



Educational Guide



Inside:

Discussion Questions

Activity: Classical Poetry

*Activity:
Wool-Working in
Ancient Greece*



Classical Girls

Classical Girls focuses on the role of girls within ancient Greek and Roman societies. The exhibition will use archaeological material and historical accounts to showcase how girls of varied social standing functioned within the spaces where they lived, prayed, and worked as well as how they were celebrated after they died.

Use this education guide to interact with the exhibit and gain a deeper understanding of how girls in Classical Greece and Rome lived. Activities in this guide are aligned to U.S. and/or U.K. educational standards. They are designed to be used by students and teachers as school lessons or enrichment opportunities.



Discussion Questions

Students can answer the following questions on their own or discuss in groups.

Look at the writing entitled 'A Day in the Life'. In groups of at least 4, select 2 members of the group to be Flavia and Chinlonis, and the other group members to be the listeners. Have Flavia and Chinlonis read their diary entries aloud. As they read, have the listeners use the following points to discuss further with Flavia and Chilonis (who must try not to break character!).

1. Identify 2 differences between the lives of the two girls, and 2 similarities..
2. Who do you think has the most personal responsibility- Flavia or Chilonis?
3. What big events can you identify in these girls' worlds that might explain their roles in the family?
4. Do you think life would have been more challenging for Classical girls than yours is today? Why or why not?
5. How are your family roles similar to Flavia and Chinlonis?

Activity: Classical Poetry



Texts such as plays, poems, and stories can tell us a lot about life, but there are few writings from female Greeks and Romans that survive. The *Classical Girls* exhibit features poems from two girls, Erinna and Sappho. Read their work in the “Looking for Girls in the Classical World” section of the exhibit.

After reading Erinna and Sappho’s poetry, discuss the following questions with classmates or write about them:

What do these poems have in common?

How are they different from each other?

Now, write your own poem in a similar style using the lines below. Use your writing to give a little glimpse into your life. Remember that these poems were translated into English – they may or may not have had a rhythm or rhyme originally, so feel free to rhyme if you wish!

Educational Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6-8.10

Read and comprehend literature including stories, dramas, and poems independently and proficiently.

We would love to read your poetry! Send it to share@girlmuseum.org.

Girl Museum

We are the first and only online museum dedicated to girls.

We exhibit, educate, and raise awareness about the unique experience of being born and growing up female around the world in the past and present.

As a community of passionate and creative individuals, we acknowledge and advocate for girls as forces for collective responsibility and change in the global context, not as victims and consumers.

We are a registered 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization.

Learn more and get involved at www.GirlMuseum.org



© 2017 by Girl Museum, Inc.

Activity: Wool-Working in Ancient Greece

Educational Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.3

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text including what happened and why based on specific information in the text.



Terracotta onos
Image courtesy of The
Metropolitan Museum of Art

In Ancient Greece, wool-working was very important to girls throughout their lives. Look at the exhibition and answer these questions:

- To protect her clothing from natural oils while wool-working, what would a Greek girl use?
- Which Greek goddess was an accomplished weaver?
- Once married, what were girls given as a symbol of their transition into womanhood?

After reading all about girls in Greece, draw a picture of what your life is like now, and what your life would be like if you lived in Ancient Greece. What are the big differences?

Color in and decorate your picture. You could even use wool to decorate your drawing!