



In ancient Greek mythology, the Olympians were the gods who presided over every aspect of human existence after dethroning the Titans who had preceded them. (Image courtesy of Gordon Johnson via [Pixabay](#))

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INM307 Information Resources and Documentation Assignment

Introduction

This guide contains a collection of resources on an introduction to the Greek myths and ancient Greek culture. It is intended for teachers and student teachers who are working in primary education in all local authority maintained schools in England. The guide is designed to support the education of 7-11 year olds who are being introduced to Greek mythology and the study of ancient Greek culture through subjects such as English and History at Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6). Many of the resources are also suitable for home use by the pupil, but this selection is left to the discretion of the teacher.

The resources included in this guide are organised into lower Key Stage 2 (7-9 year olds), and upper Key Stage 2 (9-11 year olds). When a resource is appropriate for both lower and upper key stage 2 it has been included twice. The resources are also organised into 3 colour-coded categories. The first category is intended for sole use by the teacher and student teacher and is coded blue. The second category is intended for teaching in a classroom or workshop, or for a presentation or exhibition and is coded green. The third category is intended for classroom use and for home use by the pupil and is coded yellow.

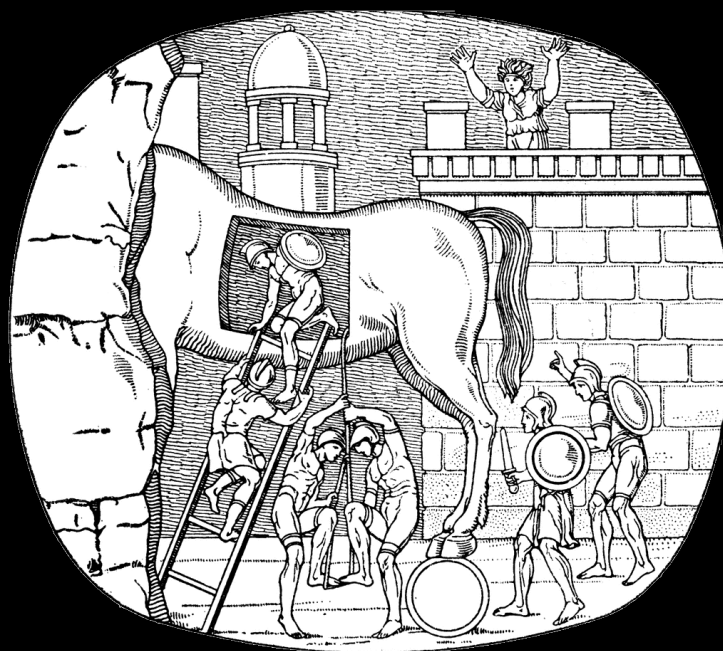
The guide contains physical resources such as books and museums; and online resources such as webpages, videos and audio clips. All online resources are freely accessible, but physical resources such as books would need to be selectively purchased, and not all exhibitions are free of charge. It is hoped that this guide will support the teacher and encourage the pupil to continue developing an interest in the Greek myths and ancient Greek culture at later key stages in their education.



In the Greek myths, Atlas bore the weight of the heavens on his shoulders, a punishment given to him by Zeus for leading the Titan rebellion against the Olympians. (Image courtesy of Skeptacular via [Pixabay](#))

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In Greek mythology, the Trojan horse was given to the Trojans by the Greeks. It had the appearance of a gift but was really a war strategy. (Image courtesy of [FCIT](#))

Lower Key Stage 2

Introduction to Ancient Greece

This guide begins by listing physical and online resources that are suitable for incorporating into lesson plans for pupils in Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3-4).

Books

Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes & Monsters by

Donna J. Napoli (National Geographic, 2011)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 9781426308444

Category: Classroom use

This book has won multiple awards in North America that include the School Library Journal Best Books of 2011. It is widely used in a classroom environment and is recommended for children that are 8 years and over.

