THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR
AND ALEXANDER THE GREAT
Main Ideas: Peloponnesian War
I. Life After the Persian Wars

• Sparta and Athens worked together to win the Persian Wars.

• The Athenian Fleet continued to protect Greece after the war, and as a result had a lot of influence over the rest of Greece.

• After the Persian Wars many city-states formed an alliance to help defend each other and to protect trade, it was called the Delian League

• Each city-state gave money to pay for this alliance.
• Athens was the strongest member of the league, and eventually began to treat everyone else poorly.
  • Forced people to join; wouldn’t let others leave
  • Used money to pay for buildings in Athens
  • Created an Athenian Empire

• Sparta and other city-states also created an alliance after the Persian Wars- called the Peloponnesian League.
II. Causes of the Peloponnesian War

- Sparta and others worried about the growth of Athens and decided to stop them.

- This conflict between Sparta and Athens became known as the Peloponnesian War.

- It threatened to tear Greece apart.
III. The Peloponnesian War

- In 431 B.C. the Spartan army surrounded Athens, but the Athenians would not come out and fight them.

- The Spartans began to BURN the crops in the fields hoping to starve the Athenians out, but the Athenian Navy escorted merchant ships to the city, so they had plenty of food.
• For 10 years neither side could gain victory, and they declared a truce.

• In 415 B.C. Athens tried to expand its empire into Sicily, but was defeated by the Sicilians.

• Sparta took advantage of Athens weakness and attacked. Athens surrendered in 404 B.C. giving Sparta control.
• **Sparta** became the most powerful city-state in Greece and had control for 30 years.

• More wars occurred in Greece between city-states and control shifted from one to another weakening Greece and leaving it open for **ATTACK!**
Your task is to write one or more “tweets” or “texts” about the Peloponnesian War. You can pretend to be a Spartan or Athenian and must include as least 1 real fact from our study of Greece and/or the wars. Be creative—feel free to use emoticons and text abbreviations!

Spartans may be strong, but their ideas are weak! Glad we have an awesome fleet of ships and friends to trade with. #burncrops #delianleague #athensrules #spartafail
Alexander the Great
I. Life after the Peloponnesian War

A. After the Peloponnesian War Greece was weak and divided.

B. To the North, a new power was growing—Macedonia.

C. In 359 BC, Phillip II became King of Macedonia.
   • His main goal was to conquer Greece which he did easily.
II. Phillip’s Military Strength

A. Phillip was a brilliant military leader who borrowed and improved Greek battle tactics and strategies.
   - Phalanx - group of warriors who stood close together in a square.
   - Improved the Spear - made it longer.
   - Calvary and Archers: used these to support the Phalanx.

B. After conquering Greece, Phillip was ready to take on Persia....but he was murdered in 336 BC before he got the chance.
III. Alexander Builds an Empire

A. After Phillip’s death his son Alexander (one of many sons) takes over power; he is only 20 years old. He stops a revolt and enslaves the people there to show everyone that he should be ruler.
IV. So...what makes Alexander so... Great?

A. Intelligence

- Alexander was a student of Aristotle one of the greatest thinkers who ever lived.

- Aristotle taught people to reason - or to have clear and ordered thinking.
B. Brilliant Military Commander

• Defeated the Persians 334 BC
• Became **Pharaoh** of Egypt 332 BC
• Became ruler of the Persian Empire
• Led army through Asia to the Indus River 327 BC
  • He never made it back to Greece- **died** at age 33 in 323 BC
C. **Empire Builder**

- Alexander created the largest empire the world had ever seen. Pg. 274

- Founded cities and modeled them after Greek cities.

- Built temples and theaters
• Encouraged Greek people to move to new cities to spread Greek language, customs, art, Greek culture (Hellenic) = Cultural Diffusion.

• Encouraged the people he conquered to keep their own customs and traditions while incorporating Greek culture into their lives.

*After Alexander the Great dies his kingdom is divided. He will be given the credit for creating a new type of culture called Hellenistic or a mixture of Greek, Syrian, Egyptian, and Persian.
As we watch the video clip add information about Alexander the Great to your illustration.