

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a deeper understanding of Greek mythology and its influence on modern culture, including its connections to Australia. The student will also explore how themes from Greek myths are reflected in contemporary society and their personal lives.

## Materials and Prep

- Pencil and paper for notes and drawings
- Access to a computer or tablet for research (optional)
- Art supplies for creative activities (colored pencils, markers, etc.)
- Familiarity with basic Greek myths (e.g., Zeus, Athena, Hercules)

## Activities

### • Myth Mapping:

Create a mind map of key Greek gods and goddesses, noting their attributes and stories. This visual representation will help connect the myths to modern themes.

### • Modern Mythology:

Discuss how Greek mythology is reflected in modern movies, books, and even video games. The student can choose a favorite movie or game and analyze its mythological elements.

### • Mythical Creatures in Australia:

Research and create a drawing of a mythical creature from Greek mythology and compare it to an Australian mythological creature, like the Bunyip or Yowie. Discuss similarities and differences.

### • Personal Myth:

Encourage the student to write their own short myth that incorporates a moral lesson or personal experience, using elements from Greek mythology as inspiration.

## Talking Points

- "Greek mythology is like a treasure chest of stories that help us understand human nature and the world around us." - This highlights the importance of myths in teaching morals and values.
- "Many modern movies, like 'Percy Jackson' or 'Wonder Woman,' are inspired by Greek myths. Can you think of any others?" - Engages the student to think critically about contemporary media.
- "In Australia, we have our own myths. The Bunyip is a creature that lives in swamps. How does it compare to a Greek creature like the Minotaur?" - Encourages comparison and cultural understanding.
- "Myths often explain natural phenomena. For example, why do you think the Greeks created stories about gods controlling the weather?" - Prompts the student to think about the purpose of myths.
- "Creating your own myth can be a fun way to express your ideas! What lesson would you want to share?" - Inspires creativity and personal expression.
- "Greek gods were often flawed, just like people. What does this tell us about the nature of humanity?" - Encourages reflection on human nature and imperfections.
- "Think about how you can relate these ancient stories to your own life. Do you have a personal

'hero' story?" - Connects mythology to personal experiences.

- "Myths are still relevant today. They help us understand who we are and where we come from." - Reinforces the timeless nature of these stories.
- "Exploring mythology can be a fun way to learn about history and culture. What fascinates you most about Greek myths?" - Invites the student to share their interests.
- "The themes in Greek mythology, like love, power, and betrayal, are universal. How do you see these themes in your everyday life?" - Encourages the student to relate myths to real-life situations.
- "Australia's rich cultural history includes both Indigenous and colonial stories. How can we learn from both?" - Promotes inclusivity and understanding of diverse cultures.
- "Remember, myths are not just stories; they are reflections of the values and beliefs of the people who created them." - Summarizes the significance of myths in culture.