

1: 10 Interesting Myths and Legends About the Moon | Exemplore

The myth of fun an interesting is an extension of the myth of process. When the process [of education] is emphasized, the entertainment value of a lesson and the students' level of engagement becomes the measure of the successful lesson.

The sea, earthquakes, and horses
Symbols: Trident, dolphin, horse, bull, and fish
Parents: Cronus and Rhea
Children: Orion, Triton, Theseus, and Polyphemus
Spouse: Mount Olympus and the ocean
Roman name: Neptune
Poseidon is a god in Greek mythology and one of the Twelve Olympians. He is one of the three most powerful Greek gods along with Zeus and Hades and rules over the ocean and all bodies of water. He was especially important to Greek sailors and fisherman. How was Poseidon usually pictured? Poseidon is pictured with a three pronged spear called a trident. He usually has curly hair and a beard. Sometimes he is shown riding his chariot which is pulled by hippocampuses horses that have fish tails. What powers and skills did he have? Poseidon had complete power and control over the ocean. He could create storms to sink ships or clear weather to help them along. He also could cause earthquakes on land which earned him the title "earth-shaker. Poseidon was eventually saved by his younger brother Zeus. They overthrew the Titans and took control of the world. They divided up the world by drawing lots. Poseidon drew the ocean and took control of the Sea Zeus drew the sky and Hades the Underworld. There are two stories that tell how he did this. The first says that he fell in love with the goddess Demeter. He worked for some time and eventually produced the horse. However, it took him so long to make the horse that he was no longer in love with Demeter. The other story tells how he made the horse to win the city of Athens from Athena. As part of a contest, they each presented a gift to the leaders of Athens. Athena created the olive tree which would produce wood, olives, and olive oil. Poseidon presented the horse, a valuable animal that could help in work, battle, and transportation note that in some stories he presents a well of sea water instead of the horse. Athena won the contest and became the patron goddess of Athens. From that time forward, Poseidon and Athena were rivals. This plays out in the story of the Odyssey where Poseidon tries to thwart Odysseus while Athena tries to help him on his journey. Interesting Children Poseidon had a number of interesting children with both human women and goddesses. Some of his children were monsters like the sea creature Charybdis and the Cyclops Polyphemus both of who tried to kill Odysseus. Others were not so scary like the Greek hero Theseus, the famous hunter Orion, and the winged horse Pegasus. Interesting Facts About the Greek God Poseidon He lived in a palace under the sea that was made from jewels and coral. He defeated the giant Polybotes by breaking off a piece of the island of Kos and throwing it at him. According to Greek mythology, Poseidon helped build the towering walls that surrounded the city of Troy. Activities Take a ten question quiz about this page. Listen to a recorded reading of this page: Your browser does not support the audio element. For more about Ancient Greece:

2: 10 Fun Facts About Mythology | The Classroom

This is an interesting myth because it crosses across several different cultures. The moon rabbit or jade rabbit is said to be one of the companions that Chang'e eventually was allowed to have with her on the moon.

