



GREEK MYTHOLOGY

GREEK GODS



English Summer Project

Greek Mythology and Greek Gods

Objectives:	Pupils are to research figures from <i>Greek</i> mythology and demonstrate their knowledge through creative writing tasks, a short quiz and creating <i>Greek Gods Top Trumps</i> cards. In English lessons in September, pupils will be learning about the <i>Greek</i> literary period; these tasks will introduce them to this topic and provide a starting point for activities in class.
Core Task:	The <i>Top Trumps</i> cards must show your understanding and research of the <i>Greek Gods</i> , so they should be imaginative and original. You can use the templates in the booklet, or you could make them using your own materials. When you arrive in September, you and your classmates can show off what you have made and play <i>Greek God Top Trumps</i> !
Success Criteria:	You must be as creative and original as possible in your work, whilst still showing off the amount you know about this topic.
How can you help you child?	You can discuss the <i>Greek</i> period (lots of information is online) and encourage pupils to make the best of their own talents. They may also need some help with resources, equipment and adult supervision.
Hand in Date:	1 st lesson in September

THE OLYMPIANS



Mount Olympus is a real mountain in the north of Greece. Gradually, it became associated less and less with an actual mountain and more with an imaginary place high above the earth. According to the ancient Greeks, the gate to Olympus was made of clouds and it was guarded by four goddesses, the Seasons. Each god had his or her own dwelling place, but Olympus was home base.

There were up to 14 gods considered Olympian gods. Seven of them were Zeus and his siblings, and seven others were children of Zeus. Sometimes only 12 will be listed. The Greeks and Romans shared mythology, so you will find two names for most gods.

Task 1:

Fill in the table on the next page with research about the Gods who lived on Mount Olympus.

Greek God	Roman Name	God / Goddess of...	Facts/characteristics
Zeus	Jupiter	King of the Gods	He was dominating, powerful and had a soft spot for pretty women. He could be terrifying when angry. His symbols were the thunder- bolts, or lightning bolts, made for him by the Cyclopes.
Hera			
Poseidon			
Hades			
Athena			
Apollo			
Dionysus			
Aphrodite			
Hermes			

Task 2:

Writing a biographical poem about a God.

A biographical poem, or bio-poem, uses a simple but specific structure to describe the most important facts about someone. Your assignment is to write a bio-poem about one of the gods or goddesses you have researched. You may choose any god or goddess. The blanks on this page are for your rough draft. When you're done, copy your final version onto a separate sheet of paper and, if you would like, decorate it.

Follow this format exactly, please:

Greek Name _____,

I am (list four traits) _____, _____, _____, _____.

I am [a relative] of (1-3 people) _____.

Lover of (1-3 things or people) _____.

Who feels/protects (1-3 things) _____.

Who needs (1-3 things) _____.

Who fears (1-3 things) _____.

Who gives (1-3 things) _____.

Resident of _____,

Roman Name _____.

Example (you may not use this goddess):

*Aphrodite,
Goddess of Love, Desire, Beauty and Fertility.
A daughter of Zeus and Dione; wife of Hephaestus.
Lover of sons Aeneas and Cupid and brother Ares.
Who protects sailors.
Who needs a chariot.
Who fears War, Athena and Hera.
Who gives Helen to Paris, a magic belt to Hera, and Medea to Jason.
Resident of Mt. Olympus.
Venus.*

Time to test yourself!

Fill in the name of the God that the statement describes.

1. This god's Roman name is Neptune.
2. Name the goddess of war.
3. His symbol is the thunderbolt.
4. Her Roman name was Juno, and her symbol was the peacock.
5. Name the god of the underworld.
6. Name the goddess of wisdom.
7. Name the very jealous wife of Zeus.
8. Name the god of the sun, poetry, music and medicine.
9. His Roman name is Jupiter.
10. Name the goddess of hunting and twin of Apollo.
11. His symbols are winged sandals and a winged helmet.
12. This god's Roman name is Mars, and he is the god of war.
13. His Roman name is Mercury, and he is the messenger of the gods.
14. Name the god of wine.
15. She was the goddess of love and beauty.

CREATING YOUR OWN GOD

Task 4:

Imagine that Zeus has come to you and said that Olympus is lacking a god or goddess, and he needs you to help. Invent a new Olympian and describe him or her below.

