D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths
By Ingri & Edgar Parin d'Aulaire

Lesson 1
- Read pages 8-15 Olden Times, Gaea and the Titan.
- Take the quiz.
  o Extra Credit – Create a volcano

Lesson 2
- Read pages 16-69, Zeus and His Family.
- Write a journal entry with details and questions about this reading.
- Take the quiz.
  o Extra Credit – Make an Astronomy Notebook

Lesson 3
- Read pages 70-107.
- Take the quiz.
  o Extra Credit – Make a Mask for a Greek Play

Lesson 4
- Read pages 108-147, Mortal Descendants of Zeus
- Write a journal entry – My favorite Norse myth was “Asgard and Odin” or Thor and the Trolls” because...
- Take the quiz.
  o Extra Credit – Paper Bag Puppets
  o Poseidon’s Domain

Lesson 5
- Read pages 148-189.
- Write a summary of “Jason and the Golden Fleece.”
- Write a journal entry – My favorite Roman myth was “Jason and the Golden Fleece” or “Perseus and Medusa” because...
- Mytical Math
- Take the quiz.
  o Extra Credit – Earthquake in a Bottle

Lesson 6
- Begin research activity.
Quiz Time: In Olden Times

Select the correct answer for each question.

1. Gaea, Mother Earth, had two husbands. Who were they?

2. The Titans were the first children of earth and sky. What other children did they produce?
   a. Cyclopes  b. monsters  c. Tartarus  d. Cyclopes and monsters

3. Cronus married Rhea. What did he do to their children?
   a. gave them each a kingdom  b. banished them to Tartarus  
   c. swallowed them  d. killed them at birth

4. Uranus was lord of the ________.
   a. sea  b. universe  c. underworld  d. Tartarus

5. Gaea’s children with one eye were called _____________.
   a. cyclopes  b. Titans  c. Tartarus  d. Typhons

6. Early man was created from the union of _____________.

7. Cronus was the son of _____________.

8. Rhea hid her sixth child from his father. Instead of the child she gave him a _____________.
   a. drink of wine  b. rock  c. kiss  d. monster

9. The child Rhea saved grew up to be _____________.

10. Who helped Rhea save her last child?
    a. Cronus  b. Zeus  c. Gaea  d. the Titans
The Workshops of Hephaestus:
Create a Volcano

A volcano is a special kind of mountain. Hephaestus built his forges inside mountains like Mt. Olympus. The sound of his workers working and the sparks they created rumbled out of the top of the mountains. In the real world we know that volcanoes contain hot molten rocks, steam, and gas. When the pressure becomes great, it forces its way up to the earth's surface from the center of the earth.

Follow the directions below to create your own Mt. Olympus or imitation volcano.

Materials:
- cone-shaped paper cup or a piece of film paper or lightweight cardboard folded to make a cone
- an 8" (20 cm) disposable aluminum pie pan or a cardboard box with a 1" (2.54 cm) lip
- one-half of an eggshell, washed and cleaned out
- a bit of clay to act as a rest for the eggshell
- enough soil and/or sand to cover the cone or cup
- a drop or two of red food coloring
- one-half (2.5 mL) teaspoon of baking soda
- enough vinegar to fill the egg-shell

Directions:
Cut the tip off the cone to form a flat resting place for the egg shell. (1) Place the drinking cup upside down in the aluminum pie plate. Attach the eggshell to the bottom of the cup with a small amount of clay. (2) Pile the sand or dirt up around the drinking cup and the eggshell so that it looks like a mountain or volcano. Make sure to leave the cone open at the top. (3) Fill the eggshell with vinegar and add a drop or two or red food coloring. The more food coloring you add, the deeper the red color of lava that will form. (4) Slowly add the one-half teaspoon (2.5 mL) of baking soda to the vinegar.
Quiz Time: Zeus and His Family

1. Zeus' first wife was ________________.
   a. Persephone  
   b. Prudence  
   c. Metis  
   d. Hera

2. After Cronus, ___________ became the lord of the universe.
   a. Zeus  
   b. Hera  
   c. Prometheus  
   d. Epimetheus

3. Atlas, the strongest of the Titans, was punished by having to ____________.
   a. perform 10 great deeds  
   b. weave a web for Artemis  
   c. hold up the vault of the sky on his shoulders  
   d. live forever in Tartarus

4. Gaea was angry at Zeus for ________________.
   a. fighting with his father  
   b. locking the Titans in Tartarus  
   c. not providing her with a grandson  
   d. sending Poseidon into the sea