Share3 Shares The stories of Greek mythology have formed the basis for how we think of our ancient forefathers. We know Aphrodite as the goddess of love and we know Pegasus is the winged horse. Shakko As the god of death and the underworld, Hades suffers a bit from a bad image. To start, Hades never chose the underworld as his domain. He and his brothers, Zeus and Poseidon, drew straws to see who would be lord of what realm. Zeus drew the heavens and the upper world, Poseidon drew the seas, and Hades drew the underworld. He did, of course, and lost her. Those who died were subject to the judgment of three demigods – Minos, Aiakos, and Rhadamanthys – not Hades. Zeus and Hera tend to look on their son with little more than disdain, and his sister Athena shares his place as a deity overseeing war. Both feature in The Iliad, and more than once, Athena intervenes against Ares on behalf of a fair and righteous battle. Ares consistently backs down and even relies on Athena to protect him from the wrath of his parents. When he challenges Athena, he loses – badly. Ares is portrayed as whining to his father when the goddess of wisdom and strategic warfare puts him back in his proper place, and his complaints are met with a less than fatherly sentiment. When she is young, she appeals to her father to allow her to remain a virgin for eternity and he grants her that wish. She is the huntress, and at the same time, the protector of animals. As much as she is the virgin goddess and the picture of purity, she is also the goddess of childbirth and the destroyer of young women. Her stepmother, Hera, calls her a lion among women – and she lives up to the unofficial title. The labyrinth that the Minotaur called home was a massive maze designed by Daidalos – no one had ever found their way out. The only reason Theseus did was that he had help from Ariadne, the daughter of King Minos. Ariadne had a magical ball of golden thread that allowed Theseus to find his way out again. After the Minotaur was dead, Theseus left Krete with the princess who had saved his life – and then abandoned her on the island of Naxos when she fell asleep. According to some stories, Ariadne had a happy ending when she married the god Dionysus and was granted immortality – or she was killed by Artemis. Either way, Theseus is still a jerk, and had already had some children with a few other women. His father, not seeing the signal, threw himself from the cliff in despairing suicide. Theseus is also given credit for founding Athens. According to Plutarch, Theseus decided that there was no better way to populate his young city than by raping the women, earning him the eternal hatred of his newfound kin. The hero Perseus is tasked with slaying the Medusa, a hideous woman with snakes for hair that would turn anyone who looked at her to stone. Medusa is the only mortal of three sisters, and all of them were Gorgons. Her sisters, Stheno and Euryale, were immortal Gorgons with the same hideous appearance as Medusa. They were all the daughters of Phorcys, a sea god, and his sister, Ceto, and they served as guardians to the underworld. In addition to having snakes for hair, the Gorgons were also said to have powerful brass hands, scales, and beards. Half-woman and half-serpent, Echidna is the daughter of Phorcys and Ceto, making her another sister of Medusa. Other accounts say she was born of Tartarus, the underworld, and Gaia, the earth. Together, Echidna and Typhon spawned a whole list of horrifying monsters that would challenge heroes and gods alike. Perhaps the oddest shape-changing seduction was the seduction of Danae, who was courted by a rain of gold that impregnated her with the hero Perseus. First there was Chaos, from which came the Earth Gaia and love Eros. Occasionally, Tartarus, the Underworld, is also created from Chaos. Gaia then gave birth to the Sky, the Sea, and the Mountains. She took the Sky, Uranus, for her husband and one of their many offspring was the Titan Cronus. Cronus, in turn, took his sister Rhea as his wife, and they bore the original Olympian immortals – Poseidon, Hera, Demeter, Hestia, Hades, and the youngest, Zeus. Cronus knew that they would eventually surpass him in power and swallowed them to keep that from happening. Together, Gaia and Rhea saved Zeus, who later returned to free his siblings. JarektUploadBot Pandora is most famous for opening the box that released all the evils into the world. Pandora was the wife of the Titan Epimetheus, the brother of Prometheus. After opening the box, Pandora and Epimetheus had a mortal daughter together, named Pyrrha. Pyrrha married Deukalion, the son of Prometheus. The gods

continued to be disgusted with the corruption of their creatures, so they sent a massive flood to earth to destroy the mortals. Prometheus was able to warn his son and daughter-in-law, who took shelter on the high peaks of Mount Parnassos and survived. When the flood waters receded, the couple asked the Oracle at Delphi what to do. She replied that if they cast the bones of their mother to the ground, the world would be repopulated. As Gaia was their mother, they threw stones to the earth. Those that Deukalion threw became men, and those that Pyrrha threw became women. In some areas of ancient Greece, the cults of Aphrodite and Ares are closely connected. The two had an adulterous love affair that resulted in four children—Eros, Phobos, Deimos, Anteros, and Harmonia. Statues and depictions of an armored—and armed—Aphrodite have been found in port cities, supporting textual evidence that she was often appealed to by merchants, sailors, and other travelers for smooth seas. Aphrodite was also known as a guardian of naval officers and a protector of civil law. She was a common goddess for magistrates and other political figures to worship and perform sacrifices to, as it was thought she would bless them with harmony and a peaceful relationship with their subjects. In the writings of Aristotle, there is mention of a particular group of civil authorities called the gynaikonomoi, who worship Aphrodite.

