

## Art Appreciation Parent Volunteer Orientation 1 March 2012

### Matrix of Images for Greek Pottery Presentation

Slide No.	Item	Source	Description Origin/c. date bce./approx. dims/use/ features	Suggested Themes
1A	List of Themes for Discussion	n/a	n/a	List of Themes
1B	Map of "The Classical World"	Met Book p. 12	Mediterranean Sea with extent of Greek Settlement	A relatively small area of the world gave rise to foundational principles of Western Civilization (democracy, arts, architecture, science, literature, mathematics etc).
2A	Cartoon of Potter			All ancient Greek Pottery was handmade. The potter usually owned the workshop while the painters were either hired workers or were slaves.
2B	Types of Pots		Chart of Pottery types	Through the study of ancient Greek pottery we are introduced to Greek culture. The variety of the types of pots illustrate the highly organized nature of Greek culture.
3A	Jar with 3 Vertical Handles	Met Book p. 36	Minoan (on Crete)/ 1600-1450/ 13.5"high./ Storage or transport/waves and vegetal motifs	Prehistoric Greek civilization originated on the Island of Crete and was later influential on mainland Greece. The seafaring nature of the culture is represented here with the maritime motifs. Sea travel allowed trade throughout the Mediterranean Sea and facilitated colonization and the spread of Greek culture especially to (what is now) Southern Italy and (what is now) Western Turkey.
3B	Jar with Octopus	Met Guide p. 28	Mycenaean/1200/16"h/Stirrup Jar	The culture of Mycenae's powerful palatial society on mainland Greece borrowed heavily from Minoan Crete during the Bronze Age as shown by this maritime motif - an octopus!
4A	Chariot Krater	Met Book p.40	Mycenaean (in north eastern Peloponnese, mainland Greece)/1300-1230/16.5"h/Mixing wine/figures on horse pulled	Introduction of rudimentary figural motifs, warrior motifs from the estimated time of the Trojan war are indicated. This piece is dated to the beginning of the collapse of Bronze Age culture and the start of Greek Dark Ages.

			chariot	
4B	Monumental Funerary Krater	Met Book p.52	Attic (Attica=the region around Athens)/750-735/42.5”h/grave marker/horizontal bands of geometric designs w bands of figural narrative	Integration of geometric and figural motifs; elaborate narrative of funeral proceedings; possible reference to foundational Homeric epics (perhaps the death of Patroclus?) written down c. 800 BC. with use of newly emerged Greek alphabet. Homeric epics become inspiration for art, literature, theater with themes of individual glory/fame, honor, heroism, fate.
5A	Amphora with Weighing Scene (Black Figure)	Met Book p. 66	Attic/540/11.75”/ storage/mythological scene on one side, daily activity scene on obverse	Three men using large balance, engaged in cooperative activity connoting the emergence of the city state and its social complexity of manufacturing, trade, standards and social cohesion; until this time, art works were primarily produced depicting religious subjects-the introduction of daily life here shows a developing interest in the life and activities of the “common” individual; This vase shows the first signature of a potter to become known in modern times. This declares the individuality and self confidence of the artist.
5B	Hydria with Fountain Scene (Black Figure)	Met Book p. 96	Attic/510/14.75” /water jar/2 handles for lifting + 1 for pouring; women engaged in quotidian activities using the same type of vessel	Respect for everyday activities became more important and therefore worthy of depiction. They are closely observed; the human figure is rendered more realistically implying the emphasis on the individual; simplified architectural features depicted here show basic column, capital and lintel elements used in building throughout the Greek world.
6	Trophy Amphora with Runners (Black Figure)	Met Guide p. 33	Attic/530/24”h?/trophy storage jar for olive oil/black figure of athletes	Olympic games were established in ancient Greece in 776 BC; Athens established the Panathenaic athletic games in 566 BC which included competitions in music and poetry as well as the recitation of Homeric poems. The games fostered cooperation among Greek city states; elevating the arts and athletes to heroic status; the winners were rewarded with large amphora usually containing large quantities of olive oil. The games were hosted in Athens’s Panathenaic Stadium

				which is still in use-it was the site of the summer Olympics in 2004.
7	Kylix with scenes of the Trojan War (Black Figure)	Met Book p. 83	Attic/540/10”h/drinking cup with 2 handles/scenes of men harnessing Poseidon’s horses to transport to the Trojan War	Drinking cups were used at Symposia-a key cultural institution in Ancient Greece. During these banquets/drinking parties, aristocratic men discussed politics were trained to participate in Athenian democracy. Homeric poems were recited at these Symposia so that the skill of the poet and heroic themes could be appreciated.
8A & 8B	Volute Krater Amazon Women (Red Figure) front and back	Met Book p. 124	Attic/450/25”h/Container for mixing wine and water/Amazons fighting Greeks	In c. 530 BC, Red Figure painting appeared in Athens .The invention of this technique is normally accredited to the Andokides Painter (Andokides owned the pottery workshop; the painter is identified as having worked there). This allowed much greater artistic expression, foreshortening and perspective allowing form, line, detail to create heightened realism. These features were to be the hallmark of Greek art and all art subsequently based on it. Amazons-warrior women seen here are thought to have come from what is now the Ukraine appeared throughout Greek mythology.
9	Figure with instrument (Red Figure)	Met Book p. 102		As the Red Figure style progressed, there was a greater emphasis on private and domestic scenes as opposed to scenes from mythology. This tradition of depicting the details of both heroic and common subjects is fundamental to Western Art.

Notes:

1. Images with the same digit but different letters (i.e. 5A & 5B) are to be presented to the children at the same time, side by side
2. “Met Book” refers to [How to Read Greek Vases](#) by Joan Mertens
3. “Met Guide” refers to the publication “Greek Art” kindly lent to the Art Appreciation Committee by the Metropolitan Museum Staff
4. Black Figure Pottery = black glazed figures on clay colored background; Red Figure Pottery is the reverse