

## ANCIENT GREECE

### Discussion 1 : Learning from Objects

**Objectives :** To be able to find out about the past from a range of sources of information, including artefacts; to understand that Sparta also produced works of art, despite her reputation as a 'war machine'.

**Materials:** Sparta chapter – Story section

**Class set-up:** Whole class work, using a projector or interactive whiteboard if available; or could be done with small groups sat around a computer

**Vocabulary:** Sparta, materials, craftsmen, bronze, ivory

#### Discussion:

Read through the story together; at the last page, go through each of the objects displayed and read the captions. Ask

- What do these objects tell us about life in Sparta?

(Answers at this stage can be quite literal e.g. Spartans worshipped a god called Aristaïos, they were soldiers, girls took part in exercise, they raised sheep for wool and food. See Sparta Explore for more information on each object if needed)

- What materials have been used to make these objects?
- Do you think that they were difficult to make; would people need special skills to make these objects?
- Do these objects appeal to you; which do you like best?

- Having thought about these objects, do they support the message of the story we've read?  
(i.e. at one time, Sparta made well-crafted objects, before becoming a military state)

## Background information:

You may find the following Background Information sheets found on [www.ancientgreece.co.uk](http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk) useful for this activity:

### **Spartan Life**