5. Who were the two monsters Mother Earth brought forth to fight Zeus?
   a. Cronus and Zeus  
   b. Hades and Tartarus  
   c. Uranus and Pontus  
   d. Typhon and Echidna

6. The queen of the gods was ____________.
   a. Hera  
   b. Persephone  
   c. Hestia  
   d. Olympus

7. The god who preferred to stay in the underworld and never went to Olympus was ____________.
   a. Zeus' eldest brother  
   b. the lord of the dead  
   c. Hades  
   d. all of the above

8. Hephaestus, the god of smiths and fire, was a skilled craftsman who ________________.
   a. created thrones for gods to rest  
   b. made jewelry for Aphrodite  
   c. made the weapons the gods used  
   d. all of the above

9. The only goddess to have neither mother nor father was ________.
   a. Cynthera  
   b. Artemis  
   c. Aphrodite  
   d. Athena

10. Ares was ________________.
    a. the god of war  
    b. the half brother of the goddess Athena  
    c. admired by Athena  
    d. all of the above

11. Athena ____________.
    a. was the goddess of wisdom  
    b. was the daughter of Metis and Zeus  
    c. had a fly for a mother  
    d. all of the above

12. Arachne is famous for ________________.
    a. giving a gift to the city of Athens  
    b. being turned into a spider after insulting Athena  
    c. being the niece of Poseidon  
    d. none of the above

13. Poseidon was the ruler of ________________.
    a. the sea  
    b. Hades  
    c. Tartarus  
    d. the underworld

14. Hermes was the merriest of the Olympians and the god of ________.
    a. shepherds  
    b. travelers and merchants  
    c. thieves and those who lived by their wits  
    d. all of the above

15. Persephone was the daughter of Demeter, the goddess of the harvest. Demeter bargained with the gods to get her daughter back for half of the year.
    a. This is the myth that explains the seasons.  
    b. This is the myth that explains childbirth.  
    c. This is the myth that explains the change from day to night.  
    d. This is the myth that explains the daily weather in Greece.
Mythology in Astronomy Notebook

Create a Mythology in Astronomy notebook. Using a constellation map, study the constellations. Choose several constellations to research. For each page in the notebook, illustrate a constellation that is based upon a Greek myth.

Title it with its mythological name, then draw the constellation. Below the configuration of stars briefly tell how, according to Greek myth, the constellation was formed. Compile the pages to create a notebook.

Constellations that can be included in your notebook:

- Andromeda
- Cassiopeia
- Centaur: Sagittarius
- Dolphin
- Eagle
- Goat: Capricorn
- Hercules
- Hydra
- Lyre
- Orion
- Peacock
- Pegasus
- Perseus
- Scorpion: Scorpius
- Cancer
- Pisces
- Aries
- Taurus
- Gemini: Twins
- Leo
- Virgo
- Libra
- Cepheus
- Cygnus
- Pleiades

The Greek Hyparchus in 150 B.C. observed the constellations' configuration in the sky during given dates. The earth has changed position since then, and the constellations no longer appear at the same dates. The Romans gave us the names of the constellations. In naming them, the Romans adapted the Greek myths and created myths of their own.

Find out when the constellations appear today. Use an encyclopedia or an astronomy book as your resource.
Quiz Time: Minor Gods

1. Name the four winds. 

2. Who was the four winds’ mother? 

3. Helios, the sun, had one son named __________. What happened to him? __________

4. Who was Pan? 

5. Who was Narcissus? 

6. Who were the Centaurs? 

7. Name three of the nine Muses. 

8. Who was Orpheus? 

9. Who were the three fates? 

10. Who was Prometheus? 

11. What happened to Prometheus? 

12. Who was Pandora and why was she famous? 

13. Who was Deucalion and what did he do? 

14. Syrinx thought this god was so ugly that she ran away and changed herself into a reed. Who was the god she feared?
Masks for a Greek Play

The early Greeks wore animal masks and skins to worship their goddess of agriculture and their god of grapes. This use of masks during worship evolved into the theatrical use of masks.

One man would play several roles in a Greek play simply by changing masks. Greek masks were constructed of painted canvas. Sometimes a small megaphone was put in the mouthpiece of the mask. Special masks were made to be worn by villains or by the hero.

Choose a story from the chapter "Minor Gods." They construct masks.

