

# Culminating Project: Create your own Greek God

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

For this culminating project you will be creating your own Greek god and a detailed story telling all about them!

### **GOOGLE CLASSROOM INFO:**

You MUST use your [300number@student.amphi.com](mailto:300number@student.amphi.com) account to log into this. You cannot log into a school google classroom account using a personal email. It will not work. If you cannot remember your 300 number email or text your teacher.

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*This is an enrichment project and is not required to be turned in.* This is a fun class project where you get to show off your creativity and get to become a GOD and tell us how you would affect human life on earth. Since you have worked so hard, we would love for you to share it with us!!!!

### **Please share your story with us: Do one of the following:**

1. Take picture or scan of your project and submit it into Google Classroom
2. Take a picture of scan of your project and email it to your teacher.
  - a. See emails listed above
3. Take a picture and text it to your teacher.
  - a. See phone numbers listed above.

Directions for: Greek God Description Chart

Step 1. Before we create our own god, we need to do a little learning!

Directions: Review the Greek God Descriptions (pages 3). Select your favorite five gods and complete this chart. There is an example given.

Example: I have done the god Zeus for you to show you what your boxes will look like. See how Zeus symbols of power are related to what he is the god of, as god of the sky he is represented by a lightning bolt and a eagle. This is an important part of designing your own god, the symbols must make sense for what the god controls.

Gods Name	Realm (What were they the god of?)	Symbol (What are they often pictured with)	Facts/Characteristics (something interesting about that God)
Zeus	sky	lightning bolt, eagle, or a rod	He is dominating and powerful Had a soft spot for pretty women OR His lightning bolts were made by the Cyclopes



## Greek God Descriptions

**Directions:** Use the information about the gods to fill in the chart on page 2.

### Ares

Ares or, as he is known by his Roman name, Mars, was the god of war. He would fight on both sides, if possible. He was young, strong and handsome, and liked to dress in battle clothes even when he wasn't fighting.



### Artemis

Artemis was Apollo's twin. Her Roman name was Diana, and she was the goddess of hunting, chastity and the moon. She protects women and small children, is fiercely independent and particularly dislikes men. In pictures, she is seen accompanied by three hunting hounds, a bow and a fawn.



### Hephaestus

Hephaestus, or Vulcan, was born lame and was further crippled when he was thrown from Olympus by his mother, Hera, in a rage. He was the only Olympian with a disability. He was unhappily married to Aphrodite and worked as a blacksmith in the gods' forge.



### Athena

Next is Athena, or Minerva, the daughter who sprang fully formed from the head of Zeus after a major headache. She is the goddess of wisdom and war and also the protector and namesake of the city of Athens. She preferred reason to violence unless she was pushed. She turned Arachne into a spider for bragging that she could spin better than Athena. She was very competitive and is often pictured with her helmet and a spear. She carried Zeus's shield, called the aegis. The owl was her bird. Can you see it in her hand?



### Dionysus

Dionysus was the partier of the mountain retreat. He was Zeus's son by another woman, who was driven crazy by Hera and her jealousy. Dionysus went all around teaching people how to make wine and having a good time. Eventually, Hestia gave up her throne for him, and he lived on Olympus. He was the god of wine, of course, and also vegetation.



### Hera

Our first goddess is Hera. She sits on the right side of Zeus and is his wife. Of course, she's his sister, too, but that's the way it was on Olympus. Hera's Roman name is Juno, and she is the queen of the gods. She is the guardian of marriage and was well-loved by the Greeks; it's kind of sad that she's the goddess of marriage but her own marriage was so bad. She was often jealous of her husband's girlfriends and did mean things to them, even the ones who didn't want anything to do with him, but she could be tender and loving as well. The peacock was her symbol. In fact, the circles in a peacock's tail are said to be the eyes of her 100-eyed servant, Argus.



### Demeter

Demeter was the goddess of the crops and the harvest. She is also known as Ceres (Roman) and sometimes Deo. Her symbols include a torch, a crown, a scepter and stalks of grain. She is often portrayed with her daughter, Persephone, who was kidnapped by Hades and taken to the underworld. By the time she was rescued, she'd eaten six pomegranate seeds, so she couldn't escape the underworld entirely. Her mother was so frantic that winter draped the land and no crops would grow. A deal was struck, and Persephone was allowed to return to her mother for half of the year. So each year, when she returns to the underworld, fall comes, then winter – but when she returns to her mother, spring and summer come again.



### Apollo

Apollo was a twin. His Roman name was the same as his Greek name. He was the god of the sun or light, poetry, music and medicine and was famous for his oracles (wise women to whom he gave his power to predict and interpret the future). He was very proud and also protective of his mother and sister. His symbols were the gold bow and arrows, and he often appears golden and shining. He wears a laurel wreath in memory of Daphne, who didn't want to be his lover and prayed to Mother Earth for help escaping him; she was turned into a laurel tree.



