

# THE ROCK STARS OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY AND THEIR FAMILY TREE

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Purpose: Useful Background Knowledge to help  
prepare you for page 2 in the Student Greek  
Mythology Packet and your researched Mythology  
Guide

\*Paired with Cornell Way Notes

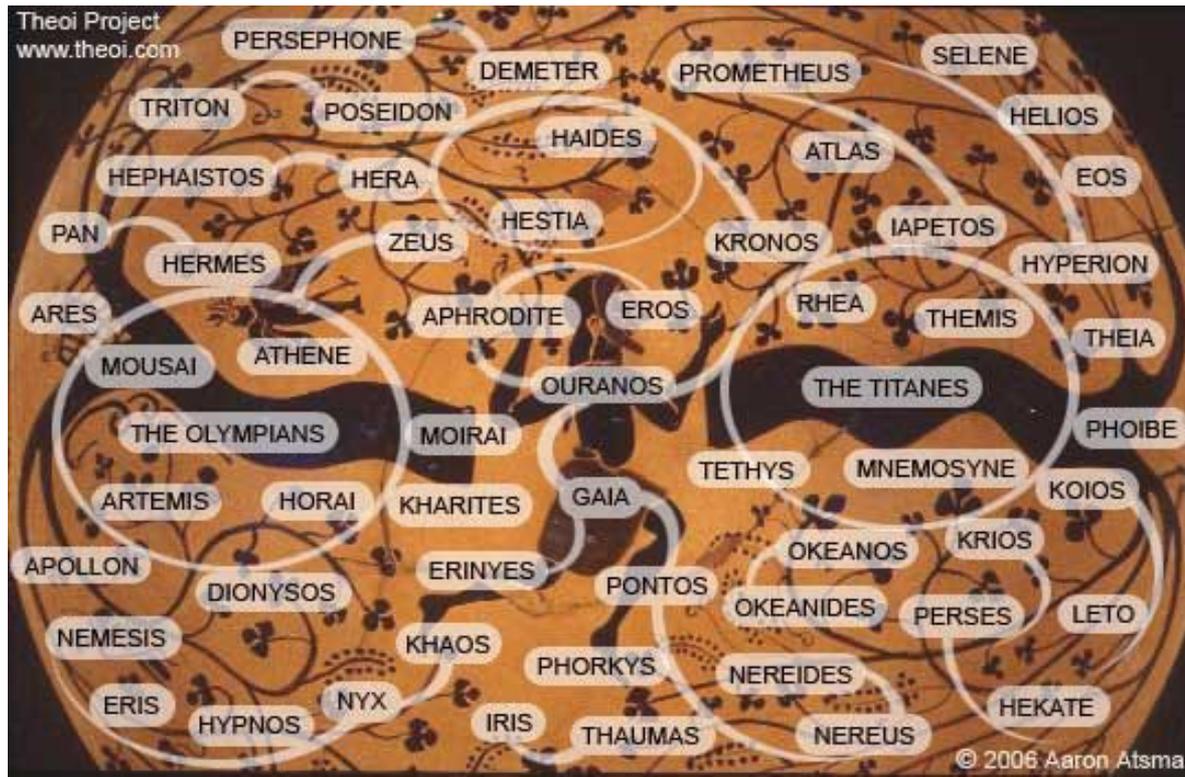






Out of nothing and Chaos came Uranus (*the sky*) and Gaea (*the earth*). They joined together.

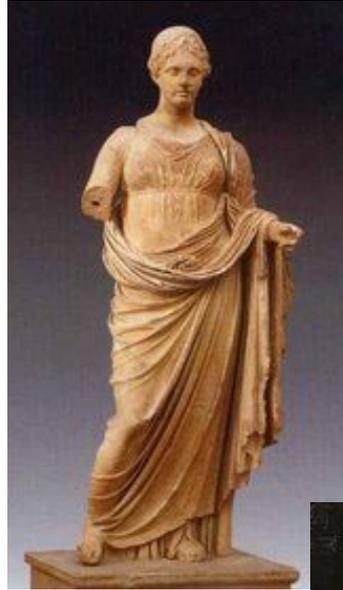
Like with Egyptian pharaohs, the Titan siblings married each other and their children are the Olympian gods and goddesses of Greek mythology that we are most familiar with.