Materials:

- mask pattern (page 24)
- white pipe cleaners
- cotton balls
- hole reinforceers
- white construction paper
- hole punch
- scissors
- white styrofoam egg cartons (to form nose or eyes)
- white yarn
- glue
- string

Directions:

1. Trace mask pattern onto $8 \frac{1}{2}" \times 11"/22 \text{ cm} \times 28 \text{ cm} \text{ white construction paper. Pattern may be made, reproduced, and duplicated to aid in cutting. Patterns may be enlarged using a copy machine.}$

2. Join points A-A, B-B, C-C, and D-D and staple at these points to give the face contour.

3. Have a partner lightly mark places for eyes, nose, and mouth. Trace desired outlines onto construction paper.

4. Cut spaces for eyes, nose, and mouth. Encourage students to utilize yarn, cotton balls, and egg cartons to add more contour to their masks.

5. Fold side pieces by ears as marked and reinforce the punched holes with notebook hole reinforceers. Tie string through holes so mask may be attached to the face.
Mask Pattern

A

B

C

D

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Quiz Time: Part I
Mortal Descendants of Zeus

Matching: Write the letter of the correct match next to the number.

________ 1. Europa
A. rolled boulder up hill only to have it roll down again

________ 2. Cadmus
B. began the Olympic games

________ 3. Tantalus
C. Queen of Crete

________ 4. Pelops
D. slayer of Medusa

________ 5. Sisyphus
E. born from Medusa’s neck

________ 6. Gorgon Sisters
F. touch of gold

________ 7. King Midas
G. sowed a field with dragon’s teeth

________ 8. Pegasus
H. 12 labors

________ 9. Perseus
I. made a stew of his son for the gods

________ 10. Bellerophon
J. the Titan who held up the sky

________ 11. Heracles
K. snakes for hair

________ 12. Atlas
L. fought the Chimera
After reading a myth of their choice, students construct paper bag puppets of the main characters.

Materials:
- paper bags
- scissors
- glue
- felt
- pipe cleaners
- colored paper
- yarn
- fabric
- colored pens
- crayons

Directions:
1. Each group should write down which characters they would need to make puppets in order to retell the story.
2. Choose and make paper bag puppets to show key parts of the story that are important to their group.
3. Each student should create a paper bag puppet for each main character in the story. They need to be sure to create puppets to fill all key roles and possibly some from supporting casts.
4. When puppets are made, the play will need to be practiced. This can be done as students use the puppets to retell the story.
5. Peer review with other students as they practice.
6. Perform the play to the class. If possible, be assessed by a small audience or a video.
Poseidon's Domain

Ocean in a Jar

Since Greece is surrounded by water, the ocean was an important part of the lives of the ancient people of Greece. Many of their stories are centered around the ocean and the great god Poseidon. The great heroes had to travel across the ocean to find adventure. Poseidon caused much mischief for the kings and queens of Crete and the heroes who came to save them.

The “Ocean in a Jar” is a great addition to any science table. Students can easily create it themselves. It is something everyone can enjoy.

Materials:

- blue food coloring (or a combination of blue and green food coloring for a more natural look)
- water
- clear, colorless salad oil
- a tall, clear plastic container with leak proof lid (Clear dish soap bottles or clear designer water bottles no larger than one liter work well.)

Directions:
1. Fill a clear container half full of water.
2. Add one or two drops of food coloring and stir until you have the desired color.
3. Fill almost to the top with salad oil. Let the bottle stand for 10 or 15 minutes so the air bubbles can rise to the top.
4. Seal the bottle. Try to keep as much air out of the bottle as possible, or air bubbles will appear.
5. Hold the bottle sideways. With just a gentle shake, wave after wave will fill the ocean in a jar.
### Mythical Math

Use the Greek myths to prepare a card file of math tasks that depend entirely upon the ancient myths for their numbers. Students will need to do research to find the answers to the problems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydra's heads + Hercules' labors =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Hercules spent 3 (\frac{1}{2}) days on each of his labors, how many days did it take him to finish all of them?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydra's head + Cyclopes eyes + Gorgon's sisters =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sphinx's feet (\times) Scylla's heads =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaea's children - the children of Cronus and Rhea =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeus' wives + the fates + Erinyes =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Muses + the Nereids =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hercules' great labors (\div) by the fates =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odysseus' voyage home (\times) Hercules' labors =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Trojan War (\times) Odysseus' voyage home =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Trojan War (\times) the Gorgons =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cronus' children (\times) number of sons (\div) by the number of daughters =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaea's children (\times) Cronus' children =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children Cronus swallowed (\times) children Uranus sent to Tartarus =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quiz Time: Part II
Mortal Descendants of Zeus

