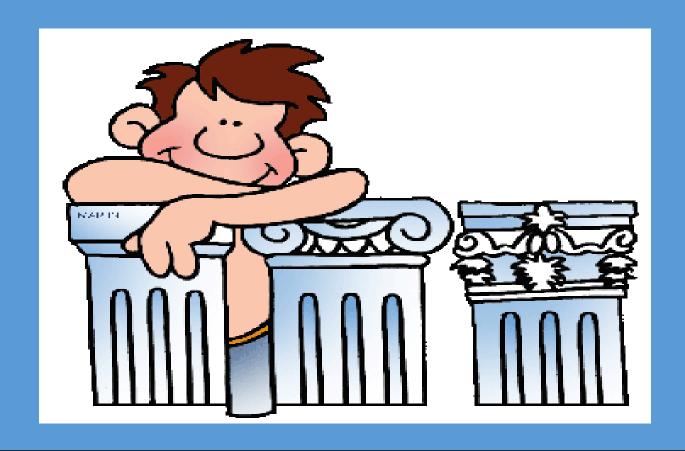
Marathons and foot races were some of the first events ever to happen in the Olympics.





Many events in the modern Olympics are similar to those at the Ancient Greece Olympic Games! Javelin throwing still exists today!

Apchitecture

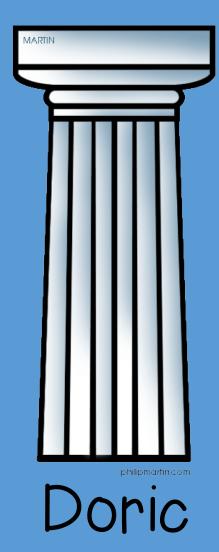


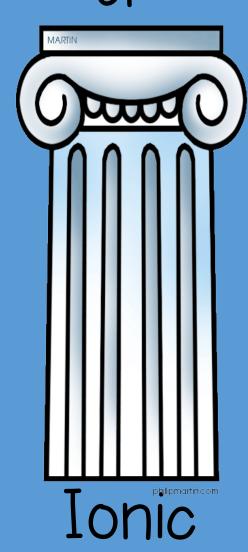
Architecture is the art and science of building.

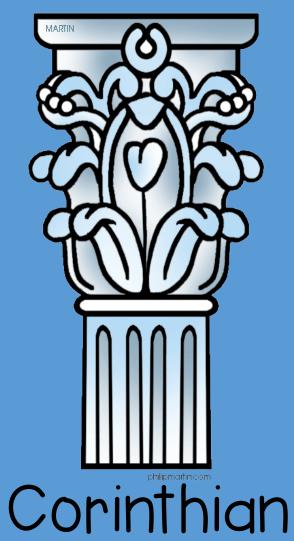


First built as a fortress to guard the city, the Acropolis is located the highest spot, right in the center of Athens.

There are three types of Greek columns.









The Parthenon

Ancient Greece is famous for beautiful buildings and design. This is called architecture.



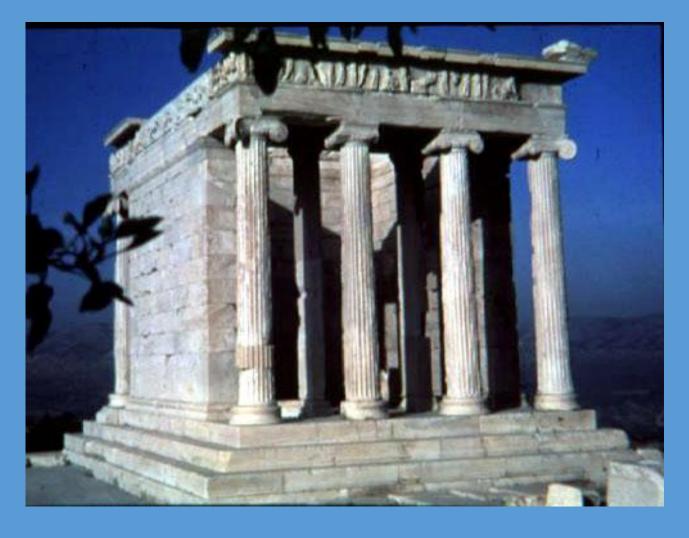
U.S. Supreme Court

Many important buildings in the United States have been designed to look similar to the buildings in Ancient Greece.

Can you identify the type of columns on this building?

They did such a great job building that many ancient Greek buildings and temples can still be seen today. Can you identify the type of columns on this building?





Temple of Nike

Columns were a symbol of strength in Greek architecture.

Can you identify
the type of
columns on this
building?