Module 4: Ancient Greece
Topic 1 Content: Greek Gods and Goddesses

Introduction

In this interactivity, click on each of the thumbnail images in the panel to learn more about several of the ancient Greek gods and goddesses.

Zeus

The Greeks considered Zeus the ruler of the gods, as well as the god of the sky, heavens, Earth, and weather. He was seen as a giver of justice. His symbols included the eagle, the oak tree, and a lightning bolt.

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Hera

The Greeks considered Hera the goddess of marriage and married women. She was the wife of Zeus. Her symbols included the peacock, cow, and pomegranate.

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Poseidon

The Greeks considered Poseidon the god of the sea, earthquakes, and horses. He was the brother of Zeus and Hades. His symbols included the trident (a three-pronged fish spear), dolphin, and horse.

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Athena

The Greeks considered Athena the goddess of reason, wisdom, and war. She was the favored daughter of Zeus. Her symbols included the owl, aegis, and olive tree.

Aphrodite

The Greeks considered Aphrodite the goddess of love and beauty. She was the daughter of Zeus. Her symbols included the dove, rose, and myrtle wreath.

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Artemis

The Greeks considered Artemis the goddess of hunting, wild animals, the Moon, fertility, and childbirth. She was the offspring of Zeus and Leto (a goddess), and the twin sister of the god Apollo. Her symbols included a bow and arrow, a deer, and the Moon.

Apollo

The Greeks considered Apollo the god of music, light, the Sun, truth, medicine, and single men. He was the offspring of Zeus and Leto (a goddess), and the twin brother of the goddess Artemis. His symbols included the lyre and the laurel wreath.

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Hades

The Greeks considered Hades the god of the underworld, the dead, and riches. He was the brother of Zeus and Poseidon. His symbols included Cerberus (a three-headed guard dog), a pronged scepter, and riches (this may be symbolized by a cornucopia or a bounty of jewels and metals).