

Greece and Rome Lesson 2

Dressing Up

The Basics

Objective: To introduce participants to a few styles of Greek clothing.

Performance of Skill Expectations/Enduring Understandings: With the help of the instructor, participants will learn some styles of ancient Greek clothing.

Prerequisite Lessons: None.

Estimated Materials Preparation Time: 15 minutes (not including the original purchase/gathering of the materials to be used)

Instruction Time: 7-8 minutes per type of clothing.

Duration: Instructor discretion.

Materials Provided: Clothing Information Sheet. The following video also gives good instructions that can be used in this lesson. Please note further instructions below.

Greek chiton and chlamys, ACT Ottawa:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtB1QTW-Z5Y>

Materials to be Provided by the Instructor: Sheets, tablecloths, or other large rectangular fabrics; woven or braided cordage for belts; safety pins or broaches.

Other Notes: You may wish to ask the participants to wear/bring sandals to school that day.

Concepts/Vocabulary

- Chiton: a garment worn by ancient Greek men and Greek and Roman women.
- Chlamys: a cloak worn by ancient Greek men.
- Peplos: a garment worn by ancient Greek and Roman women.
- Himation: a garment worn as a cloak by both men and women and as a wrap-around garment by older men.

Procedure

Preparation: Group the materials needed for each outfit in stacks so you have everything all together (material, pins, belts).

Introduction/Instruction: Use the information from the Clothing Information Sheet to explain the different styles of clothing covered in this lesson.

Development:

1. Dress up some or all of the participants as ancient Greeks. Have them try/pretend to do a few everyday things in the clothing, like sit, read, or cook.

Extra activities:

- Have the participants look at pictures of Greek statues (that have clothing) and have the participants pose like one of the statues once they have been dressed.
- Have the participants draw pictures of themselves or others in a Greek-style garment.
- Have the participants create a storyboard of a Greek myth using pictures taken of them dressed in the appropriate clothing.

Reflection: Generate short discussions with these questions:

- How are ancient Greek clothes different from your clothes today?
- Do the ancient clothes you put on today look like clothes you have seen from other parts of the world?
- Which style of clothing would you prefer to wear every day: the clothes you wear now or the ancient clothes?
- Did a certain style of the ancient clothing make you feel important or make you feel uncomfortable?

Assessment: Were the participants' observations relevant and thoughtful?