# From Uranus and Gaea came their children the Titans

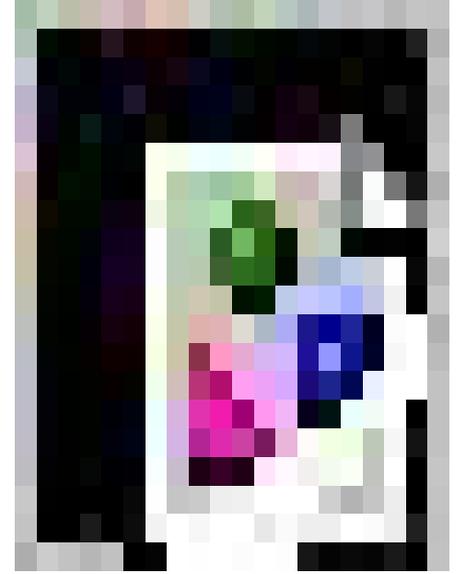


\*Cronos



Coeus

Here  
are 6 of  
them:



Oceanus



Rhea



Pheobe



Tethys

(1) ***Cronus ruled over all*** his brothers and sisters, ***the Titans***. Cronus and Rhea married. They had six children, the *Gods of Olympia*: Hestia, Hades, Demeter, Poseidon, Hera, and \***ZEUS** in that order

**Children Of Cronus And Rhea**



## (2) Hades ~ God of the Underworld

He had an evil smile; he sat on a throne of bones; rarely left his black palace, but when he did...watch out! There was gonna be trouble.

Hades is best known for the romantic way he won his wife, Persephone. He kidnapped her. Really, though, how would you like to marry someone who lives in a dark cave filled with souls in eternal torment all year round?



Symbol: the helm of darkness

### (3) Poseidon ~ God of the Sea

Poseidon was always a moody guy. On his good days, he did cool stuff like create horses out of sea foam. On his bad days, he caused major problems like destroying cities with earthquakes or sinking entire fleets of ships. But hey, a god has the right to throw a temper tantrum, doesn't he?



Symbol: Three-pointed trident

## (4) Hera ~ Queen of the Gods & Marriage

Hera preferred classic Greek dresses and a simple silver crown, though she could blend in as needed. She usually appeared as a beautiful older woman, and enjoyed turning into birds when she needed to hide or spy.

It was tough to be the goddess of marriage in a family where everyone cheats on everybody. Hera had no patience with demigods, the children of godly affairs with humans. She was the enemy of Heracles and many others, though she did have a soft spot for mortal heroes, like Jason.



Symbols:  
pomegranate, cow (the motherly animal), and peacock

# (5) Zeus ~ King of the Gods and Olympus

The king of Olympus had a neatly trimmed grey beard, stormy eyes and a very large, dangerous lightning bolt.

Zeus ruled over his unruly family of Olympians while they bickered, fought, and got jealous of each other. Zeus always had an eye for beautiful women, which often got him in trouble with his wife, Hera. A less-than-stellar father figure, Zeus once tossed Hera's son Hephaestus off the top of Mount Olympus because the baby was too ugly.



