





## STORY TIME: SHAPES OF ZEUS

Zeus is the god of the sky in ancient Greek mythology. As the chief Greek deity, Zeus is considered the ruler, protector, and father of all gods and humans in Greek mythology. He is the god of the sky, but sometimes he transforms himself into different shapes to seduce humans.

Circle 10 things Zeus transformed himself into: ant, dragon, pigeon, swan, bull, eagle, satyr, cuckoo, husband, shepherd

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# STORY TIME: MEDUSA'S HAIR

Medusa was once a beautiful priestess of Athena, who was cursed for breaking her vow of celibacy with an affair with Poseidon. Athena punished her with writhing snakes for hair, and a greenish hue to her skin and a curse that if anyone looked at Medusa, they would turn to stone.

Despite her origins as a beauty, the name came to mean monster, but we must always remember that strong women have been historically imagined as demonizing threats.

Draw a snake hair-do for Medusa:



Where did Greek women go before going to a lavish party? A: To Hera appointments.

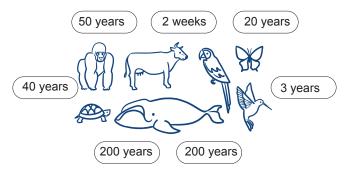
## STORY TIME: THE THREE FATES

Clotho the youngest, is full of creative and naive joy as she twists and pulls and spins the thread of life at the very moment of birth.

The older sister Atropos is wise, sharp and sometimes merciful. She makes the meticulous and final decisions on how to end a life.

The middle sister Lachesis is quiet but bold as she follows the details of destiny and determines the quality and quantity of life. So much of the enjoyment or pain of life lies in her very capable hands.

*Match the work of the fates in longevity for animals:* 



What material did the Greeks use to build their homes? A: Con-crete.

What did Zeus tell the other gods in a fit of anger? A: You're all Zeusless without me.







# **SPRING'S POEM**

Me in the fields in a blue gown Sunlight on my hair, a perfect crown He took one look at me And broke the earth open in desire

I wasn't afraid, mama I was bored I was hungry I wanted pomegranates and death

He bows before me He calls me his queen So now I'm the goddess Of spring and the underworld And I finally know what love means

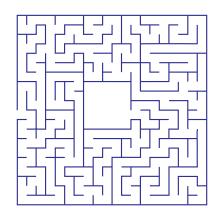
Fill in the correct letters to the following names of the characters in this story:

> D\_m\_t\_r P\_rs\_ph\_n\_ H\_d\_s Z\_\_s

## STORY TIME: THE MINOTAUR

The Minotaur was a monster hidden in the Labyrinth at the Minoan Palace. The labyrinth was such a complicated construction that no one could ever find the way out alive, until Prince Theseus went to Crete determined to slay the Minotaur. He fell in love with Princess Ariadne, daughter of King Minos. She gave him a thread to unravel as he went into the labyrinth. This helped him find the way out once he killed the Minotaur.

Find your way out of the labyrinth to freedom:



### STORY TIME: CLYTIE'S SUNFLOWERS

Clytie was a nymph who caught the eye of Helios, the titan who draws the sun across the sky. But it was a doomed affair because Helios fell in love with someone else.

Clytie wasted her days watching Helios pass from horizon to horizon, and when she died, sunflowers sprang up, carrying on her watchful gaze.

Draw some sunflowers:



Why didn't my brother like Greek mythology trivia night? A: He hades Greek jokes.

What would you call a performer who's seen Medusa? A: A Rockstar.

Why did people go to the Acropolis in Ancient Greece? A: To get some fresh Ares.



## STORY TIME: PATRON OF ATHENS

Poseidon and Athena both wanted to be patrons of Athens. So each one offered a gift to the city. Poseidon struck his trident into a rock and created a seawater stream that welled up. Good water source was very important to the Greeks so they were eager to try it. But it was\*

drink		water	was	it	
SO	good	to	salt	not	

In her wisdom, Athena's gift was to kneel down quietly and plant something. Immediately, an olive tree sprang up out\*

food,		providing	oil,	wood	
ground	shade,	and	of	the	

She was the clear victor, so the joyful citizens named the city after her.