Make this Greek Temple by Iain Ashman (Usborne Publishing, 2008)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 0746093527

Category: Classroom use

This book contains cut-out pages that children can glue together to create a Greek temple. Suitable for children that are 8 years and over.

D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths by Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire (Doubleday, 1992)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 9780440406945

Category: Classroom & home use

First published in 1962, this book is still one of the best introductions to the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece. It covers the major gods, minor gods and the mortal descendants of Zeus. Recommended for children that are aged 8 years and over.

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The Iliad and the Odyssey by Marcia Williams (Walker Books, 2006)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1406303488

Category: Classroom & home use

Marcia Williams' popular retelling of two classic epics of ancient Greece that incorporates comic book style illustrations that make the stories very accessible. Suitable for 7-9 year olds.

Greek Myths by Marcia Williams (Walker Books, 2011)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 0763653845

Category: Classroom & home use

Marcia Williams' comic strip approach to Greek mythology in this book has proved very successful for stimulating young minds. Suitable for children up to 9 years old.

A Visitor's Guide to Ancient Greece by Lesley Sims (Usborne Publishing Ltd, 2014)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1409566161

Category: Classroom & home use

Lesley Sims' book is an excellent introduction to life in ancient Greece and is packed with detail. Suitable for children that are 7 years and over.

The Orchard Book of Greek Myths by Geraldine McCaughrean (Orchard Books, 2013)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1408324377

Category: Classroom & home use

This book contains 16 popular Greek myths that follow the adventures of the heroes and heroines of ancient Greek mythology retold in an accessible storytelling language. Suitable for children up to the age of 11.

Greek Myths and Legends by Anne Millard and Cheryl Evans (Usborne Publishing, 2007)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 9780746087190

Category: Classroom & home use

This book is fully illustrated and contains a full index on the gods, goddesses, heroes and monsters of ancient Greece which makes it ideal for studying mythology or for researching a project. Suitable for children up to the age of 8.

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Daily Life in Ancient Greece by Lisa M. Bolt Simons (Capstone Global Publishing)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1474717446

Category: Classroom & home use

An accessible and informative book explaining what life was like for adults and children living in Ancient Greece. Suitable for children up to the age of 8.

Presentations

Presentation: Greek myths (The British Museum)

Source Type: Museum (London)

Category: Presentation

Cost: £1 per pupil

https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/sessions/greek_myths.asp

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An interactive presentation at The British Museum that uses images from Athenian pottery to explain how the Greeks told a story using pictures. Support notes for the presentation are included here:

https://www.britishmuseum.org/pdf/events/4576_1286_BM_Greekmyths.pdf

Workshops

Ancient Greece: Myths, Gods and Celebrations (Birmingham Museums)

Source Type: Museum (Birmingham)

Category: Workshop

Cost: £4 per pupil

http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/school_sessions/167

An interactive session at Birmingham Museums where pupils act out an ancient play based on a myth using role play, costumes and music.

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Websites/Webpages

Primary Ancient Greeks (University of Cambridge School Classics Project)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

<http://www.primaryancientgreeks.com/>

A very comprehensive resource that contains materials for teaching literacy and history through Greek myths.

Mensa for Kids (Mensa Foundation)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

<https://www.mensaforkids.org/teach/lesson-plans/an-introduction-to-greek-mythology/>

This is a resource guide from the Mensa Foundation that contains six lesson plans for introducing Greek mythology to children. The plans include lessons on Greek creation mythology, the Olympian gods and creating your own myth.

Origin and History of the Olympic Games (Scholastic)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/athens_games/history.htm

An online resource that explains the origin and history of the Olympic Games, its principles, traditions and politics, and how it has been updated for modern times.

Ancient Greeks: Everyday Life, Beliefs and Myths (My Learning)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom use

<https://www.mylearning.org/stories/ancient-greeks-everyday-life-beliefs-and-myths/411>

An extremely detailed teaching resource that is an excellent starting point for introducing ideas about everyday life in Ancient Greece.

