

# The Great Thinkers

Week 9 • Thursday • Philosophy in Your Life

## Reading Time

The Greeks loved asking questions — BIG questions. People who did this were called **philosophers**, which means 'lovers of wisdom.' Three of the most famous were **Socrates**, **Plato**, and **Aristotle**. Each one taught the next, like a chain of teachers!

Socrates walked around Athens asking people question after question: What is fairness? What is courage? How do you know? He believed questions help us think better. Plato, his student, opened a famous school called the Academy. Aristotle, Plato's student, studied EVERYTHING — animals, stars, weather, and how to think clearly.

You are a philosopher too! Every time you ask 'Why?' or wonder 'Is that fair?' or 'How does that work?', you are doing exactly what the great Greek thinkers did. Asking good questions is how all learning starts.

## Reading Questions

1. What does 'philosopher' mean?

2. How did Socrates help people think better?

3. Name the chain of teachers: who taught whom?

## Fill in the Blanks

Socrates

Plato

Aristotle

questions

wisdom

1. A philosopher is a lover of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ walked around Athens asking questions.
3. His student \_\_\_\_\_ opened a school called the Academy.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ studied animals, stars, and clear thinking.
5. Asking good \_\_\_\_\_ is how learning starts.

## True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Philosophy means 'love of wisdom.'
- ☐ Socrates thought questions were a waste of time.
- ☐ Plato's school was called the Academy.
- ☐ Aristotle was Plato's student.
- ☐ You can be a philosopher by asking good questions.

## Hands-On: Question Dinner

Be Socrates at dinner tonight! Ask your family one BIG question, like: 'What makes a good friend?' or 'Is it ever okay to break a rule?'

Listen to everyone's answers, then ask 'Why do you think that?' — just like Socrates. Write your favorite answer below.

### Think About It

1. My big question was... and the best answer I heard was...

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2. What do YOU think makes a good friend?

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