# STORY TIME: ORPHEUS & EURYDICE

Orpheus was a gifted musician who played the lyre with magical grace. Orpheus loved his wife Eurydice. When she died, he traveled to the Underworld and played and begged Hades to allow his wife to come back.

Hades agreed to let Eurydice follow her husband back to earth and life. But, throughout the trip, Orpheus had to promise not to look back until they were both safely back on earth. But along the way he glanced back just to check and lost his wife forever.

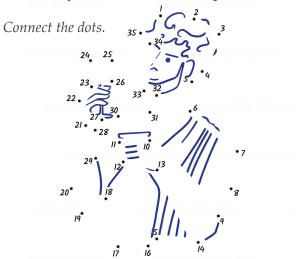
1		2		3	
ACROSS					
1. what Orpehus pla					
4. messenger god w helped Orpheus					
5. wife of Orpheus 4					
DOWN					
2. 3-headed dog Orpheus charmed	5				
3. god of the Underworld					



## STORY: DIONYSUS AND THE PIRATES

The wine god, Dionysus was traveling disguised as a wealthy man. A group of pirates saw him and decided to kidnap him for ransom money. They brought him onto their ship and tied him up, not knowing he was a god in disguise.

Suddenly, Dionysus made grape and grape vines grow all over the ship. The sailors were so frightened that they jumped into the sea where they were turned into dolphins.



Greek pick up line after New Years? A: I can't believe I haven't seen you in a gyro.

How many Greek gods do you need to change a lightbulb? A: Olive them.

What Greek god was average in everything? A: Mediocretese.

<sup>\*</sup>Unscramble the tiles to build the story.



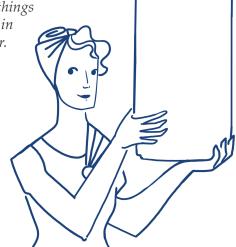


# STORYTIME: PANDORA'S JAR

Zeus asked Hephaestus to create a beautiful and talented woman named Pandora. Zeus gave her a gilded and intricately carved jar as a gift. He told her never to open it.

One day, Pandora's curiosity got the better of her, and as she raised the lid, all bad things in the world came out. Thankfully, also inside, was hope. And hope made all the difference in the world.

Draw three things that are still in Pandora's jar.

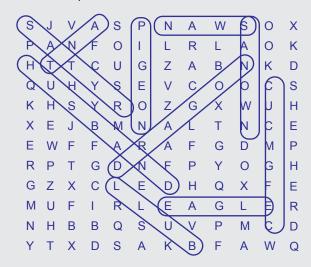


How did Poseidon greet the sea monster? A: Hey buddy, what's kraken?

# CHEAT SHEET

# **SHAPES OF ZEUS**

ant, dragon, pigeon, swan, bull, eagle, satyr, cuckoo, husband, shepherd



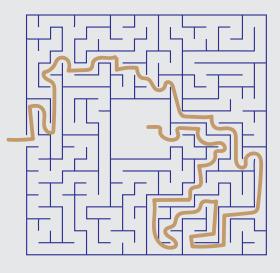
# STORY TIME: THE THREE FATES

Tortoise (200 years), Bowhead whale (200 years), macaw parrot (50 years), Gorilla (40 years), Cow (20 years), Hummingbird (3 years) Butterfly (2 weeks)

## **SPRING'S POEM**

Demeter, Persephone Hades, Zeus

# STORY TIME: THE MINOTAUR



## STORY TIME: PATRON OF ATHENS

salt water so it was not good to drink.
of the ground providing food, oil, shade and wood.

# STORY TIME: PATRON OF ATHENS

Music, what Orpheus played
Eurydice, wife of Orpheus
Hermes, messenger god who helped Orpheus
Hades, god of the underworld
Cerberus, 3-headed dog Orpheus charmed