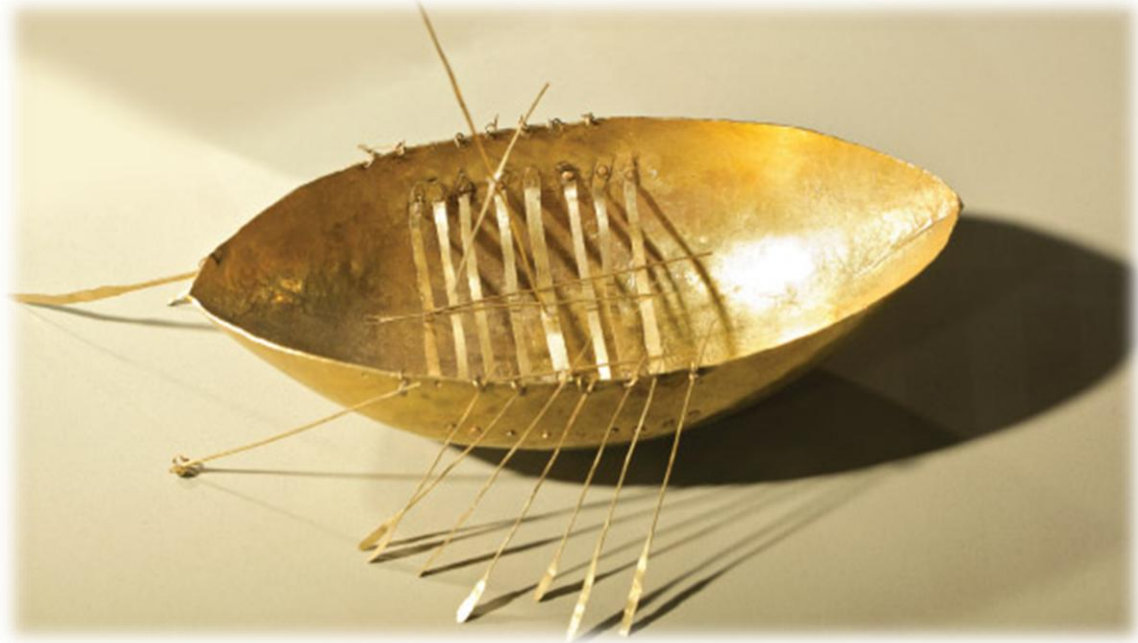


# *The Hedge School*



## Ancient History

### For First - Sixth Class *Course Manual*

Day-by-Day Lesson Plans & Instructional Tips

*Authentically Irish, Faithfully Catholic*

## *Term 3*

### *Ancient Greece*

We continue our survey of Ancient Civilisations, as we turn to Greece in this Term. We will learn about the rise of the Greek city-states and their lasting influence on Western Civilisation. We will continue to read engaging living books and make even more history projects to ensure that your family enjoys learning about Ancient Greece.

We will enjoy reading a number of stories and musical selections from Ancient Greece. Finally, we will begin our study of *Aesop's Fables*—written by a Greek slave!—and continue our look at poetry, Earth Science & Geography.

**History & Timeline:** We will continue where we left off in *The Story of Civilization*, as we begin to study the life and times of the Ancient Greeks and their important contributions to Western Civilisation. We will continue to have your child narrate these readings. We'll also use our *Step-by-Step History Projects*, focusing on the ancient Greeks. Next, we'll continue adding to our **Timeline** or Book of Centuries, as in the past two Terms.

#### **Read Aloud:**

We enjoy a few stories as a family this Term:

*St. Patrick's Summer* is “an adventure Catechism”, and takes children on an exciting adventure, led by St. Patrick himself, as we study the Catechism and meet some Saints!

*D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths* is a well-organised and illustrated introduction to the many different persons featuring in Greek mythology.

We will begin to read *Aesop's Fables*. Read these aloud to your child (or have them read them aloud to you, at your discretion). Also, these are really great to practise narration—especially for children who may be having a hard time narrating the history lessons. If this is your child, we'd encourage you to use the *Fables* for some additional narration work.

**Poetry:** We also continue studying classic poems in *Favourite Poems We Learned in School*.

**Fine Arts:** We will listen to some renditions of ancient Grecian music. While we have many physical examples left from ancient Greek architecture, philosophy and literature, unfortunately only a few fragments of their music still remain. This CD is a compilation of those fragments for us to enjoy!

There are also many, many books available about ancient art in Greece (and Rome). Do borrow one from the Library, or already own, or choose any cost-effective one you like and enjoy looking at the art from ancient Greek during this Term.

**Earth Science:** During this Term, we focus more closely on our home planet as we study the atmosphere and the weather. We will use *The Great Irish Weather Book* alongside the *Big Book of Science Experiments*.

Finally, we will continue our study of the natural world by learning about the birds of Ireland. We will use another title by Arabella Buckley, *Birds of the Air*, and your children in 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Class will follow along with a colouring book produced by the Sherkin Island Marine Station.

For this Term and next, we suggest that you place a few well-positioned feeders in your garden or near your home. Otherwise, you can choose to go to a local park or natural area to observe the birds there. Spend a few minutes in your garden or chosen natural area and just observe! Try to see how many you can spot, and how many different species you can identify. Encourage your child to again utilise all their senses to observe our feathered friends!

Then try to find a bird to watch more closely. What does it eat? What does it look like? Can you find its nest by watching where it flies to and from? If desired, you can have your child draw a sketch of the bird in their copy or sketchbook, labelling as appropriate.

### **Individual Studies: Term 3**

#### **Earth Science:**

All Classes will be reading *The Great Irish Weather Book* during this Term.

1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Class: Have your child trace and colour the assigned birds in the *Birds Colouring and Guide Book*. We hope this will help your child learn our native Irish birds!

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Class: As before, have your child write a sentence or two about the readings in their copybook or notebook. The sentences should be well formed and factual.

#### **1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Class Individual Readings:**

*Herodotus and the Road to History*, by popular author Jeanne Bendick, is a fanciful “autobiography” of Herodotus—and a great preparation for reading his *Histories* later!

*The Children’s Homer: The Adventures of Odysseus and the Tale of Troy*: is a lovely, simple introduction to Homer’s classic, designed for beginner readers and written by an Irishman.

#### **4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Class Individual Readings:**

Finally, we will have your child enjoy some more texts about Science, Literature and History. *Archimedes and the Door of Science* is an interesting introduction to the contributions of ancient Greek scientist, Archimedes.

*Black Ships Before Troy* is a great retelling of the famous *Iliad* by popular historical writer Rosemary Sutcliff. This, like the actual *Iliad*, is a little dark and gruesome at times, but it is written in such a way that children are easily able to differentiate Good from Evil—and are able to judge correctly the actions of the main characters. We recommend the illustrated version, with illustrations by Alan Lee.