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Ancient Greek (Literacy through Classics Project)

Source Type: Website

Category: Classroom & home use

<http://literacythroughclassics.weebly.com/ancient-greek.html>

This resource guide has been created by students at Swansea University and contains an extensive range of resources that can be used in the classroom but are also accessible to parents and children for home use.

What was it like to live in an ancient Greek family? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zc8yb9q>

This is a high-quality resource already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 that contains images, text and interactive material on what it was like to live in an ancient Greek family. Suitable for 7 year olds and over.

Who were the ancient Greeks? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zxytpv4>

This resource is already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 and presents a very accessible early history of Ancient Greece. It includes an interactive map that presents facts on 6 of the ancient cities of this time that include Corinth, Olympia and Sparta.

The ancient Greeks at war (BBC Bitesize)

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zckr4wx>

Source Type: Interactive webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

This resource is already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2. It contains images, text and interactive materials on the Greeks at war, and the famous battles of Marathon, Thermopylae and Salamis. Suitable for 7 year olds and over.

5 Terrifying Tales from Greek Mythology (National Geographic Kids)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/greece/greek-myths/>

A well-presented resource that introduces 5 well-known Greek fables. These include Perseus and Medusa and The Labours of Heracles.

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The gods and goddesses of ancient Greece (National Geographic Kids)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/greece/greek-gods/>

A high-quality and well-presented resource that provides information on the gods and goddesses of Ancient Greece. These include Zeus, Hera and Poseidon.

10 facts about ancient Greece (National Geographic Kids)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/greece/10-facts-about-the-ancient-greeks/>

A well-presented resource that provides concise information on the formation of Ancient Greek civilisation nearly 4000 years ago.

Greek Gods and Goddesses (History for kids)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom and home use

<http://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-greek-gods.html>

An online resource that contains an introduction to the 12 Olympian gods.

Downloadable documents

English programmes of study – key stages 1 and 2 (National Curriculum in England)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/335186/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_English_220714.pdf

In the National Curriculum programme of study for English in Years 3 and 4 it states on page 26 that:

‘Pupils should be taught to recognise themes in what they read, such as the triumph of good over evil.’

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History programmes of study - Key stages 1 and 2 (National Curriculum in England)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239035/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_History.pdf

In the National Curriculum programme of study for History at Key Stage 2 it states on page 5 that pupils should increase their knowledge of the following:

‘the legacy of Greek or Roman culture (art, architecture or literature) on later periods in British history, including the present day’.

‘Ancient Greece - a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world.’

Year 3: Ancient Greece (Core Knowledge)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

<http://www.coreknowledge.org.uk/resources/Resource%20Pack-%20Year%203-%20Ancient%20Greece-%20Unit%201.pdf>

This highly detailed teaching resource contains 5 lesson plans on the following topics: Greek City States; Athenian Democracy; Sparta; The Persian Wars; the battles of Marathon and Thermopylae.

Ancient Greek Colouring Sheets (History for kids)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Classroom use

<http://www.historyforkids.net/greek-coloring.html>

This webpage has a selection of downloadable line drawings of the gods and goddesses that can be coloured-in.

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Primary Extra (Primary Extra)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Classroom use

This webpage has a selection of downloadable 'colouring-in' materials that have been included here:

Heracles and the Hydra – Black & White

http://www.primaryextra.co.uk/free_downloads/heracles_hydra_mono.pdf

King Midas and his Golden Touch' by Gareth Pitchford - Black & White

http://www.primaryextra.co.uk/free_downloads/midas_mono.pdf

The Trojan Horse by Gareth Pitchford - Black & White

http://www.primaryextra.co.uk/free_downloads/trojan_mono.pdf

Video

Who were the ancient Greek gods and heroes? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage/Video [2 mins 49 secs]

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zgt7mp3>

This is a high-quality resource already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 that introduces the Greek fables. The site contains text and interactive materials. The video material contains moderate violence, so discernment is required before recommending this webpage for home use or screening this content in a classroom environment.

