THE ROMAN EMPIRE

The empire was founded by emperor Augustus in 27 B.C. and lasted nearly 500 years. The Romans were pioneers of trade, engineering and Government and founded an empire stretching from northern Europe to North Africa. They created art and literature of great beauty and sports of horrible cruelty. At its greatest territorial extent, in the year 100 A.D., it stretched from Spain in the west to the Persian Gulf in the east.

For two hundred years, the Roman Empire was relatively peaceful. In the third century A.D. turmoil was bestowed upon the land, as migrating tribes attacked the empire´s Eastern frontiers. Eventually, the empire was Split into an Eastern empire with its capital in Constantinople, and a Western empire ruled from Rome.

*Write in front and back if necessary. Include an image of a roman soldier or gladiator*.

THE GREEKS

Ancient Greece was not one stat with its own government. It was made up of many independent communities called “city - states” who all shared the same language and culture. Between 800 B.C. and 400 B.C. the people of these countries, particularly those of Athens, established many of the ideas that underlie Western civilization.

Although democratic government started in Greece, only men could become citizens and vote, women and slaves were excluded. The Greeks made important contributions to philosophy, mathematics, astronomy and medicine. Literature and theatre was an important aspect of Greek culture and influenced modern drama. They were known for their sophisticated sculpture and architecture, as well as for the initiating the Olympic games.

*Write in front and back if necessary. Include an image of Hades god of the underworld and the goddess Persephone, his wife, together.*