

Literature 8 Mythology Project

1. Remember: everyone needs to make a chart; if you are interested in an A or a B, you need to do a booklet **in addition to the chart**.
2. Much of the information for the chart and booklet will be found in *The Greek Gods*, but three gods are not in the book. These will need to be researched on the Internet. Students should find as much information on all the gods and goddesses as possible, from the book and the Internet, especially symbols; and what they are god of.
3. If you computer-generate your chart, you can word process it, use a spreadsheet, or produce it in some other form.
4. If you do a booklet, the interesting facts and stories should be much more detailed than they would be in a chart.
5. For the booklet, you can choose any five gods or goddesses. Pick the five that can be made most interesting and the most detailed.
6. Have your chart and booklet ready for the first day of classes.
7. The first week of classes, there will be an extra credit quiz in which you will identify pictures of the gods and goddesses.
8. The second week of classes, there will be a quiz on the Greek and Roman names and what each is god of.

Dear (Soon-to-be) Eighth Graders,

The first unit we will do in Lit 8 is on Greek mythology. Your easy task for the summer is to read Bernard Evslin's *The Greek Gods*. Do **not** read this in June or July. It needs to be fresh in your mind for the start of school. Your grade for this project will be as follows:

- C-: Fill in this chart. **Note: Hestia, Ares, and Dionysus are not in the book, and some Roman names and symbols may not be given, so you should look these up on the Internet. The more examples you can put for symbols, and what each is god of, the better.**
- C or C+: Computer generate (probably word process) the information from this chart into an organized form.
- B or A: **In addition to the computerized chart, make a booklet. Word process the information for five of those gods or goddesses, each on a half-sheet and include a picture (regular credit for downloading a picture, more credit if you do the artwork yourself). Go into some detail summarizing a story or two. An example is attached.**

If you are looking for an additional challenge, also read some version of the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey*.

Have a great summer,
Mr. B.

Greek God	Roman Name	God of...	Parents	Spouse
Zeus				
Hera				
Poseidon				
Hades				
Demeter				
Hestia				
Athena				
Artemis				
Apollo				
Hermes				
Hephaestus				
Aphrodite				
Ares				
Dionysus				

Greek God	Symbols	Important Stories and/or Weird Facts
Zeus		
Hera		
Poseidon		
Hades		
Demeter		
Hestia		
Athena		
Artemis		
Apollo		
Hermes		
Hephaestus		
Aphrodite		
Ares		
Dionysus		

- On the back of this sheet is a model of how you can receive a B or an A for this assignment. You will take the categories from the chart and make a booklet, one god or goddess per page, **for five of the gods or goddesses.**
- You should include a picture of the god. This can be downloaded. (Or if you are a good artist, you can make your own drawing of the god or goddess. This would give you more credit.)
- There should be some detail to your stories or interesting facts. **These should be in complete sentences, and in your own words.**
- The booklet should measure about **6 inches by eight inches**, as shown in the sample. (Yes, really, that size.)

So, in summary:

- Fill in the chart for a C-.
- Word process, or otherwise computer-generate, the chart for a C or C+.
- **In addition to the chart**, do the booklet for a B or A.

Eros

Roman Name: Cupid
God of . . .: Romantic Love and Desire
Parents: Erebus and Nyx, or Aphrodite and Ares,
or Aphrodite alone

Spouse: Psyche

Symbols: Bow, Golden Arrows and Lead Arrows, Candles, Hearts, Wings and Kisses



Important Stories and/or

Interesting Facts:

Eros fell in love with a woman named Psyche, but did not reveal to her who he was. He would visit her at night, but he made her promise that she would never look at him in the light. Psyche's sisters convinced her

that the person she visited was probably a horrible monster, if he would not let himself be seen. One night Psyche lit a lamp to look at her visitor, was startled to see that it was Eros, and she spilled hot oil from the lamp on him and woke him up. Eros fled, and did not return to her. Psyche searched the world, performed difficult tasks, and finally won forgiveness from Eros.

- Sometimes Eros or Cupid is pictured as a small child, and sometimes he is pictured as a young man.
- Eros could cause humans to fall in love, by shooting them with a golden arrow. These arrows also worked on the gods. Eros also could cause someone to hate or ignore another by shooting him or her with a lead arrow, an arrow of disinterest.