How did the Olympic Games begin? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage/Video [2 mins 42 secs]

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z36j7ty>

This is a high-quality resource already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 that introduces the ancient Olympic Games. The site contains text, interactive materials and a short video.

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What do we know about ancient Greek culture? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage/Video [1 min 39 secs]

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zgpdjxs>

This is a high-quality resource already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 that introduces Greek theatre. The site also contains text on Greek architecture, sculpture and drama festivals.

How did the ancient Greeks change the world? (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Interactive webpage/Videos [1 min 42 secs]; [5 mins 11 secs]

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z8q8wmn>

This is a high-quality resource already associated with the teaching of History at Key Stage 2 that contains two videos. The first short video emphasises the Greek roots of our own culture and the second slightly longer video focuses on the Greek mathematician Archimedes.

Narcissus (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Animation [4 mins 41 secs]

Category: Classroom & home use

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zms6n39>

This is useful example of vanity and selfishness that can be incorporated into lesson plans.

Midas (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Animation

Category: Classroom & home use [4 mins 57 secs]

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/z7pmhyc>

This is a useful example of how to update a mythological fable to present day that can be incorporated into lesson plans.

Jason and Medea (BBC Bitesize)

Source Type: Animation

Category: Classroom & home use [4 mins 56 secs]

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zqh2tfr>

This is another example of how to update a mythological fable to present day that can be incorporated into lesson plans.

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Audio

Primary History KS2: Ancient Greece (BBC School Radio)

Source Type: Webpages/Audio

Category: Classroom/home use

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03g64rg/clips>

A good resource that contains a playlist of audio tracks that introduce 8 well known fables. These include Persephone and Hades, Theseus and the Minotaur, and Perseus and Medusa. Clips are between 3 and 6 minutes in length.

KS2 Music: Heroes of Troy (BBC School Radio)

Source Type: Webpages/Audio

Category: Classroom/home use

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05hvb84/clips>

Another good resource that contains a playlist of 7 audio tracks on the Heroes of Troy. Clips are between 6 and 8 minutes in length.

Classical Tales (University of Cambridge Faculty of Education)

Source Type: Website/Audio

Category: Classroom use

<http://classictales.educ.cam.ac.uk/>

An extensive website of listening and learning resources produced by award-winning storytellers Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden. Stories include Aesop's Fables: Stories of a Slave and Metamorphoses: Tales of Change. Clips are between 1 and 34 minutes in length.

Ancient Greece for kids (Ducksters)

Source Type: Webpage/Audio

Category: Classroom use

https://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_greece.php

A detailed resource that contains a large playlist of audio tracks that introduce many facets of Greek mythology including The Iliad and The Odyssey. Clips are between 3 and 6 minutes in length.

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Upper Key Stage 2

Introduction to Ancient Greece

This guide continues by listing physical and online resources that are suitable for incorporating into lesson plans for pupils in Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5-6).

Books

Beasts of Olympus: Beast Keeper by Lucy Coats (Picadilly Press, 2015)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1848124392

Category: Classroom & home use

The first novel in the popular Beasts of Olympus series, it provides a humorous introduction to the gods, goddesses and monsters of Greek mythology. The recommended age range is 9-11 years.

Atticus the Storyteller: 100 Stories from Greece by Lucy Coats (Orion Children's Books, 2003)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 0752890395

Category: Classroom & home use

This book was shortlisted for the 2004 BBC Blue Peter Book Award. The recommended age range is 9-11 years.

Terry Deary's Best Ever Greek Legends by Terry Deary (Scholastic, 2014)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1407147358

Category: Classroom & home use

This book presents classic Greek legends with a modern twist. Suitable for children that are 9 years and over.

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Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (Puffin, 2013)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 9780141346809

Category: Classroom & home use

The first best-selling book in the remarkably successful Percy Jackson series. Suitable for children that are 9 years and over.

Ancient Greece by DK Eyewitness (DK Children, 2014)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1409343650

Category: Classroom & home use

This book contains a lot of visual material on Ancient Greece and is part of a larger collection that supports National Curriculum Key Stage 2 learning. Suitable for children that are 9 years and over.

