

## **Greek Pottery**

Most of the jugs, cooking pots and containers used in the Greek household – and even lamps – were made of pottery. The Greeks loved to decorate their pottery with patterns and scenes of people and animals.

The Greeks had special methods for painting pottery called “black-figure” and “red-figure” painting. Black-figure vases have their decoration painted on in black and the background is left the color of the clay – an orangey red. With red-figure vases it is the other way around. The background is painted black and the figures and decorations are left the color of the clay.

Pictures on Greek vases were often scenes from daily life, Greek mythology, Olympics and battles. Usually there was a different picture on each side, but sometimes the scene carried on right around the vase. There were always designs around the top and the bottom of the pottery.