3: Interesting Facts about Hercules

Top 20 Most Interesting Greek Mythology Gods T.F. Lyle May 4th Other Originating from the most ancient of ancient Greek Religions, Greek gods were what people worshiped; they were multiple, divine, and very powerful beings who ruled the earth, the skies, the sea, the underworld, etc.

Theory of creation The Hindu mythology clearly states that all living beings pass through a continuous cycle of creation and destruction. The first of these Yugas is the Satya Yuga, which expands over a period of 1,000 years. In this age, people have attained an ideal state of mind and their actions are always reasoned and virtuous. The sacred texts further state that there was a surplus flow of ideas and thoughts between people. Everyone led an honest life and completely adhered to truth. Everyone had acquainted the answer to the ultimate question "the origin of everything. And since there was virtually nothing to conceal, even the tiniest thread of thought was accessible to everyone without any verbal communication. The human physiology also significantly differed from the one that we exhibit today. They also had a lifespan that stretched over hundreds of thousands of years. Treta Yuga It represents the second age in the cycle of Maha Yuga. Tamas represented the darkness in human nature and rajas constituted of all the passion a human could conjure. By now, people had nurtured an acute level of intellect, but they had also lost a good deal of control over their body and its physiology. The body stature was now lesser than that in the Satya yuga " an average human was around 14 cubits tall, but there were some exceptional beings who had attained godly built and divine persona. To name some, the likes of Rama, Laxamana, Ravana and Hanumana were considered godlike for their extraordinary strength and inimitable intellect. It represents an age where the goodness and evil in human nature are neck in neck. Since the human body loses a substantial amount of purity satva , people attain a far greater control over their body than their intellect. By the time Dwapar yuga was its peak, the man had already lost control over his innermost body and knowledge. He became more attracted to the materialistic perspective of the world, succumbing to his ever increasing desires. Only the very intellectuals like Bhishma, Dharmaraja and Vidura were able to escape this allure. Eventually, there was a gradual decline in the moral fiber of society. People with enormous physicality became increasingly offensive in their thirst of desire and power. The average human lifespan had also come down to years. It also happens to have the shortest span that lasts for 100, human years. The current time period falls under Kali Yuga " also referred to as the Iron Age. As the name already suggests, Kali Yuga witnesses hypocrisy and instability like never before. Human nature is significantly corrupted by the temptations of sin and only a fickle of conscience remains. The human body is at its lowest in terms of physicality and intellect. It is also predicted that when Kali Yuga reaches its dying years, the lifespan of man will be no more than 20 years. The curses Curses have long and rather intriguing history in different mythologies. Now, the Hindu gods rarely cursed for they wielded power mighty enough to inflict whatever suffering they wished upon others. But still, there were many instances where some unique curses worth mentioning have been given in Hindu mythology. In the epic of Mahabharata, the Pandavas were hit by immense sorrow on realizing Karna was their half-brother all along. They had only just killed him in the battle. So, he cursed that no woman then on, shall be able to keep any secrets from others. Then, there is the curse on Pandu that if he ever approaches a woman with feelings of desire, he shall die on the spot. Probably, the most notable of them is when Gandhari cursed Lord Krishna in the aftermath of Mahabharata. After having defeated the Kauravas killing all one hundred sons of Gandhari , he went to console a distraught mother. Krishna died an untimely death with no one left to continue his bloodline. These sacred verses were written in regions of contemporary Indus civilization " a region noted as the origin place of ancient Hindu religion. The scripture used in the Vedas is Sanskrit. Even though the Vedas were composed thousands of years ago, scientists have found a strong connection between their messages and modern science. For instance, modern scientists put forward the idea of existence of multiple universe in string theory. It states we live in a multiverse " there are many universes that exist in parallel. The sacred texts in the Vedas and the Bhagwat Gita were immaculate in their understanding of the universe. Hinduism is an amalgamation of different beliefs, traditions and philosophies. These different viewpoints are usually at contradiction with each other.