Greek Myths by Ann Turnbull (Walker Books, 2012)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1406339385

Category: Classroom & home use

This book is beautifully written and illustrated and contains seventeen timeless stories. Suitable for children that are 9 years and over.

Artemis: Wild Goddess of the Hunt by George O'Connor (Macmillan, 2017)

Source Type: Book

ISBN: 1626725225

Category: Classroom & home use

This graphic novel is written and illustrated by New York Times best-selling author George O'Connor and is part of his Olympian series. Suitable for children that are 9 years and over.

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Exhibitions

Ancient Greece: Gods and goddesses (The British Museum)

Source Type: Museum (London)

Category: Exhibition

Cost: Free entry

https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/all_resources-1/resource_gods_and_godesses.aspx

The British Museum has a permanent exhibition of Greek artefacts on display that includes Athenian pottery depicting mythological fables. A resource guide for visiting the museum and background information on the gods and goddesses are included here:

https://www.britishmuseum.org/PDF/Visit_Greece_Gods_KS2.pdf

https://www.britishmuseum.org/pdf/events/4576_1286_BM_Greekmyths.pdf

Ancient Greeks gallery (Great North Museum Hancock)

Source Type: Museum (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Category: Exhibition

Cost: Free entry

<https://greatnorthmuseum.org.uk/whats-on/ancient-greeks>

A collection of ancient Greek artefacts that are on permanent display. Pupils can also listen to stories on the Greek myths from audio recordings.

Workshops

Ancient Greece: myths and monsters (National Museums Liverpool)

Source Type: Museum (Liverpool)

Category: Workshop

Cost: Free entry

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/schools-and-groups/workshops/ancient-greece-myths-monsters.aspx>

An interactive session at National Museums Liverpool that explores the myths of ancient Greece. The workshop involves dressing up, role-playing and team games.

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Bristol Museum & Art Gallery

<https://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/bristol-museum-and-art-gallery/learning/discover-ancient-greeks/>

Source Type: Museum (Bristol)

Category: Workshop

Cost: £5 per pupil

An interactive workshop where fragments of Greek pottery are studied to identify different Greek fables.

Websites/Webpages

Primary Ancient Greeks (University of Cambridge School Classics Project)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

<http://www.primaryancientgreeks.com/>

A very comprehensive resource that contains materials for teaching literacy and history through Greek myths.

Mensa for Kids (Mensa Foundation)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

<https://www.mensaforkids.org/teach/lesson-plans/an-introduction-to-greek-mythology/>

This is a resource guide from the Mensa Foundation that contains six lesson plans for introducing Greek mythology to children. The plans include lessons on Greek creation mythology, the Olympian gods and creating your own myth.

Origin and History of the Olympic Games (Scholastic)

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/athens_games/history.htm

An online resource that explains the origin and history of the Olympic Games, its principles, traditions and politics, and how it has been updated for modern times.

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Gods & Goddesses (The British Museum)

Source Type: Interactive webpage/Animation

Category: Classroom use

http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk/gods/story/sto_set.html

An interactive resource from the British Museum that tells the story of an animal sacrifice using imagery from the lid of an ancient Greek vase. The sequence concludes with a short animation that is quite graphic. It is also worth considering that this resource might upset vegetarians and vegans so discernment should be used when using this teaching resource.

Ancient Greece (The British Museum)

Source Type: Interactive webpage

Category: Classroom use

http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk/gods/explore/exp_set.html

An interactive resource from the British Museum that introduces the 12 Olympian gods through images of ancient Greek artefacts such as pottery, statues and coins. Discernment should be used when using this teaching resource.

Gods and Goddesses symbol game (The British Museum)

Source Type: Interactive webpage

Category: Classroom use

http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk/gods/challenge/cha_set.html

An interactive game from the British Museum in which symbols used on ancient artefacts are matched against pictures that represent these symbols. Discernment should be used when using this teaching resource.

