



KEY VOCABULARY

- pottery** pots and other objects made from clay
- clay** a natural material that can be shaped when wet and hardened when fired
- slip** watery clay used like glue to join pieces of clay
- coil** a long, thin roll of clay used to build up a pot
- decoration** patterns or images added to make something look attractive
- fired** heated in a kiln to harden clay and make it strong



# MAKING ANCIENT GREEK POTS



The Ancient Greeks used pots, called pottery or ceramics, in their everyday lives. We can be inspired by their styles to create our own decorative pots.

## 1. LOOK & DISCOVER

Greek pots were often made to store food, water, oil or wine. They were also used in homes and at ceremonies.

They were decorated with patterns and scenes from everyday life, myths and sport.



Black-figure pot



Red-figure pot



Krater (mixing bowl)

## 2. MAKING YOUR POT – COIL TECHNIQUE

- Roll a long coil of clay.
- Make a coil base by winding it into a circle.
- Add more coils, one on top of the other.
- Smooth the inside and outside with your fingers or a tool.
- Add decoration using tools or texture.

★ TOP TIP: Keep your clay moist while you work so it doesn't crack.

## 3. FINISHING YOUR POT

- Leave your pot to dry slowly.
- Paint using acrylic paints.
- Add details and patterns in the style of Ancient Greek pottery.
- If possible, pots can be fired in a kiln to make them strong and hard. (School kiln only)

## DESIGN IDEAS

Greek pots often used:

- Geometric patterns (e.g. meanders, triangles, spirals, waves)
- Repeating bands
- Silhouettes of people, animals or mythological scenes



## THINK ABOUT...

- What is my pot for?
- What shape will be strongest?
- How will I decorate it?
- What patterns or scenes will I use?

## 4. REFLECT

- Look at your finished pot. What went well? What would you do differently next time? How is your pot inspired by Ancient Greek pottery?