True or False

1. Daedalus was an inventor and an architect.
2. King Minos began to have trouble in his kingdom when he forgot to honor Poseidon.
3. Theseus overpowered and killed the Minotaur.
4. The Minotaur was half man and half bull.
5. Theseus married Ariadne and lived happily ever after.
6. The black sail on Theseus’ ship told King Aegeus that Theseus had been killed in battle.
7. Daedalus is famous for making two pairs of wings which he and his son Icarus used to escape from the palace of King Minos.
8. King Minos died in a bathtub of scalding water created by Daedalus.
9. Centaurs were never invited to wedding feasts because they behaved so badly.
10. Theseus was saved by Heracles.
11. Theseus was thin because he exercised a lot; thus all Athenians now have lean thighs.
12. Oedipus was the son of the King of Thebes.
13. Because an oracle said that Oedipus would kill his father, he left home intending never to see his parents again.
14. Oedipus had one daughter, Antigone.
15. Jason, raised by Chiron, was a warrior who went in search of the Golden Fleece.
16. King Pelias was a great friend to Jason and encouraged him on his quests.
17. Jason’s ship was called the Argo, and his men were called Argonauts.
18. Jason and the Argonauts fought the Harpies, the Furies, and the Gorgons.
20. Jason would not have succeeded in his quest for the Golden Fleece without Medea’s help.
21. Medea was Circe’s niece.
22. The Calydonian boar hunt was a search for a precious statue.
23. Achilles was dipped in fire as a baby to burn away his mortality and to make him immortal.
24. Helen and Clytemnestra were sisters who married Menelaus and Agamemnon.
25. The Trojan War began when Helen ran away with the hero Paris.
Earthquake in a Bottle

Myths are early man's attempts to explain how something was created or why it happened. This is sometimes called scientific phenomena. For example, the myth about Athena and Arachne explains how spiders were created and the story of Demeter and Persephone explains the seasons that Earth experiences.

Man held the gods responsible for all physical movements and geographical formations of the earth. When the earth shook, it was because the gods were not pleased with man or were fighting among themselves. Physical science now gives us a natural and scientific reason for the shaking of the earth.

Students can create earthquakes in the classroom with a few simple, recyclable supplies. Have students create a report in their journals with exactly happened.

Materials:
- 2 liter soda bottle (washed, dried, and with cap)
- approximately 2 cups (472 mL) of soil or dirt
- approximately 2 cups (472 mL) of sand
- 4 or 5 small rocks (about 3/4" (1.9 cm) in diameter)
- one 8" (20 cm) heavy duty balloon
- scissors

1. With the cap on the soda bottle to create pressure, poke a small hole about two inches (5 cm) from the bottom of the bottle.

2. Cover the hole with your finger to recreate the pressure inside the bottle and poke another hole about 2 1/2" or 3" (8 cm) down from the neck of the bottle.

3. Use the hole by the neck to cut off the top portion of the bottle. The cut off portion will look like a funnel.

4. Use the scissors to make the small hole at the bottom smooth but not any bigger than the tip of your finger.

5. Insert the balloon into the hole with the balloon end inside the bottle and the mouthpiece on the outside.

6. Pour the dirt, sand, and rock mixture gently into the bottle until the balloon is covered by an inch (2.54 cm) of dirt mixture.

7. Students may wish to plant small bits of plants to give the bottle island the look of a real landscape.

8. To create an earthquake, blow into the balloon mouthpiece and watch the earth move.
An Olympian Zoo

Choose a creature or subject group to research. Do the following:

1. Research your creature or subject. Find out what it looks like, what it did in Greek mythology, and what was its fate.

2. On one 5" x 8" (13 cm x 20 cm) card, draw your creature, using felt pens, crayons, paint, colored pencils, or a mixture of mediums. Detail the characteristics of each creature.

3. On another 5" x 8" card, print the information about your creature.

Creatures
- Calydonian Boar
- Centaur
- Cerberus
- Chimera
- Cyclops
- Erinyes
- Erymanthian Boar
- Furies
- Gorgons
- Circe
- Harpies
- Hecate
- Hydra
- Ladon
- Minotaur
- Nemean Lion
- Pegasus
- Python
- Satyr
- Sirens
- Scylla
- Sphinx

Subjects
- Major Titans
- Major Gods
- Mythological Places
- Giants and Monsters
- Mythology in Astronomy
- Greek Heroes