

Gods, Myths, and Mighty Mortals: A Day in Ancient Greece!

Let's Travel Back in Time! (10 mins)

Imagine a land filled with sunny islands, powerful warriors, brilliant thinkers, and... towering gods who lived atop a mystical mountain! That was Ancient Greece! Today, we're going to meet some of the most famous residents of Mount Olympus – the Greek Gods and Goddesses.

Warm-up Question: Have you ever heard of Zeus, Hercules, or Medusa? What do you know about them?

Meet the Olympians! (25 mins)

The Ancient Greeks believed their gods and goddesses controlled everything from the weather to the outcome of wars. Let's learn about some of the most important ones!

Activity: Watch a short, age-appropriate video introducing the main Greek gods (like Zeus, Hera, Poseidon, Hades, Athena, Apollo, Artemis, Ares, Aphrodite). Alternatively, read brief descriptions from a reliable website or book.

- **Resource Suggestion:** Search for 'Greek Gods for Kids' on National Geographic Kids or similar educational sites.

Task: As you watch or read, jot down the names of at least five gods/goddesses and what they were known for (e.g., 'Zeus - lightning bolt, king').

Myth Maker Challenge! (20 mins)

The Greeks told amazing stories about their gods, called myths! These myths explained natural events, taught lessons, or were just great adventures.

Activity: Choose one god or goddess you learned about. Find and read or listen to one simple myth featuring them (e.g., The myth of Persephone and Hades, Athena and Arachne, Poseidon and Athens).

Task: Be ready to briefly tell the story in your own words. What challenge did the god/goddess or hero face? What happened in the end?

Create a God/Goddess Profile Card! (25 mins)

Now it's time to get creative! Pick your favorite god or goddess from today's lesson.

Activity: Use paper/cardstock and art supplies to create a 'Profile Card'. Include:

- **Name:** (e.g., Athena)
- **Domain:** (What are they god/goddess of? e.g., Wisdom and War Strategy)
- **Symbol(s):** (What objects are associated with them? e.g., Owl, Olive Tree)
- **A Cool Fact or Myth Mention:** (e.g., Sprang fully grown from Zeus's head!)
- **Drawing:** Draw the god/goddess or their symbol.

You can use a simple template or design your own layout!

Show What You Know! (10 mins)

Let's see what amazing things you learned about Ancient Greece today!

Check-in:

- Share your God/Goddess Profile Card. Explain who you chose and why.
- Name three other gods/goddesses and their domains.
- Briefly retell the myth you learned about earlier.

Journey's End (For Now!) (5 mins)

Great work exploring Mount Olympus today! The world of Ancient Greece is vast, with heroes, monsters, philosophers, and epic battles still waiting to be discovered.

Optional Extension: Research another Greek myth, learn about a famous Greek hero like Heracles (Hercules) or Odysseus, or look up pictures of ancient Greek temples like the Parthenon.