Spartans Build a Military Society

The Spartans built a military society to provide security and protection.

Healthy boys were trained from an early age to be soldiers.

Like the men, women learned how to run, jump, wrestle, and throw javelins (long, light spears).

Sparta was officially ruled by two kings who jointly led the army.

This slave economy in Sparta helped the city-state become rich, powerful, and prosperous.

Athenians Admire the Mind

The Athenians admired the mind and the arts in addition to physical abilities.

Athenian students…learned how to read, write, and count as well as sing and play musical instruments.

A few girls were taught how to read and write at home by private tutors. However, most girls only learned household tasks like weaving and sewing.

Boys from very rich families often continued their education with private tutors.

Athenian women did not have the same rights as in other Greek city-states.

Sparta and Athens Fight

Sparta and Athens fought over who should have power and influence in Greece.

Finally, to stop the growth of Athens, Sparta declared war.

The entire Athenian army was defeated by Sicilian allies of Sparta and taken prisoner.

Taking advantage of Athens's weakness, Sparta attacked Athens, and the war started up once more…the Spartans won.

After the Persian Wars ended in 480 BC, many city-states formed an alliance.