using the work of historians, archaeologists, and geographers to learn about the history of ancient people and places. How a group of city-states arose in ancient Greece and continue to influence Western Civilization's arts, government, and ways of thinking.

Bigger Picture: Foundations of Western Ideas

Last Unit: Ancient China

Current Unit: Ancient Greece – the beginnings of Western Civilization

Next Unit: Rome – From Republic to Empire

Geography & Early Greeks
- Lack of good farmland and nearness to sea led to development of trade in Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations.
- Rocky, mountainous terrain led to development of independent city-states rather than unified kingdom.

Evolution of Democracy
- Monarchy (rule of king) led to...
- Oligarchy (rule of few) led to...
- Tyranny was replaced by...
- Democracy
- How does ancient democracy differ from modern democracy?
- Pericles and Golden Age of Athens

War: From Alliance to Empire
- Persian War: Persia vs. Greece
- Peloponnesian War: Sparta vs. Athens
- Alexander the Great
  o Conqueror and Hellenizer of his empire
  o Villain or Hero?

Greek Influence on Western Civ.
Language: words w/Greek origins, e.g. mythology, odyssey, Nike, herculean
Literature: Virgil's Aeneid, Riordan's Percy Jackson series
Art: telling stories through art, neoclassical architecture used in public buildings

Greek Mythology & Literature
Minor gods/goddesses: Eris, Iris, Thetis
Heroes: Theseus, Hercules, Achilles, Patroclus, Hector, Odysseus
Epic poems: The Iliad, The Odyssey
Sappho's lyric poetry
Aesop's fables
The Oresteia (tragedies by Aeschylus)
Histories of Herodotus & Thucydides

Unit Focus Question: Why is ancient Greece considered the foundation of western civilization?

Thinking Skills
- Observing
- Analyzing
- Inferring
- Summarizing