

# Ancient Greek Philosophers: Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle

## Introduction

Between the years 469 – 322 B.C. Greece experienced a great philosophical age. Intellectuals discussed logic, reason, law, religion, nature, and metaphysics. The most important philosophers were Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. All three were students of one another. Plato was the student of Socrates and Aristotle was the student of Plato. Although they taught and learned from one another, their philosophies were different from one another's.

In this webquest you will research the background, accomplishments, ideas, quotes, pictures, and outcomes of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.

## Task

Each student will work in his or her assigned group. There are three groups, each representing one of philosophers. During research, you will use the web sites provided. **The group will be responsible to find the background, accomplishments, ideas, quotes, pictures, and outcomes of their assigned philosopher.** Once the group has thoroughly researched and obtained the facts each group will do the following:

Create a PowerPoint presentation explaining the research responsibilities of your assigned philosopher.

Each student will have a specific responsibility and be able to present his or her work provided on the PowerPoint presentation.

## Process

1.) Gather with your assigned group.

<u>Group 1</u>	<u>Group 2</u>	<u>Group 3</u>
Socrates	Plato	Aristotle

2.) You will use the following questions as guidelines for your research and presentation. Feel free to elaborate on the questions or add some of your own.

- When was your philosopher born?
- Where was he born?
- When did he die?
- What was your philosopher's formal education?
- What are some quotes by your philosopher? What do they mean?
- What does your philosopher look like?
- What did your philosopher accomplish?
- How did the public respond to your philosopher's ideas?
- Where there any outcomes to your philosophers work? If so, what were they?
- How do we use their philosophies today?

3.) Start your research. Use the internet sites provided to attain the proper information. You may print out the material in order to highlight or to gain a better understanding of the responsibility you are researching. Feel free to compare and contrast websites that may disagree or provide a different point of view of your assigned philosopher

4.) Assign positions to the group members. These positions should be varied and given to different people every day.

The positions should include researchers, recorders, organizers of materials, PowerPoint outliners, and PowerPoint recorders.

5.) Once your group begins to add your research to PowerPoint, be careful of grammatical mistakes or misinformation. Be sure to provide a bibliography to the PowerPoint and cite all of your material using the website at the bottom of each page.

## Resources:

### Group 1: Socrates

- <http://www.spaceandmotion.com/Philosophy-Socrates-Philosopher.htm>
- <http://www.historyguide.org/ancient/lecture8b.html>

- <http://science.jrank.org/pages/9173/Epistemology-Ancient-Socrates-Plato.html>
- <http://webpace.ship.edu/cgboer/athenians.html>
- <http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-8574/Western-philosophy>
- <http://www.wsu.edu/~dee/GREECE/SOCRATES.HTM>
- <http://www.thenagain.info/Classes/Sources/Aristophanes-Clouds.htm>
- [http://images.google.com/images?sourceid=navclient&ie=UTF-8&rlz=1T4DMUS\\_enUS205US206&q=Socrates&um=1&sa=N&tab=wi](http://images.google.com/images?sourceid=navclient&ie=UTF-8&rlz=1T4DMUS_enUS205US206&q=Socrates&um=1&sa=N&tab=wi)

### Group 2: Plato

- <http://www.spaceandmotion.com/Philosophy-Plato-Philosopher.htm>
- <http://www.historyguide.org/ancient/lecture8b.html>
- <http://science.jrank.org/pages/9173/Epistemology-Ancient-Socrates-Plato.html>
- <http://webpace.ship.edu/cgboer/athenians.html>
- <http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-8576/Western-philosophy>
- <http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-8577/Western-philosophy>
- <http://eawc.evansville.edu/anthology/apology.htm>
- [http://images.google.com/images?svnum=10&um=1&hl=en&rlz=1T4DMUS\\_enUS205US206&q=Plato](http://images.google.com/images?svnum=10&um=1&hl=en&rlz=1T4DMUS_enUS205US206&q=Plato)

### Group 3: Aristotle

- <http://www.spaceandmotion.com/Philosophy-Aristotle-Philosopher.htm>
- <http://www.historyguide.org/ancient/lecture8b.html>
- <http://science.jrank.org/pages/9174/Epistemology-Ancient-Aristotle.html>
- <http://webpace.ship.edu/cgboer/athenians.html>
- <http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-8579/Western-philosophy>
- <http://www.wsu.edu/~dee/GREECE/4CAUSES.HTM>
- <http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/ANCIENT/aristotle-metaphysics.txt>
- [http://images.google.com/images?svnum=10&um=1&hl=en&rlz=1T4DMUS\\_enUS205US206&q=Aristotle&btnG=Search+Images](http://images.google.com/images?svnum=10&um=1&hl=en&rlz=1T4DMUS_enUS205US206&q=Aristotle&btnG=Search+Images)

## Evaluation

The scoring rubric in which all groups will be judged can be found on CICERO in any unit under the Rubrics section found in the Professional Development navigation bar.

## Conclusion

- What have you learned from your research?
- Is there any information that you already knew about your philosopher?
- Is there any information that you felt was surprising or false?
- During your research, did you come across any other ancient Greek philosophers that students may want to research?
- Did the websites provide reliable information on your responsibilities for the assignment?
- Was there a big difference in information among any of the resources?

For further information, go to: [www.cicerohistory.com](http://www.cicerohistory.com) and click on the “Roots of America” unit. In that unit you will find the following sections:

### Gallery

- Pictures of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle

### Heroes

- Aristotle

### Primary Sources

- Athenian Constitution: Aristotle
- Spartan Women: Aristotle