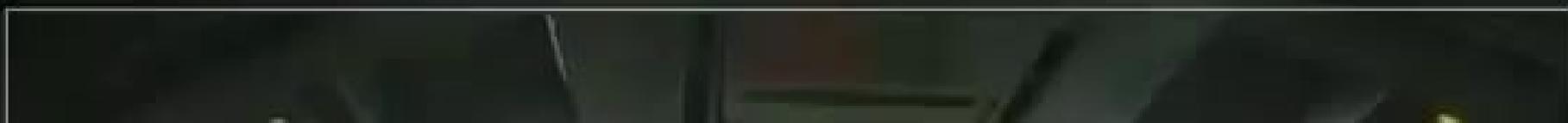
Symbol: Eagle



# Thor ~ God of Thunder



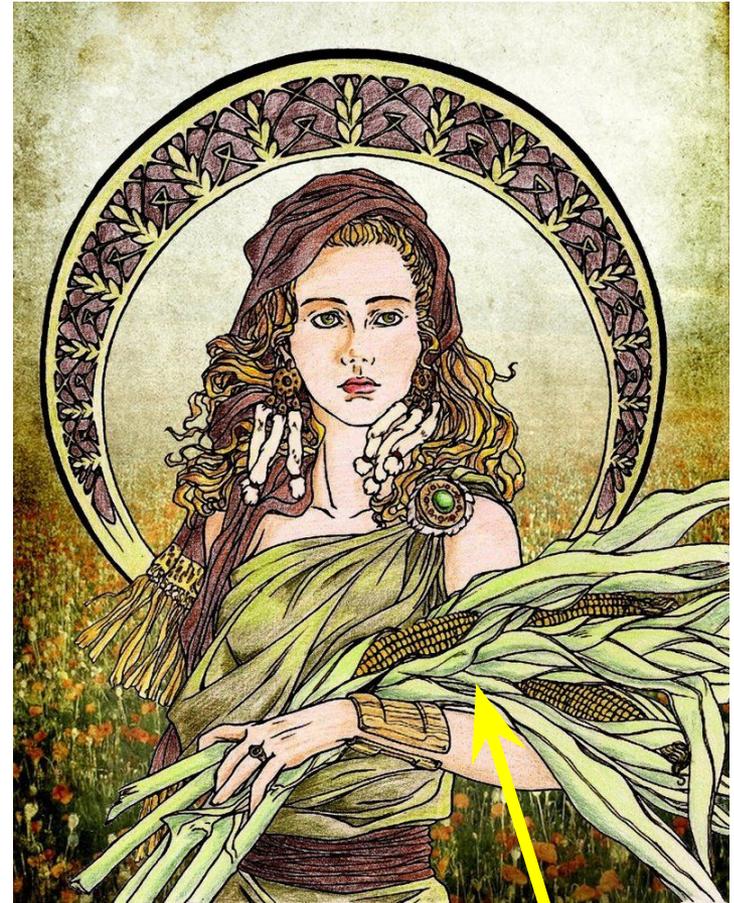
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## (6) Demeter ~ Goddess of the Earth / Agriculture

Demeter was one of the quieter goddesses. As long as the crops were growing and the farmers were happy, Demeter was content. But don't underestimate her importance. If you wanted to eat, you had to make sure you kept on Demeter's good side.

When Hades stole her daughter Persephone, Demeter stopped all plants from growing, and people started starving. Zeus agreed to return her daughter to her for 6 months out of the year. The 6 months Demeter misses her daughter because she's away, the earth lies dormant (fall and winter!).



Symbols: Torch and Corn Plant

## (7) Ares ~ God of War

This son of Zeus and Hera was inseparable from his shield and helmet. He fought on the side of the Trojans during the war of Troy, but, frankly, he has been involved in every minor skirmish since Goldilocks told the three bears that their beds were a little uncomfy. War is his thing.



Symbol: A bloody spear, a wild boar (the animal with the nastiest attitude)

# (8) Athena ~ Goddess of Wisdom

Athena had dark hair, striking grey eyes. She was always accompanied by at least one owl, her sacred animal. Believe it or not, she tamed the wild winged horse, Pegasus.

Athena was one of the most active goddesses in human affairs. She helped Odysseus, sponsored the entire city of Athens, and made sure the Greeks won the Trojan War. On the downside, she was proud and had a big temper. Just ask Arachne, who got turned into a spider for daring to compare her weaving skills to Athena's.



Symbol: owl

# (9) Apollo ~ God of the Sun, Music, and Poetry

Apollo was into everything, from music to medicine, probably because he thought he was better at everything than anyone else.

He is mostly thought of as the god of poetry and music. However, when the old sun god Helios retired, Apollo took over his job. He rode his shining chariot in the morning from the eastern sky across the heavens to the western sky at dusk. He didn't take criticism well. One time he asked King Midas to judge a contest between he and Pan, and when Midas decided Pan's music was better, Apollo gave the king donkey ears as revenge.



