Unusual and interesting Greek Facts

- 1. The Greek national anthem, the Hymn to Liberty, is the longest anthem in the world.
- 2. Greece has the longest coastline in Europe, including white, black and red beaches.
- 3. Greece is the third largest olive oil producer in the world, and it is added to nearly every dish.
- 4. King Constantine II was the first Greek gold medal winner of the modern Olympics.
- 5. Some places in Greece ban the wearing of high heels, to prevent damage to the stones.
- 6. Ancient Greeks were quite sporty; wall paintings from Knossos show people doing backflips overcharging bulls!
- 7. Beans were off-limits for ancient Greeks they were believed to contain the souls of the dead.
- 8. Ancient Greeks ate dinner while lying on their sides.
- 9. The most important Greek god was Zeus, who was married to his sister, Hera.
- 10. When Archimedes discovered the law of hydrostatics, he jumped out of his tub and ran down the street yelling 'Eureka!' while still completely naked!

So why should you study ancient Greece when making Greece crafts for kids? If you thought history was boring, you'll change your mind when you study ancient Greece! Greece is considered the 'cradle of the Western civilization', and it is where all modern concepts and fields of study have originated, including democracy, politics, medicine, philosophy, literature, math, science, and of course, competitive sports!

Here's a quick peek at how ancient Greece has influenced the modern world:

- 1. The University of Constantinople is considered the first-ever university in the world.
- 2. The work of Euclid, Pythagoras, and Archimedes form the basis of mathematical concepts.
- 3. The idea of democracy was put forth by the Greeks and they were the first people to vote.
- 4. Greek philosophers like Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle are still studied today.
- 5. Hippocrates is the father of modern medicine, and the Hippocrates Oath is still recited by physicians today.
- 6. Western literature is heavily inspired by Homer, who wrote the Iliad and the Odyssey.
- 7. The Greek language is the oldest language in the world that's still in use.