



Harry Potter and Greek Mythology!



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HARRY POTTER AND GREEK MYTHOLOGY!

SUBJECT Language Arts, Media Studies

GRADE Sixth-Eighth

OBJECTIVES Students will:

1. Read Harry Potter Book 1(Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone).
2. Review the elements in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series that have made it such a success.
3. Students will create a book report including these elements. (The Book Report Form is a saved document in The teacher's folder. You need to access, complete and e-mail it to the teacher after saving it to your documents.
4. Reflect on the use of unusual names, both real and imaginary relating to Greek mythology. Finish the worksheet of 12-word glossary of Greek legendary creatures and myths. Find each word's counterpart in the book.

STANDARDS **NCTE English Language Arts Standards**

- 2 - Demonstrate ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs and compositions.
- 3 -All students will focus on meaning and communication as they listen, speak, view and write in personal, social, occupational, and civic contents.
- 5 -All students will read and analyze a wide variety of classic and contemporary literature and other texts to seek information. Ideas, enjoyment, and understanding of their individuality, our common heritage and common humanity, and the rich diversity of our society.
- 6 -All students will learn to communicate information accurately and effectively and demonstrate their expressive abilities by creating oral, written, and visual

texts that enlighten and engage an audience.

ISTE NETS for Students

- 1- Basic operations and concepts.
- 3 -Technology productivity tools.
- 4 -Technology communication tools.
- 5 -Technology research tools.
- 6 -Technology problem-solving and decision-making tools.

MATERIALS

Harry Potter Book 1(Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone)

Worksheet Importance of Names.

Computers

Book Report Form : http://www.education-world.com/tools_templates/bookreport_fiction.doc

Interactive Quiz Activity (is a saved document in The teachers folder.

You need to access it and complete it.

PROCEDURES

1. Assign each student to read Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone . (3 weeks)
(The school library has a class set of thirty books)
2. After the reading assignment is finished , groups of 3-4 students will brainstorm the elements in making the book a success . Read The New York Times book review and discuss it as a class activity. (1 work period)
3. Go to the computer lab to work on the book report. Students work in the lab for 1 work period and email the form to themselves to finish as homework assignment.
4. In the class have a class discussion finding the common elements in the book and Greek mythology. Assign the worksheet - The Importance of Names as homework. (1 work period)
5. The students go to the computer lab to do the interactive powerpoint Quiz. (1 work period)

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated based on the written book report, participation in class discussions , successfully

accessing the documents , and successful completion of the Quiz.

REFLECTIONS The students really enjoyed the reading and also the non – readers excited about the project and finished the book slowly. Some students needed couple of extra days.

ANSWER SHEET

Question 1: *Nope, Fluffy isn't one-of-a-kind. What is the name of the giant three-headed watchdog in Greek myth?*

Cerberus Augeas The Cerynian Hind

Correct answer: *Cerberus*

Cerberus guards the entrance to Hades (the underworld). The hero Hercules wrestled down and kidnapped Cerberus.

Question 2: *Like Fluffy, Cerberus was once lulled to sleep by beautiful music. Which legendary musician enchanted Cerberus with song?*

Apollo Orpheus Eurydice

Correct answer: *Orpheus*

Orpheus wanted to visit the underworld to see his dead wife. Using the lovely music of his harp, Orpheus sent Cerberus snoozing and walked right in.

Question 3: *The lightning bolt on Harry's forehead was the symbol of which Greek god?*

Zeus Hermes Dionysus

Correct answer: *Zeus*

Zeus, god of the sky, hurled lightning bolts at earthly targets.

Question 4:

In Greek mythology, Hermione was the daughter of King Menelaus of Sparta and this famous beauty:

Dido Aphrodite Helen of Troy

Correct answer: *Helen of Troy*

When Helen sailed away with the Trojan prince Paris, she left behind nine-year-old Hermione, her only child.

Question 5: *The hippocampus—half horse, half sea-creature—appears not just in Harry Potter but pulling the chariot of this mythological ruler:*

Athena Poseidon Pegasus

Correct answer: *Poseidon*

These quick and lovely beasts drew the underwater chariot of Poseidon, god of the sea.

Question 6: *The Hogwarts caretaker Argus Filch may bring to mind the mythical Greek guard Argus, who was said to have a hundred eyes a hundred ears a hundred feet*

Correct answer: *a hundred eyes*

Argus was slain by Hermes, the messenger god. Afterward, Argus's many eyes became the eyes on the peacock's tail.

Question 7: *Ancient Greek gods and goddesses were often depicted with a nimbus—not a flying broom but a shining bird cloud wand*

Correct answer: *cloud*

A nimbus might shine from around gods and goddesses while they were on Earth.

Question 8: *In The Goblet of Fire, Harry meets a sphinx who asks him a riddle. Which troubled mortal in Greek mythology meets a sphinx and solves her riddle?*

Theseus Hercules Oedipus

Correct answer: *Oedipus*

Question 9: *Professor McGonagall's first name, Minerva, is the Roman name for which Greek goddess?*

Artemis Athena Demeter

Correct answer: *Athena*

Athena was the Greek goddess of wisdom and the goddess of war and peace. She was a great help to heroes such as Odysseus and Hercules.

*Question 10: Centaurs roam the Forbidden Forest by Hogwarts. In Greek mythology, centaurs are half man and half
bull goat horse*

Correct answer: horse

The most famous Greek centaur was named Chiron. He was a teacher to a number of Greek heroes, including Jason, Achilles, and Hercules.

Question 11: Sirens, selkies, and merrows are better known as

- a. Leprechauns*
- b. Ghouls*
- c. Merpeople*

Correct answer: Merpeople

*Question 12: The Chimera has a goat's body, a dragon's tail, and the head of
a*

- a. Lion*
- b. Lamb*
- c. Dragon*

Correct answer: Merpeople

- Question 13:** *Basilisk is a*
- a. *a brilliant green serpent*
 - b. *a small parasite*
 - c. *a large bird*

Correct answer: *A brilliant green serpent*

Question 14: *Here's the riddle Oedipus solved: What walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening?*

The answer: *a human. People crawl as babies, walk on two legs in adulthood, and rely on a cane in old age.*



Harry Potter And Greek Mythology worksheet



The Importance Of Names

J.K. Rowling didn't pick up names for her characters from a hat. In fact when questioned about how she devised names and new words for her fantasy she responded that she collected notebooks of unusual names, both imaginary and real.

Here is a 12-word glossary of such Greek legendary creatures and myths. Find each word's counterpart or corresponding happening in the book. Also list reasons why you think they are appropriate names for what they represent.

RESOURCES

"Myths and Legends." Philip, Neil. DK Publishing, 1999

[Tales around the World](#) "Tales from Ancient Greece." Retold by Pamela Oldfield . Doubleday, 1988.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/26264/inhabitants/creatures/site000.htm>

Greek Creatures/Myths	Harry Potter Words	Reasons
Cerberus		
Cerberus was once lulled to sleep by Orpheus.		
Zeus is represented by Lightning Bolt symbol		
King Menelaus and Helen of Troy's daughter is		
Poseidon's chariot is pulled by Hippocampus		
Ancient Greek Gods are often depicted with a shining cloud.		
Oedipus meets a sphinx who solves her riddle.		
Minerva is a Roman name for the Greek goddess Athena.		

Half man and half horse.		
Goat's body, a dragon's tail and the head of a lion.		
A brilliant green serpent		
Monstrous spider capable of human speech		