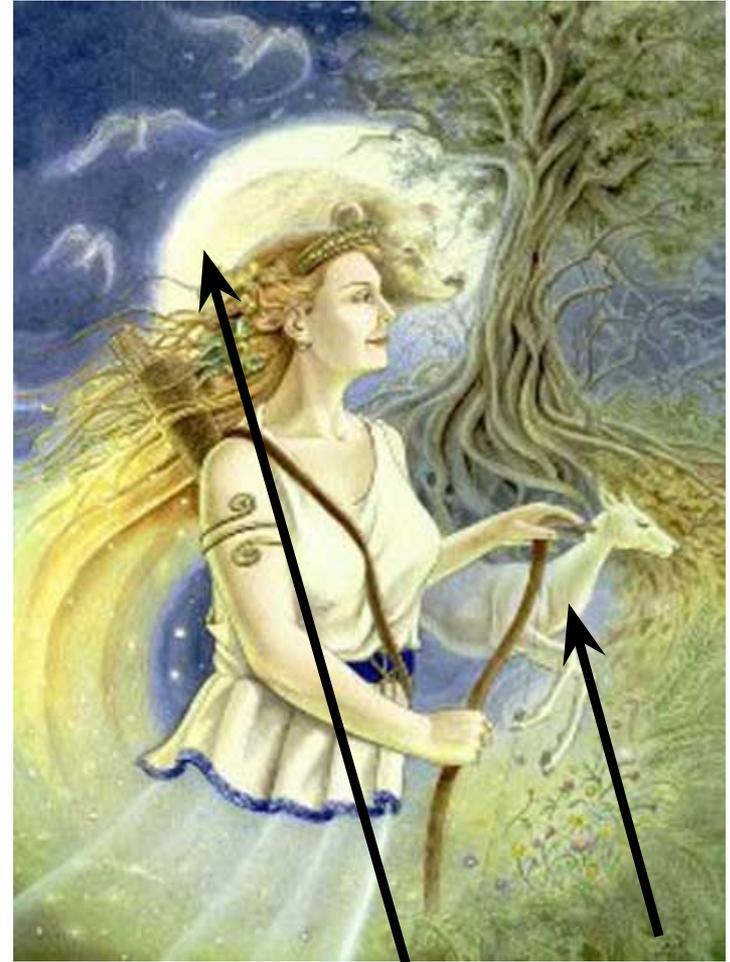
Symbol: the lyre, laurel wreath

# (10) Artemis ~ Goddess of the Moon, the Hunt, and Young Maidens

Artemis likes to appear as a regular mortal maiden, but don't let that fool you. Artemis is deadly with her bow, and doesn't suffer fools, especially male fools. Her eyes are silver like the moon, and she tends to dress in white and silver.

Artemis enjoyed hunting with her handmaidens and basically kept to herself unless she was bothered. Once a male hunter tried to spy on Artemis while she was bathing. The goddess turned him into a deer and her hunters tracked him down and killed him.

She was a strong advocate for women's rights and girl power!



Symbols: the moon & deer

# Superman ~ The Son of Krypton

The only son of Jor-El and Lara was born in the midst of his planet Krypton's destruction. To save his life they shipped him off to earth in a baby-ship.

There he found a home in a farm field and grew up thinking he was just like everybody else...kinda.

Seen as a god, Earth needed Superman to kick some Kryptonian alien-butt. Then, (weirdly) the Man of Steel soon became the target of Ben Affleck's Dark Knight' fury. To be continued in *Dawn of Justice*.



Symbols: His "S", the red cape, and his blue tights



# (11) Hermes ~ God of Travel, Thieves, Trade, and was the Messenger God to Zeus

Hermes wore winged shoes and carried a caduceus, his symbol of power. It is a winged staff with two snakes entwined around the top. This also happens to be the symbol for medicine today too.

Hermes started out young as a troublemaker. When he was one-day old, he sneaked out of his crib and stole some cattle from his brother, Apollo. Apollo probably would've blasted him to bits, but fortunately Hermes appeased him with a new musical instrument he created called the lyre. Apollo liked it so much he forgot all about the cows..

A downfall of being the god of travel is you must lead the dead to Hades in the underworld.



Symbol: caduceus

# (12) Aphrodite ~ Goddess of Love & Beauty

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She's really, really pretty. It's hard to be more specific, because Aphrodite can change her appearance to become whatever you find most beautiful. Variations of her birth story abound, but the one most familiar one tells of her rising from the frothy sea in a scallop and carried to the beach of Cypress.

Aphrodite was more beautiful than Helen of Troy and she wasn't afraid to use her beauty to get what she wanted. She promised a prince the most beautiful mortal woman in the world, if he judged Aphrodite the fairest in a contest. The prince readily agreed. When Helen was given to him for his wife, it started the Trojan War. But hey, at least Aphrodite was judged the fairest (goddess) of them all.



Symbol: white dove

# Resources

Riordan, Rick. "Meet the Greek Gods." Welcome to the Online World of Rick Riordan. 2015. Web. 20 Apr. 2016. <http://www.rickriordan.com/books/percy-jacksons-world/resources/explore-greek-mythology/meet-the-greek-gods>.

Except for slides 11 and 17, I totally made those up,  
with the help of my son...RJ 😊

Sound Clips:

"SoundBible.com." Free Sound Clips. Web. 21 Apr. 2016. <<http://soundbible.com/>>.

Thor Outtake:

Tutorliz. "Avengers Blooper: Thor Dropping His Hammer." YouTube. 20 Aug. 2012. Web. 21 Apr. 2016. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkcht60wZvw>>.