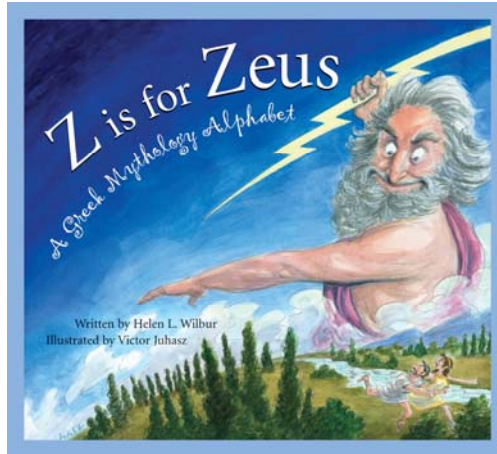


Teacher's Guide



Z is for Zeus A Greek Mythology Alphabet

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Athens or Sparta ?

Athens or Sparta ?

Ancient Greece was an amazing place. In *Z is for Zeus* you will learn about the beliefs that people had about the world. Enjoy learning about these myths and beliefs.

Athens and Sparta were two important city-states in ancient Greece. The people in each city lived very different lifestyles.

Place each word from the box under the city-state they describe.

arts	learning	discipline
hardship	philosophy	
	military service	democracy

ATHENS

SPARTA

1. Give three advantages to being a citizen of Athens.

2. List three advantages to being a citizen of Sparta.

Unscramble the Gods and Goddesses

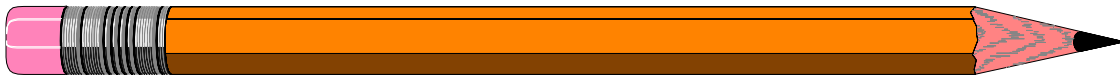
Throughout *Z is for Zeus* you will learn about many ancient Greek gods and goddesses. Each has an interesting story.

Unscramble the names of the gods and goddesses and then put them in alphabetical order.

1. szue _____
2. reemedt _____
3. oollap _____
4. taehpdori _____
5. hetana _____
6. simetra _____
7. meersh _____
8. easr _____
9. earh _____
10. eospnodi _____

Alphabetical order

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____



MYTHOLOGY CROSSWORD

All of the answers to this crossword can be found in *Z is for Zeus*. Enjoy the book and then search for the answers.

1. **M** _____
2. **Y** _____
3. **T** _____
4. **H** _____
5. **O** _____
6. **L** _____
7. **O** _____
8. **G** _____
9. **Y** _____

1. A story that explains the mysteries of the world

2. The color of the sun _____

3. A 3-pronged spear _____

4. The underground home of the dead _____

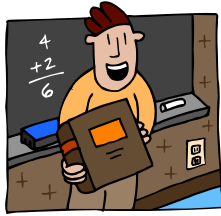
5. Zeus made himself supreme god and ruler of

6. A twisting maze _____

7. The hunter _____

8. The cradle of Western Civilization

9. Hebe was the goddess of _____



OLYMPIC MATH (FEET TO YARDS)

Greece is the birthplace of the Olympics. The book *Z is for Zeus* will share some of the myths about the people and creatures of ancient Greece with you. After you've read the book enjoy solving these problems.

1 yard = 3 feet

1. Poseidon rode his horse to visit a friend. He rode 1,500 feet. How many yards was this? _____

2. The minotaur was chasing Theseus around the labyrinth. They ran 6,000 feet before Theseus was caught. How many yards did they run? _____

3. The Trojan horse was 20 yards long. How many feet is that? _____

4. The Greeks pulled the Trojan horse 800 yards into their city. How many feet did they pull the horse? _____

5. Three goddesses each walked 700 yards to the market. What was the total number of feet walked to the market? _____



ANCIENT FORTUNE-TELLERS

Ancient Greeks believed that Oracles could tell them their fate. Read the story of “Pythia and the Oracle at Delphi” in the book *Z is for Zeus*.

1. How is an oracle like a modern fortune-teller?

2. Why should one believe/disbelieve a fortune-teller?

3. List three questions you would ask a fortune-teller.

4. If you could predict your own future, what would your life be like 20 years from now?



WANTED: ONE CENTAUR

What is a centaur and who would want one? Find the answer to this question in *Z is for Zeus*. Think about what it might be like to be a centaur.

