**ALEXANDER THE GREAT- GREECE**

**WHY WAS HE "THE GREAT"?**

Alexander was born in 356 BC in Pella, Macedonia to King Philip II. Philip II was an impressive military man in his own right. He turned Macedonia (a region on the northern part of the Greek peninsula) into a force to be reckoned with, and he fantasized about conquering the massive [Persian Empire](https://www.history.com/topics/persian-empire).

At 20, after his father's murder, he became king. From the age of 22 until his death at 33 he conquered most of the known world, reaching as far as India. Some information about his life:

1. The Persians were his major enemy. They were very strong in sea power. Alexander did not have a strong navy. He was afraid of the Persian navy. In order to stop the Persian navy he did not attack the ships. Instead he destroyed their ports.
2. In the battle of the river Issus, he did not feel strong. So he changed tactics. He himself led a focussed attack on Darius, the Persian king. Darius's personal guard did not hold the attack. Darius withdrew and his troops followed.
3. Alexander wanted to capture Tyre, a city on an island very near to the coast of today's Lebanon. Tyre was very difficult to conquer. After several months of attack by sea Alexander changed tactics. He built a causeway. This way his troops marched up to the walls. They used land attack tactics Tyre was captured soon afterwards.
4. Alexander wanted to control the lands he had conquered. In order to do so, he told his troops to live there. This way the ancient Greek culture and language spread to those lands

More info at:

https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/alexander-the-great