Greek Mythology (Mythweb)

Source Type: Website

Category: Classroom and home use

<http://www.mythweb.com/>

An extensive online resource that includes information on the Greek myths and an encyclopedia on ancient Greek culture.

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Myths about the Ancient Greek Gods for Kids (Mr Donn)

Source Type: Website

Category: Classroom and home use

<https://greece.mrdonn.org/myths.html>

An extremely detailed website that contains many Greek fables and background information on the Gods and Goddesses.

Mythman (Mythman)

Source Type: Website

Category: Classroom and home use

<http://mythman.com/>

An award-winning Greek mythology homework help site that includes information on important characters and mythology in modern society.

Greek Mythology (Encyclopedia Mythica)

Source Type: Website

Category: Classroom and home use

<https://pantheon.org/mythology/greek/>

A high-quality encyclopedia with extensive information on Greek mythology.

Downloadable documents

English programmes of study – key stages 1 and 2 (National Curriculum in England)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/335186/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_English_220714.pdf

In the National Curriculum programme of study for reading comprehension in English in Years 5 and 6 it states on page 33 that pupils should increase:

‘their familiarity with a wide range of books, including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and books from other cultures and traditions.’

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History programmes of study - Key stages 1 and 2 (National Curriculum in England)

Source Type: PDF

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239035/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_History.pdf

In the National Curriculum programme of study for History at Key Stage 2 it states on page 5 that pupils should increase their knowledge of the following:

‘the legacy of Greek or Roman culture (art, architecture or literature) on later periods in British history, including the present day.’

‘Ancient Greece – a study of Greek life and achievements and their influence on the western world.’

The Lightning Thief: A Teacher’s Guide (Rick Riordan)

Source Type: Word document

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

http://rickriordan.com/resource_type/teachers-guides/

A teacher’s guide for every chapter of the book, The Lightning Thief for teachers who would like to incorporate this children’s book into Greek mythology lessons.

ClipArt ETC (Florida Center for Instructional Technology)

<https://etc.usf.edu/clipart/galleries/87-greek-mythology>

Source Type: Website

Category: Teacher and student teacher resource

This resource has a large selection of downloadable images of ancient Greek art that also contains images on Greek mythology. The resource has a free classroom license but states that a maximum of fifty images can be downloaded for teaching purposes.

Video

Greek Gods Overview by Matthew Barrett

Source Type: YouTube/Video [7 mins 28 secs]

Category: Classroom use

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=26&v=N5gRZ-C0vOc

An animated introduction to Greek mythology that focuses on the Olympian gods and their personalities.

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Minoans (International School History)

Source Type: YouTube/Video [8 mins 1 sec]

Category: Classroom use

A documentary on the Minoan civilization and its connection to the Greek mythology of King Minos and the Minotaur.

Audio

Ancient Greek Music – The Lyre of Classical Antiquity by Michael Levy

Source Type: YouTube/Audio [9 mins 48 secs]

Category: Classroom use

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIERNFoEf3Y>

This audio track features Greek-themed lyre music as well as actual surviving fragments of the music of ancient Greece.

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Reflection

My intention was to create a guide that could be legitimately incorporated into subjects taught in the National Curriculum in England and is intended for teachers and student teachers. I decided to prepare a guide to information resources on the Greek Myths and ancient Greek culture because it is a subject that interests me, but also a subject that I have limited knowledge of. Although I experienced recurring doubts that I do not have the authority to construct a guide on this subject because I do not have any expertise on ancient Greece, or experience of teaching in the education system in the UK, I felt that if I kept within the parameters of learning resources that have already been designated as Key Stage 2 or are age appropriate, then I would be able to stay on target for producing a legitimate teaching resource.

I was inspired to undertake this project after reading an article in *The Telegraph* about Carnegie Medal-winning author Kevin Crossley-Holland who has been advocating for two decades that children should be taught a careful selection of the Greek myths in school. Crossley-Holland believes that myths and legends are models for transmitting values and virtue by stealth, in which the principles of right and wrong behaviour are revealed, rather than stated (Furness, 2013).