But again, even these sacred writings were originally enunciated orally. The earliest traces of practices that resembled Hindu traditions can be tracked back to ancient India around BCE. It is unclear if the tradition had any specific nomenclature back then. Hinduism became a popular reference only during 19th century, when English colonial rule saw rapid expansion in India. It gave immense insight into Hindu mythology in the form of Bhagavad Gita along with other historically crucial texts. The Hindu epics were written to create moral and upright ideals for followers to look up to. These epics were written in Sanskrit and in their essence described the power of Hindu gods in poetic verses. The Ramayana is a magnificent narration of the story of Rama. It chronicles the life of Rama from his birth in the kingdom of Ayodhya to his decisive victory over the evil nemesis Ravana. The epic speaks volumes on the virtue of true brotherhood, love and the essence of sacrifices one has to make to defeat the ultimate evil. In fact its entire narration is seven times the length of the Illiad and the Odessey combined. Apart from its glorious narration of tussle between the Kauravas and Pandavas, it also details the scripts of Bhagawat Gita. It is a recital from origin to end of a great battle that pits brothers against brothers. Gods and Goddesses Hinduism follows a polytheistic tradition. The Hindus worship multiple deities, and these gods and goddesses usually belong to a certain pantheon of divinities. Each of these gods and goddesses symbolizes a certain aspect of life. Goddess Saraswati is the source of all knowledge and wisdom. God Brahma is the creator of reality as we know it. In fact, the divine trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva is seen as a base of entire Hindu mythology. But the Vedas clearly state, there are only 33 major deities. The transition into million gods came in the Upnishadic age in an attempt to reflect the infinitude of the universe. Despite such cosmic number of gods and goddesses, Hindus give primary devotion to a single god. All other gods are taken as different avatars facets of their primary deity. In terms of age, all the primary divinities are as old as time and creation itself. Theory of creation The Hindu mythology provides several accounts on how exactly the creation of the universe took place. The answers themselves delve into varying degrees of complexity since there have been different approaches at separate instances of time. Before the creation, there was no time, no heaven or earth or the space in between. There was the dark ocean that washed into the shores of nothingness. The ancient Hindu scriptures state that the ultimate reality Brahman has three main functions. These three characteristics are inhibited by the trinity of gods " Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. That is why we can see images where the heads of the trinity are merged together into a single body " the Trimurti. In the Trimurti, Brahma is the creator of everything. Vishnu is the preserver of nature. Shiva is ultimate destroyer who brings about change whenever it becomes necessary. Final Conclusion Hinduism is labelled as the oldest religion in the world. But it is much more too " the Hindu mythology has been tolerant of other religions and traditions since its inception. In terms of scriptures, it is a delightful concoction of epic stories of morality and uprightness. These stories gave us ideal characters like Rama, Laxamana and the Pandavas among many. The Vedas give us insight on ancient science and astronomy. Epics like Mahabharata and Ramayana narrate divine stories of the never ending battle between the good and the evil. The profuse history of ancient Hindu mythology fascinates the Hindu followers and non " followers alike.

4: 10 Things You Didn't Know About Greek Mythology - Listverse

The word myth comes from the Greek word mythos, meaning story or word. Myths usually depict several general conceptual ideas involving creation, nature and social values, according to professor Mary Magoulick of Georgia College and State University.

Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses Interesting Facts about Demeter - Pictures of Demeter Our fast facts and information about the Greek goddess Demeter are brought to life with some interesting pictures depicting her role in various myths and legends of the ancient Greeks. She was the earth goddess and also the goddess of fertility, agriculture, nature and the seasons. It was she who ensured that men were given bread. The names of her parents were Cronus and Rhea Fact 3: She was one of the 12 Olympian gods who resided on the summit of Mount Olympus Fact 4: Her chariot was drawn by a pair of winged dragons serpent-like monsters. Picture of Arion, son of Demeter, on a sea horse Fact 6: One of her sons by Poseidon was called Arion who was a wonderful singer and poet Fact 7: She gave mortals the Mysteries which give man higher hopes in this life and the afterlife. The rites and practises held in honor of Demeter became known as the Eleusinian Mysteries in which the participants were promised a special future in the underworld after death. The Eleusinian Mysteries contained some of the most important ceremonies in ancient Greece. As a punishment for cutting down trees in a sacred grove she placed Aethon, the god of famine, in the stomach of Erysichthon making him permanently famished. In another famous myth she chose to teach Triptolemus the art of agriculture. He rode on her chariot pulled by winged serpents and taught the people of Greece to plant and reap crops. In her ancient form as a mare-goddess, was ravaged by Poseidon in the guise of a stallion Fact At the marriage of Cadmus and Harmonia, she lured Iasion away from the celebration and they became lovers Fact The Roman counterpart to this goddess is Ceres, from whom the word "cereal" is derived. The myth relating to the nursing of Demophoon tells of the attempts of the goddess to make the child in her care, Demophoon, immortal. The Thesmophoria was one of the festivals held in honour of Demeter, in her role as presiding over marriage and social institutions resulting from the spread of agriculture. The Thesmophoria festival was celebrated exclusively by women. Famous legends and myths about Demeter Ceres relate to:

5: Fabulous Fun with the Greek Myths | Scholastic

The Hindu religion is the oldest religion whose origin can be traced back to the prehistoric time around BC. So much of the interesting myths, beliefs and mythologies surrounding the religion are as old.

It comes from Norwegian folklore. Kraken comes from the Norwegian word krake, which is probably related to the German krake, which means octopus. The Kraken was originally more crab-like. Accounts disagree on exactly how big the Kraken really is, but one thing is certain: Descriptions go from vague the length of 10 ships to more specific a mile and a half long. Some stories say that unlucky sailors would mistake the beast for an island and try to land on it. These foolish sea-goers would then be dragged down into the ocean. If sailors saw gurgling bubbles, surfacing fish, or a plethora of jellyfish, they knew something was up down below. Kraken feces works as fish bait. In it, he proposed that this great beast ate a great deal of fish, and therefore his waste must also be fairly fishy. This muddy concoction was allegedly so delicious smelling to other fish that they would come and congregate around it. The Kraken could then pounce on its meal and produce more bait, continuing the cycle. Some of the best minds in history have tried to disprove the myth. In , the frigate Daedalus encountered a sea monster that the sailors estimated to be at least 60 feet long, which caused a sensation. There were similar observations in that Owen similarly dismissedâ€”until , when a fisherman caught a giant squid. In *Systema Naturae* , he describes the Kraken as an actual organism. It might have a natural explanation. There is no solid evidence of mile-long monsters swimming in our oceans, but we do have giant squids. These deep-sea dwellers can weigh anywhere from to pounds. Bubbles, dangerous currents, and the appearance of new land are all signs of underwater volcanic activity, something common in Iceland. There may have actually been a Kraken. Ichthyosaur bones have been discovered in patterns similar to the way that octopuses place the bones of their meals. Even more interestingly, one discovered ribcage shows signs of constriction, as if a large tentacle was wrapped around it. Ichthyosaurs were pretty hefty creatures some were as long 30 feet , so it would take a very large cephalopod to catch and eat it. One prominent French zoologist insisted the Kraken was real. Zoologist Pierre Denys de Montfort was studying giant cephalopods in the s after hearing accounts from captains of giant tentacles being discovered. He cited old pieces of artwork and ship disappearances as evidence of these beasts. After 10 ships went missing in , de Montfort made the bold assumption that the Kraken was to blame. The boats were truthfully lost in a hurricane and his reputation was ruined. The Kraken lays low. Legend says that the sea monster enjoys solitude and resides deep on the ocean floor. It uses its tentacles to stay tethered to the bottom and hunts for food. The beast will only surface in warm weatherâ€”or when disrupted. The Kraken has no magic powers. The fearsome nature of the Kraken is its sheer size; sailors do not have to worry about it flying out of the water or putting a curse on them. Some modern-day cartoons suggest that if you defeat the Kraken, it will grant you a wish, but that deviates from Norwegian folklore. Sailors had to worry about not only the Kraken itself, but also what it left in its wake. Because of its sheer size, the Kraken is believed to conjure a whirlpool when diving back into the ocean. The watery suction drags ships to the depths of the sea. Many tales talk of the Kraken, but sometimes there are stories that mention multiple giant cephalopods. This would make the waters particularly hazardous for those sailing over deep waters. The Kraken has a big pop culture presence. For a mythical creature, the giant squid gets a lot of attention. From the 13th century to modern times, you can find the monster in poems, novels, television shows, video games, and movies. A number of products and companies also borrow the moniker.

