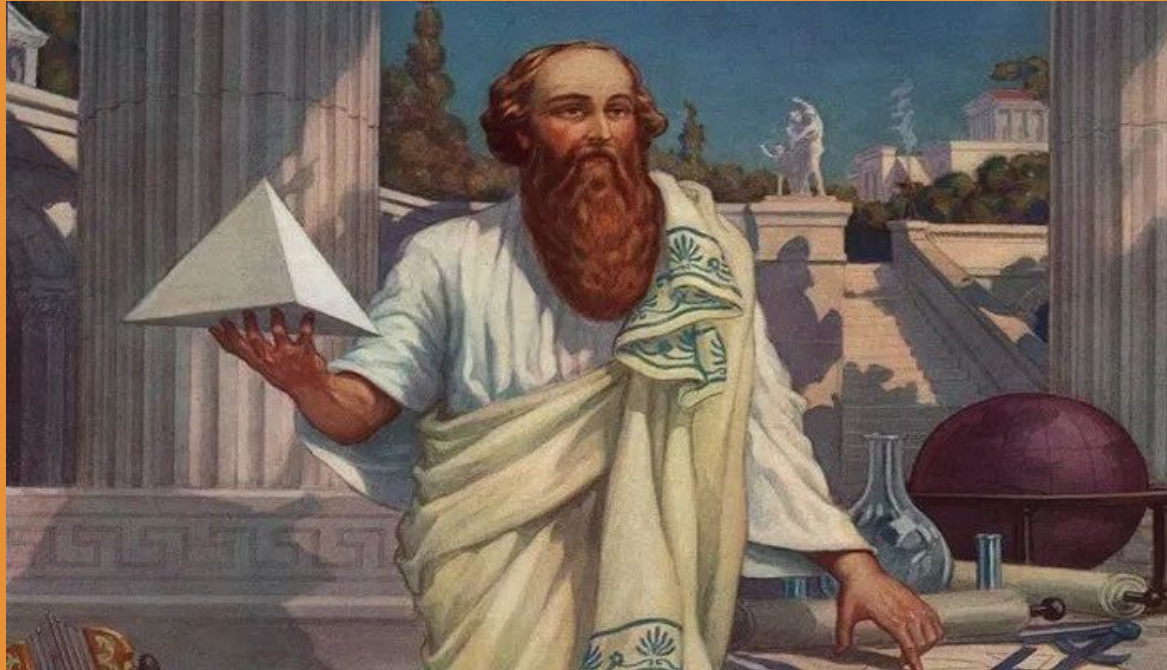


Pythagoras

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Introduction

Pythagoras, born c. 571 B.C.E. and died c. 497 B.C.E., was an Ancient Greek philosopher and mathematician. He was and is well-known for his contributions to math, philosophy, and society. While Pythagoras did contribute more than what is included in this presentation, we will focus primarily on his mathematical contributions. Enjoy!

The Life of Pythagoras

- Born c. 571 B.C.E.
- Moved to Egypt at age 22.
- Moved to Greece 22 years later after the Babylonians took over Egypt.
- Likely founded the Pythagorean cult, c. 513 B.C.E.
- Died c. 497 B.C.E.



Mathematical Contributions

- Best known for the Pythagorean Theorem.
 - Did not discover it as he learned it from the Egyptians and Greeks, but elaborated the concept to include all right triangles.
 - Formula is $a^2+b^2=c^2$, where a and b are the short sides, and c is the hypotenuse.
 - Using the formula, you can calculate any missing side of a right triangle.

Mathematical Contributions: Importance

- With the Pythagorean Theorem, you can do so much more than calculate the hypotenuse of a triangle.
 - It has been used to calculate distances.
 - It can be used to find irrational numbers, which you could go on to prove that they're irrational.
 - It can also be used to prove that numbers, including irrational ones, exist.

Timeline



Sources

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