Make a list of the advantages and the disadvantages of being half-human and half-horse.

Advantages

Disadvantages

Draw a picture of what you might look like if you were a centaur.

The Adventures of Icarus

There are many interesting characters throughout the book *Z is for Zeus*. Read the story of Icarus and his father on the Y page.

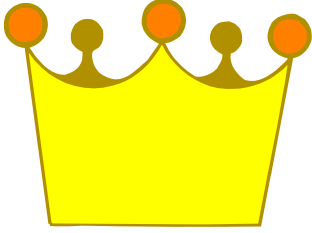
Draw a four-panel cartoon showing the problems of Icarus. Don't forget to use voice bubbles for the dialogue.

Make sure you show a complete thought or story in the four panels. If you enjoy cartooning you may want to do more than one cartoon. Have fun!

CREATE A LABYRINTH

What is a labyrinth? You can find the answer to this question in *Z is for Zeus*.

Use the space below to create your own labyrinth. Don't forget to hide a minotaur or two somewhere in the labyrinth.



THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS

King Midas thought he could be happy if everything he touched turned to gold. Read his story on the K page of *Z is for Zeus*.

What is the lesson we can learn from the story of King Midas?

Do you know anyone who loves things more than they love people? What kind of person is this?

If you had one wish, what would it be?

“Read All About It” Ancient Greece Press



You can learn all about Greek mythology in the book *Z is for Zeus*.
You might be surprised at the many different Greek gods and goddesses.

Choose a character and an event from Greek mythology and write a newspaper article describing the person and event.

Use the graphic organizer to help you organize your thoughts.

Who _____
What _____
Where _____
When _____
Why _____
How _____
Result _____

Write your article. Think of an eye-catching title!

FOOD FESTIVAL

Have you ever eaten Greek food? After you've learned about Greek mythology in *Z is for Zeus*, have a Greek food festival. Try feta cheese, olives, olive bread, Greek pastries, ambrosia, and Greek cookies.

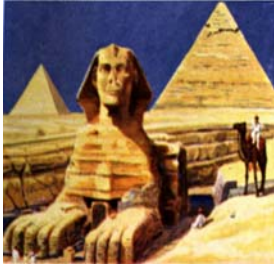
Greek Cookie Recipe

Ingredients

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 cup butter or margarine
4 tablespoons of powdered sugar
1 cup chopped walnuts
2 tablespoons water
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
powdered sugar for dusting cookies

Directions

1. Cream butter, add sugar gradually, and cream until smooth.
2. Blend in flour. Add nuts, water, and vanilla. Mix well.
3. Shape dough into 1-inch balls and then press down in the center.
4. Bake on an ungreased baking sheet at 350 degrees for 20 min.
5. Roll cookie in confectioner's sugar while warm.



THE RIDDLE OF THE SPHINX

A sphinx was a creature made up of a woman's head, a lion's body, and an eagle's wings. Learn about this strange creature in *Z is for Zeus*.

Opedipus was able to solve the riddle of the sphinx.

“What goes on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening?”

Try writing two riddles: one that might be easy to solve and one that is difficult to solve. This will take some thinking on your part.

Don't copy a riddle, come up with your own.

Riddle 1

Riddle 2

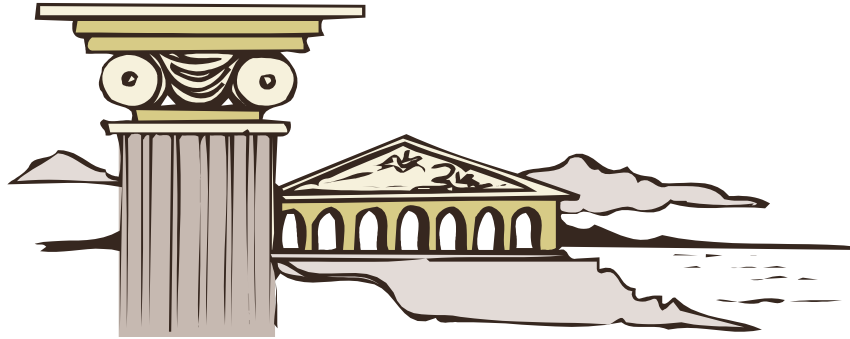


SPEAK GREEK!