Name: _____

Roman Name: _____

Connection to Olympus (related to another god or goddess? Married to a god or goddess?):

Powers:

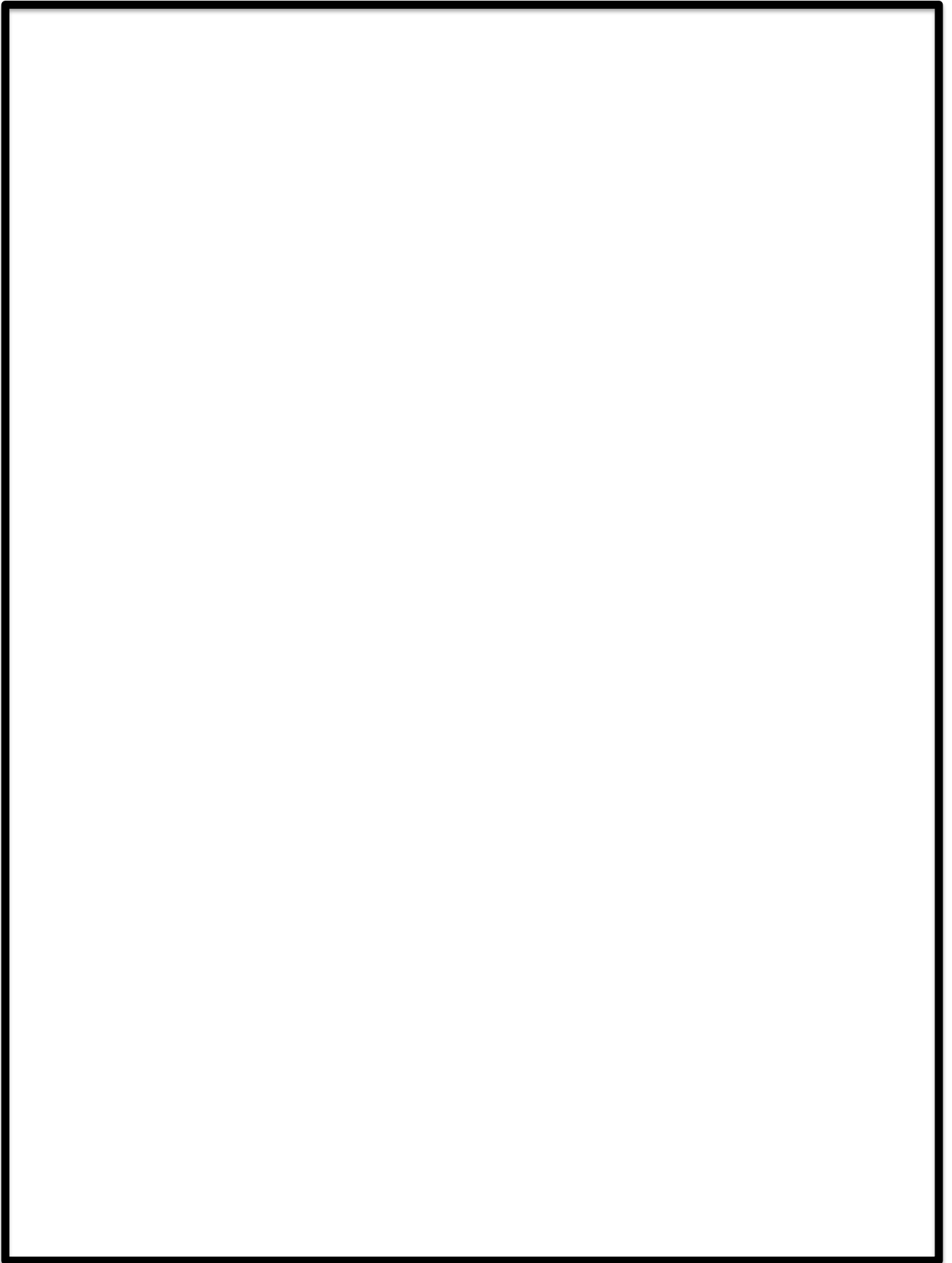
Symbol:

Personality traits:

Friends:

Enemies:

Now, draw a picture of your *God*, illustrating his/her powers and abilities:



Task 5: (this task is optional)

Writing a short story about your God.



The Greeks relied on stories and myths in order to understand the world around them. Myths define customs and beliefs and they often explain natural phenomena. You can find myths in every culture; they can inspire music and make great stories.

Your task is to create a story about the God you created. You should follow these rules:

- Your story should involve at least two other Olympian gods or goddesses as well as your own.
- It should be at least 150 words.
- It should have a clear beginning, middle and end.
- It should clearly show that you know something about Greek mythology. You will do this by including details about the Olympian gods and goddesses that show you know their powers, symbols and personalities.

If you choose to write a story about your God, please write it on a separate piece of lined paper. You can also draw pictures and decorate it if you like.

The Final Task:

Making Top Trumps Cards

Your Top Trumps cards should highlight what you have learnt about the different Greek Gods.

Instructions:

- Choose between 5 and 8 Gods to use for the cards
- Decide whether you will use the template or create your own cards
- Write the name of the God at the top, and draw a picture in the box or print one from the internet
- Choose your own categories (there are some suggestions below if you're stuck!)
- Give the God a rating in each category out of 10 (1 = lowest)
- You can add extra information about the God if you like

Example:

