

# GREEK MYTHOLOGY ADVENTURE LESSON PLAN

## Objectives:

Students will learn to use search engines effectively and efficiently, download graphics, email attachments, navigate the web, and implement Remember the Milk as an educational tool. Students will acquire knowledge about various aspects of life in Ancient Greece.

## Materials:

- Remember the Milk account
- Internet-connected computers
- School email account

## Procedure:

1. Create a Remember the Milk account on [www.rememberthemilk.com](http://www.rememberthemilk.com).
2. To do this, click the “Sign Up (Free!)” button at the top of the page.
  - Fill in the appropriate information.
  - Make sure your username is appropriate and professional. This doesn’t mean “hawtchick\_2011” or “baller69.” Some version of your name would be best.
  - Create a password, enter your school email account, click the one that looks right, and then check that you’ve read the “Terms of Use” (after reading them, of course).
3. Log into your school email account and confirm your Remember the Milk account by clicking the link inside the email they just sent you.
4. Write your name and username on the sheet I pass around the room. I’ll need them to add you all as contacts and share my Greek Mythology Adventure task list with you.
5. Log back into your Remember the Milk account.
6. Click the “Contacts” tab in the upper right hand corner of the page.
7. Click the “Add Contact” button.
8. In the box that appears, type “shelbydavies.” That’s my RTM username.
9. Hit the Enter key. We’re now contacts on RTM!
10. Now click the “Tasks” tab at the top of the page.
11. Click the “All Tasks” tab right under the RTM logo. Because I’ve shared my task list with you, your Greek Mythology Adventure tasks should magically appear!
12. Now for the fun part! Each of you will be completing these tasks over the next three weeks, shooting for one or more tasks per day.
  - To view a task’s descriptions and requirements, click on the task.
  - The task’s descriptions—like due date and time estimate—will appear in a column on the right hand side of the page.
  - Click the “Notes” tab in this column, and your instructions will appear!
13. Because everyone is sharing one list, please do not hit the “Complete” button after completing a task. Instead, email me your completed Word document and move on to the next task!
  - To email me your tasks, save your Word document as I’ve instructed you inside the Notes section of your task on RTM.
  - Open up your school email account.

- In the “To” box, type my email, which I’ve provided within the first two Notes.
  - In the “Subject” box, type which task you’re turning in. For example, “Task 1A” would be the title for your Task 1A email.
  - Click the “Add Attachment” button. Usually it’s a picture of a paperclip.
  - A window will pop up with several boxes. Click the “Browse” button.
  - Find your completed Word document on the computer and click “Open.”
  - Click “Attach.”
  - Viola! Your file is attached. Now all you have to do is click “Send,” and your email is on its way!
14. I will grade and return your Word documents with my comments and your grade for the task to you similarly. Good luck!
15. You will be graded upon the following criteria:
- All activities within each task are completed.
  - All questions within each task are answered.
  - All questions within each task are answered *correctly*.
  - Everything is written in complete sentences with proper spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Assessment:

Students will take a test upon the completion of this scavenger hunt to assess the amount of knowledge learned. After the test, I will provide a notecard to each student on which they will write down the three most interesting things that they learned from the assignment and the three most confusing things that they didn’t necessarily learn. This will help me clarify any misgivings for the next year.

Here is a copy of the task list<sup>1</sup>, taken directly from my Remember the Milk account:

**TASK 1A: WHAT IS GREEK MYTHOLOGY?**

Go to <http://www.greekmythology.com> and click MISSION. Read their mission to discover their definition of mythology.

Scroll down and click the NEXT PAGE arrow. Scroll down until you see the picture with the man’s head in the corner. Read the rest of this page, starting just below that picture with the words, "Myths in general had . . ."

Answer these questions about all that you have read so far: a) How was mythology used in Ancient Greece? b) Did the Greeks believe the myths were true stories?

Now that you have read this explanation of mythology, open a Microsoft Word document and write one paragraph (at least 5 sentences) which explain the meaning of mythology to someone who has never heard of it before.

Find 3 words that you don’t understand in what you read on this website. Use the dictionary to define each word in your Microsoft Word document.

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<sup>1</sup> These tasks were taken and adapted from [http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Manual\\_Arts\\_HS/Apps/DHS/myth.html](http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Manual_Arts_HS/Apps/DHS/myth.html).

Save the document as LastNameTask1A. Email it to me upon completion.

My email is davies8@purdue.edu.

### **TASK 1B: WHAT WERE THE ANCIENT OLYMPIC GAMES LIKE?**

In a new Microsoft Word document, answer these questions: What is your favorite sport? Why? To find out about the sports played by the Ancient Greeks, go to <http://library.advanced.org/17709/sports/index.htm>. Read the paragraph and then click ANCIENT OLYMPICS. Answer these questions in your Word document:

a) Today boxers fight other boxers who are similar in size and weight. In your document, answer these questions: a) How were opponents selected in ancient Greece? b) What is pankration? c) During ancient Olympics wrestlers were allowed to break what part of the body during the match?

Open up a search engine such as Bing or Google.

In the SEARCH box, type in the name of your favorite sport, sports team, or athlete. Answer this question in your Word document: How many "hits" did your search find?

Choose one of the websites you found by completing your search and click the title of it to go to that site. Explore the site for several minutes [WARNING: Don't stay here forever, even though you're probably enjoying yourself right now.] Answer these questions in your document: a) What is the address of the website (also called the URL)? b) Who created this site? c) Who is the intended audience of this site? d) When was the site last updated? e) What is one thing that you learned by visiting this site?

Save this document as LastNameTask1B. Email the document to me upon completion.

My email is davies8@purdue.edu.

### **TASK 1C: WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN ANCIENT GREECE?**

To find out about everyday life in Ancient Greece, follow these steps: a) Go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com). Click ARTS/HUMANITIES. Click HUMANITIES in the right-hand column. Click CLASSICS in the left column.

Click the first entry in the left column called ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY. Scroll down until you see a page called ANCIENT GREECE - ANCIENT ROME and click on the title. If the new page says "Evergreen School District Ancient Civilizations," congratulations! You made it! Now click anywhere to reach the main menu.

Click GREECE under "Everyday Life." Follow each link listed in the left frame.

Now that you know about the lives of ancient Greeks, pretend you're planning to make a similar

site about the lives of people in [ENTER CITY, STATE]. Think about the issues of clothing, food, rules/privileges, relationships, hobbies, jobs, living conditions, education, duties/chores, and whatever other issues you feel are important. Answer these questions in a new Word document:

- a) What is life like for girls?
- b) What is life like for boys?
- c) What is life like for mothers?
- d) What is life like for fathers?
- e) What foods do you eat in your house and/or community?

How was slavery different for Ancient Greeks and African Americans? If you don't know the answer, try doing a web search at [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com). Type answers into document.

Save document as LastName1C. Email it to me upon completion.

### **TASK 2A: WHERE DID WE GET THESE CRAZY CREATURES CALLED HUMANS?**

Go to [www.greekmythology.com](http://www.greekmythology.com). Click MYTHS. Click CREATION OF THE WORLD. Scroll down and click the NEXT PAGE arrow. Click JUMP TO THE HUMAN RACE. Answer the following questions in a new Word document:

- a) Why did the gods create human beings?
- b) What gifts did Prometheus give to people?
- c) How did Prometheus get into trouble? What was his punishment?

Personalize the story: If you were a God/Goddess in Ancient Greece, what three gifts would you have given to humans? Why?

List 10 concrete nouns that you can find in the myth.

Save your document as LastName2A. Email it to me upon completion.

### **TASK 2B: WHO ARE THE DEMONS IN MYTHOLOGY?**

Go to <http://tqjunior.advanced.org/5830/demons.htm>. Scroll down to the descriptions of the demons and read each one.

Answer these questions in a new Word document: a) What demon's face turns people to stone? [Hint: There is more than one answer] b) What demon is part lion and part eagle? c) Medusa has many snakes on her head, but another demon is a snake with many heads. Who am I talking about?

Choose the demon you like the best.

a) When you find the picture, use the mouse to put the arrow on top of the picture. b) Hold the mouse button down until you get a window listing your options. c) Click SAVE IMAGE AS. d) When the save screen appears, click DESKTOP. e) Choose to save to your DISK, which will probably be called DISK#1, DISK#2, etc., depending on the computer you're using. e) Save your file as LastName2B and click SAVE.

a) Go to your email account. a) Click COMPOSE. b) Write my email address in the TO box. c) Under subject write LastNameLastName2B. d) Scroll to the bottom of your screen and click EDIT ATTACHMENT. e) Click BROWSE. f) Choose your DISK. g) Open your DEMON file. h) Click ATTACH THIS FILE. i) Click RETURN TO MESSAGE. j) Click SEND. k) Don't forget to SIGN OUT when finished with this task so no one can access your email account.