It's always fun to learn words in a different language. Bonjour is French for "good day," adios is Spanish for "good-bye," and amigo is Spanish for "friend." Try to learn these Greek words that are found in *Z is for Zeus*.

Partner with a friend and see how quickly you can learn these Greek words and their meanings. Time yourself!

<u>Greek</u>	<u>English</u>
poli	city/state
planetos	wanderers
acropolis	high city
aidos	humility
agora	market
areté	mental excellence
omphalos	navel of the world



Greek Temple

On the A page of *Z is for Zeus* you will read about a temple that was designed and built to honor Athena.

Choose one character from the book and design a temple to honor that person or creature. Be sure to include all the symbols they stand for on the temple. Do a rough sketch before doing a final copy. If you prefer, you could design and construct a temple out of cardboard!



DRAW A GREEK VASE

The Greeks were famous for the artwork they put on their pottery. Read the book *Z is for Zeus* to get ideas about how to decorate a piece of pottery. Your drawing should be simple and easy.

Draw a vase and decorate it.



HEROES— PAST AND PRESENT

What makes a person a hero? Is a hero today different from a hero in Greek mythology? After reading *Z is for Zeus* make a chart comparing present-day heroes and Greek heroes.

Current hero traits

Greek hero traits



List three ways the heroes are alike.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List three ways the heroes are different.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

GAME

Greek Mythology Memory Game

Learn about the many characters from Greek mythology in *Z is for Zeus*.

Play the Memory Game by matching characters with their attributes.

Directions

Run off the cards on the next four pages on cardstock. Cut the cards apart.

1. Shuffle the cards and place in three rows of ten, facedown.
2. Take turns turning over two cards at a time. If the character and its description match, you keep those cards. If they don't match, turn the cards back down and lose your turn.
3. The person with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner.

Write five facts that you can remember from reading *Z is for Zeus*.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

ZEUS

**GOD OF THE SKY
RULER OF OLYMPUS
THUNDERBOLT**

HERA

**GODDESS OF
MARRIAGE

CROWN**

APOLLO

GOD OF LIGHT

HERMES

**MESSENGER OF
THE GODS

WINGED SANDALS
& HELMET**

ARTEMIS

**GODDESS OF THE
HUNT**

BOW

DEMETER

**GODDESS OF
AGRICULTURE**

SHEAF OF WHEAT

POSEIDON

RULER OF THE SEAS

TRIDENT

APHRODITE

**GODESS OF LOVE
& BEAUTY**

SWAN

ATHENA

GODDESS OF WISDOM

OWL

ARES

GOD OF WAR

SPEAR

MINOTAUR

**HALF-MAN AND
HALF-BULL**

FIERCE

BLOODTHIRSTY

ORPHEUS

POET & MUSICIAN

HOMER

BLIND POET

WROTE *ILLIAD*

KING MIDAS

**LOVED GOLD MORE
THAN ANYTHING**

NARCISSUS

**FELL IN LOVE
WITH HIS OWN
REFLECTION**

Z is for Zeus
Answer Sheet

Athens or Sparta- Athens- arts, learning, philosophy, democracy
Sparta-discipline, hardship, military service

Unscramble the gods and goddesses- 1) Zeus 2) Demeter 3) Apollo
4) Aphrodite 5) Athena 6) Artemis 7) Hermes 8) Ares 9) Hera
10) Poseidon

Alphabetical order- Aphrodite, Apollo, Ares, Artemis, Athena, Demeter,
Hera, Hermes, Poseidon, Zeus

Mythology crossword- 1) myth 2) yellow 3) trident 4) Hades 5) Olympus
6) labyrinth 7) Orion 8) Greece 9) youth

Memory Game-

Zeus-God of the sky
Artemis-Goddess of the hunt
Poseidon-Ruler of the seas
Apollo-God of light
Athena-Goddess of wisdom, culture
Minotaur-half-man, half-bull
Homer-blind poet
Narcissus-fell in love with his own reflection

Hera-Goddess of morning
Demeter-Goddess of agriculture
Aphrodite-Goddess of love and beauty
Hermes-Messenger of the gods
Ares-God of war
Orpheus-poet and musician
Midas-loved gold more than anything

Olympic math- 1) 500 2) 2,000 3) 60 4) 2,400 5) 6,300