

Wonders of the World

Have you heard of the Seven Wonders of the World? Did you know there is more than one list of “Seven Wonders”? Let’s learn about the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and the Seven Wonders of the Modern World. These are amazing places and objects that are so much fun to learn about! Come and discover fourteen wonders.

The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

The Colossus of Rhodes

The Colossus of Rhodes was a statue that sat in the harbor of the [island of Rhodes](#). Rhodes is a Greek island about 11 miles southwest of Turkey.

The statue was created to commemorate the victory in battle that Rhodes had won. In 305 BC, Rhodes was attacked after the island could not be convinced to join [Antigonus the One-Eyed](#) in a war against [Egypt](#). Egypt was the biggest trading partner the island of Rhodes had, so it would not have been a smart move to engage in battle with them.

Antigonus retaliated by sending 40,000 soldiers to attack the island. His army was bigger than the entire population of Rhodes! His son, [Demetrius Poliorcetes](#), led the army and was very adept at using catapults and battering rams, making it appear that the island had very little chance of winning the war.

The people on the island were not going to give up without a fight. With the help of the king of Egypt, King Ptolemy, Rhodes spent almost a year fighting with the enemy army. They held their own and eventually caused the enemy’s army to crumble. After seeing that he could not win the battle, Antigonus ordered his army to retreat from the island.

To celebrate their victory, the Rhodians wanted to build a statue. Since they had been praying to their patron god, Helios, that is who they chose to portray. Taking twelve years to complete, the statue was 110 feet tall, which is close to the height of the [Statue of Liberty](#) (from head to feet).

The statue didn't survive for very long, unfortunately. The Colossus only stood for about fifty-six years before it crumbled during an earthquake.

The Colossus of Rhodes Activity

If you were going to build a statue to represent freedom, what would it look like? Would the statue represent freedom for you, your family, or the whole nation? Would it be any special colors or made of any materials that are important to you? On the Statue Drawing Worksheet, write about your statue and how it should be built. Draw a picture of what the finished statue would look like.

Links Used in This Lesson

- <https://theislandofrhodes.com/the-island-of-rhodes/>
- <https://www.livius.org/articles/person/antigonus-monophthalmus/>
- <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/egypt/>
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Demetrius-I-Poliorcetes>
- <https://www.nps.gov/stli/learn/historyculture/statue-statistics.htm>

Statue Drawing Worksheet