My original idea was to produce a resource guide that supported the education of children who are studying ancient Greek culture within subjects such as English, History and Drama at Key Stage 3, and for young adults who are studying for a GCSE in Ancient History at Key Stage 4. However, I soon discovered that in local authority maintained schools in England, learning about ancient Greek culture is not compulsory after Key Stage 2 of primary education, and the majority of state-funded schools do not teach this material at all at Key Stage 3 in secondary education. This is in stark contrast to most grammar and independent schools that teach ancient Greek culture as part of Classical Civilisation and Ancient History throughout the entirety of secondary education. It quickly became apparent that the relationship between the subject I had chosen and the education system in England is somewhat politically-charged.

With this in mind I decided to reconfigure my original idea to focus on Key Stage 2 resources, and still follow my original intention to create a guide that could be legitimately incorporated into subjects taught in the National Curriculum in England. For the programme of study for English in Years 3 and 4, the National Curriculum guidelines state that pupils should be made aware of the 'the triumph of good over evil' (Department of Education, 2013, p. 26); and for Years 5 and 6, pupils should be familiar with myths 'from other cultures and traditions' (Department of Education, 2013, p. 33). In the programme of study for History at Key Stage 2

the guidelines state that pupils should be able to understand the legacy of Greek culture and ‘their influence on the western world’ (Department of Education, 2013, p. 5).

Although I did not adapt any existing guides for this project, I did include and extend the web resources from *An Introduction to Greek Mythology* (Mensa for Kids, 2019), and this teaching resource became the starting point for my assignment. For the construction of the guide, although there is a vast amount of information on the Greek myths and ancient Greek culture available on the Internet, I only included educational resources that are already associated with the teaching of this subject at Key Stage 2, or other high-quality information resources that are also considered reputable. To fulfil this second criteria, I only included material that is either well-established, or recommended by other Key Stage 2 resources. As is the case with history information, a selection of the resources are traditional in nature, with an emphasis placed on memory institutions, but because the Greek myths and ancient Greek culture are also taught in primary education, there are a lot of modern resources also included such as websites, videos and audio clips. I have included a selection of primary and secondary resources as both are important to teachers and student teachers seeking information in this domain.

Through my research I discovered lots of subscription sites with downloadable teaching materials, but I wanted to provide access to resources without having to login as a member to a paywall or free site. I wanted all the downloadable materials included in the guide to be both immediate and free of charge, so I excluded resources that utilised paywalls or sites such as TES that offer free membership after completing an online registration. However, there was one exception from TES that I was reluctant to exclude because it is such a high-quality and detailed teaching resource that is available to preview, so I have included it here:

The Labours of Heracles texts and pictures by J.M. Powell (TES)

Source Type: Webpage

Category: Classroom use

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/the-labours-of-heracles-texts-and-pictures-11062622#>

An online resource on the 12 Labours of Heracles that is available to preview and can be downloaded after registering with TES. The work is under a Share-alike Creative Commons license which means that the document can only be shared in its original version and not edited or remixed in any way.

With regards to the presentation of the guide, I was influenced by the black and reddish-orange colours of ancient Greek pottery, but also by the aesthetic of lined-paper to frame each annotated resource, in keeping with the theme of note-taking and learning. The guide

is divided into sections based on physical and online learning materials, but I also wanted to organise the resources in a way that would assist the teacher and student teacher in the different ways that the guide can be used. I decided to use the colour-coded scheme of blue, green and yellow for clarity and simplicity and also included the subheadings of 'Source Type', 'ISBN' and 'Category' for identifying more specific information within the colour-coded schemes. As the guide is intended to encourage browsing and exploration of the resources, I think it is best presented online although it is still usable as a printed hard copy. I have included working hyperlinks that have been 'live' for a long time and will hopefully continue to be so. I have thoroughly enjoyed creating this resource guide and the experience has taught me a great deal about the importance of resource guide creation, and the ongoing relevance of the Greek myths and ancient Greek culture in our modern world.

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