

WHO WERE THE ANCIENT GREEKS?

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE BELIEFS OF THE ANCIENT
GREEKS.



CAN YOU NAME ANY
GREEK GODS?



DO YOU KNOW ANY
GREEK MYTHS?

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THE OLYMPIAN GODS

THERE WERE TWO MAIN GROUPS OF GODS IN ANCIENT GREEK MYTHOLOGY: THE OLYMPIANS AND THE TITANS. IN A GREAT BATTLE, THE OLYMPIANS DEFEATED THE TITANS TO BECOME THE SUPREME RULERS. THE ANCIENT GREEKS BELIEVED THAT THE OLYMPIAN GODS LIVED ON MOUNT OLYMPUS, A REAL MOUNTAIN IN GREECE.



MOUNT OLYMPUS

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THERE WERE 12 MAIN OLYMPIAN GODS. ZEUS WAS THE KING OF THE GODS AND THE GOD OF THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.



THERE WAS ALSO...

APOLLO

POSEIDON

APHRODITE

HADES

HERMES

HESTIA

ARTEMIS

HERA

HEPHAESTUS

ARES

ATHENA

THE OLYMPIAN GODS WERE ALL RELATED TO EACH OTHER IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

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THE GREEK MYTHS

THE GREEK MYTHS ARE A SET OF STORIES WHICH THE ANCIENT GREEKS BELIEVED TO BE TRUE. THEY USUALLY INVOLVED A GOD, A HERO AND OFTEN A MYTHICAL BEAST.

HAVE YOU HEARD ANY OF THESE MYTHS?

THESEUS AND
THE
MINOTAUR



MEDUSA AND
THE GORGONS



KING MIDAS
AND THE
GOLDEN TOUCH



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MEDUSA AND THE GORGONS



MEDUSA WAS ONE OF THREE MONSTERS CALLED THE GORGONS. ALTHOUGH THEY HAD WOMEN'S BODIES, THEY HAD SNAKES INSTEAD OF HAIR, SHARP CLAWS AND GOLDEN WINGS. ANYONE WHO LOOKED INTO THE FACE OF A GORGON WAS IMMEDIATELY TURNED TO STONE.

BUT PERSEUS WAS SENT ON A MISSION BY ATHENA, THE GODDESS OF WAR, TO GO AND KILL MEDUSA. THE GODS GAVE HIM WEAPONS TO HELP HIM DEFEAT THIS TERRIBLE MONSTER, INCLUDING WINGED SANDALS SO HE COULD CATCH HER. BACK



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BUT THE BEST GIFT WAS FROM
ATHENA HERSELF: A SHIELD THAT
WAS SO BRIGHT AND SHINY THAT
HE COULD SEE HIS OWN REFLECTION
IN IT. "IT CONTAINS NO MAGIC,"
SAID ATHENA, "BUT IT IS CRUCIAL
TO YOUR TASK."



SUDDENLY, PERSEUS REALISED WHAT
HE HAD TO DO. HE WENT TO THE
PLACE WHERE THE GORGONS SLEPT.
HE CREPT IN PAST THE STONE VICTIMS
TO WHERE MEDUSA LAY. HE TURNED
HIS HEAD AWAY AND USED HIS SHIELD
AS A MIRROR TO LOOK BEHIND HIM
AT THE SLEEPING GORGON. HE CUT
OFF HER HEAD WITHOUT ONCE
HAVING TO LOOK DIRECTLY AT HER
FACE AND BECAME A HERO.

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WHAT DOES THIS
STORY TELL YOU
ABOUT ANCIENT
GREEK BELIEFS
OF THEIR GODS?

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