### Hermes

Hermes, or Mercury, was the god of science and invention, but he is best known as the messenger of the gods. He is often pictured with a winged helmet and sandals. He is said to have invented the alphabet, boxing and gymnastics! In this painting by Goltzius, you can see his helmet with wings; he's not wearing his famous sandals, though.



### Hestia

Hestia was Zeus's sister and the goddess and protectress of hearth and home. She is also known by her Roman name, Vesta. She was gentle and kind and was very popular with the Greeks. She didn't have a lot of adventures, so she's rarely pictured in art.



### Hades

Hades, or Pluto, was the god of the underworld and of the dead. He was called the same names by the Romans, but they also sometimes called him Dis or Dis Pater. He was Zeus's brother and married Persephone after kidnapping her against her will. He was gloomy and frightening.



His symbols are cornucopia and scepter

### Poseidon

Next, we have Poseidon, or Neptune, as the Romans called him. He was Zeus's brother, and he was the god of the sea and also earthquakes. He often is shown with a three-pronged spear called a trident that was made for him by his nephew, Hephaestus, and/or a fish.



### Zeus

Zeus was the king of the hill. He was dominating, powerful and had a soft spot for pretty women. He could be terrifying when angry. His symbols were the thunderbolts, or lightning bolts made for him by the Cyclopes (his uncles); the eagle; and the scepter, or rod. Zeus is god of the sky



### Aphrodite

Hephaestus's wife, Aphrodite, whose Roman name was Venus, was the goddess of love and beauty. She was born out of sea foam when the blood of Uranus dropped into the ocean. She was the mother of Eros and was irresistibly charming, fickle, vain and competitive. Her symbol was a cestus, or magic belt, that made everyone fall in love with the wearer; sometimes she would lend it to humans. This is a famous painting of the birth of Venus, or Aphrodite, by Botticelli.



## Directions for: Create your OWN Greek God!!!

### Step 2. *Now it is time to create our own god!*

**Directions:** Using what you have learned from **Step 1**, create your own responses to **all 6** questions. These details will help you write your story. To make this fun, think about characteristics **you** have as you answer the questions!

1. God Name \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Easiest way to come up with a Greek sounding name is to use parts of your own name to make it. Write your full name on a sheet of paper and then try and combine the first part of one name and the last part of another to see what comes up.

i. Example :Christopher Lee Mercilllott

1. Chott
2. Meris
3. Leeott
4. Merher

2. Realm (What are they the God of) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. (What do you control? Pick a human emotion or characteristic like love, friendship, beauty, hate, intelligence, athletic ability, or a part of life on earth such as fire, water, wind, animals, plants. You are not limited to these examples)

3. Symbols (2-3)

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- a. What are they often seen with These symbols need to be related to what you are the god of.
- i. Example: God of beauty might have a mirror.
  - ii. Example: God of war, would have some type of weapon.
  - iii. Example: God of athletic ability would have a pair of shoes that make him/her go really fast.  
(No stealing my idea 😊)

4. Relatives

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- a. All of the gods are related to another in some way, pick 2 gods from the list of gods to be related too. You might use this in your story.

5. Typical emotions (pick 1-2)

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- a. Are they the jealous type, are they a perfectionist, judgmental, fun loving, ect.

6. Residence (Where do you live)? \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Most god live on Mount Olympus. You can choose to live in a mountain, in the ocean, on a private island. This might be part of your story.



## Directions for: Your God Story

### Step 3. *Be creative!*

*We have learned about many early civilizations this year who believed in many gods. We know that when early civilizations could not explain the how or why things happened in the world around them, they created myths to explain these natural or social occurrences and typically involves supernatural beings or events. For example, Ancient Greeks could not explain how or why water fell from the sky or what caused plants to grow. So, they created supernatural beings, gods, who controlled these events. You have learned about several of the primary gods in Step 1 of this project.*

*Ancient Greeks have myths to explain every aspect of life. For example, a person's successes and failures, thunder and lightning, and light and darkness were all caused and controlled by a god.*

**Directions:** You are challenged to use your learning about known Greek gods and your created god from Step 2, to write your own story. Use all the details from page 5 in your story. Have fun with this! Use your imagination! You can use the rest of this page and the back to write your story or a sheet of lined paper. Include an awesome illustration of your god!!!

**Step 4.** Again, while this is an enrichment project and not required for a grade, we would **love** for you to share your hard work with us! If you choose to, please see the directions on the first page of this project.