### **TASK 2C: WHO ARE THE TWELVE OLYMPIANS?**

Go to <http://focusmm.com.au/olympian.htm> . This is your opportunity to review the Gods/Goddesses we already studied in class. Reread these brief biographies of Zeus, Hera, Aphrodite, Hephaestus, and Ares.

It's also time to get to know the other Olympians, so read the biographies of Poseidon, Hades, Hestia, Athena, Apollo, Hermes, and Artemis.

Now that you're an expert on the Gods/Goddesses, let's test your knowledge with a quiz. What's that? You're not ready yet? Then take a few minutes to look over the biographies you just read.

When you're feeling confident, go to

<http://www.quizsite.com/quiz/literatu/mytholog/greek/index.html> . Click START QUIZ. For Level, choose EASY. For number of questions, type 10 in the box. Click START TRIVIA QUIZ. Follow the directions on the screen to complete quiz.

When the quiz is over, scroll down to EMAIL YOUR QUIZ RESULTS. In the TO box, write my email address. In FROM box, write your email address. Click SEND.

### **TASK 2D: WHO ARE ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE? (A GREEK LOVE MYTH)**

Do you want to read a love story? Go to <http://despina.advanced.org/23057/orpheus.html>

Your task: Pretend you are a writer. You now have it in your power to change the fate of Orpheus and Eurydice. As a writer, how would you change the events of this story? Rewrite the ending of the story as you would like to read it in a new Word document. Would Orpheus still turn around? Would the two lovers survive? Would they die more painful deaths? Would they be separated in the afterlife? It's all up to you! Be sure to indent your first paragraph. Your story should be at least 2 pages long. Please correct all spelling, punctuation, and grammar before saving. [HINT! Try to make your story interesting by including descriptions of the people and places, the emotions of the characters, and the dialogue between the characters.]

Save the document as LastName2D. Email it to me upon completion.

## **TASK 2E: WHO ARE THE HEROES OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY?**

Answer these questions in a new Word document: a) What does the word hero mean to you? b) What types of characteristics does a hero have? c) Who is a hero to you and why?

Now it's time to read about some heroes in mythology! Go to <http://www.mythweb.com>. Click HEROES. Click HERCULES, click Hercules' FACE, and read the story of this magnificent hero.

Your job: Pretend you are Hercules, and you have just completed the 12 labors you read about. Write a letter to Zeus to persuade him to forgive you for killing your children. You will need to convince him that you have earned your forgiveness by completing the 12 labors. [NOTE: Be sure to follow the proper format for a friendly letter. If you don't know this format, ask! Remember to indent each paragraph you use. Write at least 1 page. Check your work for spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes!]

Save your document as LastName2E. Email it to me upon completion.

## **TASK 3A: HOW CAN WE LEARN LESSONS FROM THE MYTHS? PART 1**

Many myths were created to teach important life lessons to human beings. To read a famous myth that teaches us an important lesson, go to <http://www.mythweb.com>. Click ENCYCLOPEDIA. Click INDEX. When you see the alphabet bar, click the letter M. Click MIDAS and read the story.

Write an opinion paragraph (a mini essay in which you give your opinion on the assigned topic) in a new Word document. Here is your topic: What do you think is more important--wealth or wisdom? Why? Use details from the story you just read to prove your opinion! [NOTE: Be sure to indent each paragraph you use. Write at least 2 pages. Check your work for spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes!]

Save your document as LastName3A. Email it to me upon completion.

## **TASK 3B: HOW CAN WE LEARN LESSONS FROM THE MYTHS? PART 2**

Many myths were created to teach important life lessons to human beings. To read a famous myth that teaches us an important lesson, go to <http://tqjunior.advanced.org/5830/myths.htm>. Scroll down until you see the name PANDORA and read her story.

Answer these questions in a new Word document: a) Why did Zeus create Pandora? b) What does Pandora's name mean? c) What eventually causes Pandora to open the jar? d) What is inside the jar?

The myth of Pandora teaches us several lessons. One of these lessons is about the dangers of too much curiosity. It's your turn to write a short myth. Here's how to do it: a) Create your own God/Goddess. What does he/she look like? What are his/her special powers? What is his/her personality? b) Choose the lesson you want to teach or the natural phenomenon you want to explain. Do you want to teach a lesson about love, friendship, stealing, drugs, etc.? Do you want

to explain how we got fire? Where allergies come from? How music comes out of the radio? c)  
Write your story! [NOTE: Be sure to indent each paragraph you use. Write at least 3 pages.  
Check your work for spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes!]

Save the document as LastName3B. Email it to me upon completion.