6: Gender in Media: The Myths & Facts - See Jane

Ares had a sister named Eris, who was the Goddess of Discord. Hebe, another sister of his, was the Goddess of Youth. Ares rarely figures into mythology stories, but when he does, he usually suffers some form of humiliation.

September 26, Wikimedia commo A hero of American folklore , Johnny Appleseed was said to be a barefoot wanderer with a tin pot hat, and a sack of apples, so he might leave the start of trees everywhere he went. His name was John Chapman, and his real life was far richer and more interesting than his legend. Here are nine things you might not have known about the man behind the myth, in honor of Johnny Appleseed Day. Chapman developed as an orchardist and nurseryman, and by the early s was working on his own. While his legend imagines him as a messy nomad, in reality, Chapman was much more pragmatic. Frontier law allowed people to lay claim to land through development of a permanent homestead. Such a claim could be made by planting 50 apple trees. So in his travels through Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois, Chapman would plant swaths of seeds to begin an orchard, then sell them to settlers once the land had grown bountiful. This made him quite the land baron as he traversed , square miles of Midwestern wilderness and prairie. When he died on March 11, at the age of 70, he owned more than acres of land. But this made them ideal for making hard cider and applejack. This was a far more valuable crop than edible apples. Up until Prohibition, an apple grown in America was far less likely to be eaten than to wind up in a barrel of cider. In rural areas cider took the place of not only wine and beer but of coffee and tea, juice, and even water. Where water could house dangerous bacteria, cider was safe. Chapman was often noted for his threadbare clothes and preference for bare feet. But these eccentricities may have been offerings to his faith, the Church of Swedenborg also known as The New Church , a Christian denomination established in The second part of his signature lookâ€™that sack of apple seedsâ€™was most definitely accurate. He also refused to use grafting to create his orchards, believing that this growing technique physically hurt the source plants. So, he carried a large sack of seeds everywhere he traveled. However, his oft-depicted tin pot hat has not been authenticated. As the Church of Swedenborg promoted abstinence for those unmarried, Chapman remained chaste his entire life, leaving no children to inherit his lands or curtail the tall tales that sprouted like his trees did. By the time the U. The beverage rooted deep in our history has only recently seen a resurgence in popularity. Nova, Ohio , is home to a year-old tree, the last known to be planted by Johnny Appleseed himself. It grows tart green apples, which are now used for applesauce and baking in addition to cider making. But by forgoing grafting, Johnny created the conditions for apple trees to adapt and thrive in their new world home.

7: Funny and Interesting Facts - Laughter HELL!

When it comes to Greek mythology, some of the stories you'll find out there are pretty strange. Goddesses being birthed from clam shells, women being kidnapped by Hades, and plenty of stories of cheating god husbands (we're looking at you here, Zeus).

Check new design of our homepage! Interesting Facts about Hercules Hercules, the mortal hero of classical mythology, stands for courage, ingenuity, and strength. Here are some interesting facts about this deified mortal. Heracles is, by far, the most popular of the divine heroes of classical mythology. He is known primarily for his enormous strength and unparalleled valor. Classical mythology has numerous instances, telling us about seemingly impossible tasks which Hercules managed to complete successfully. This is precisely the reason why even to this day, any kind of difficult task is often referred to as the Herculean task, because there is rarely any other known mortal to have accomplished the kind of feats that Hercules has come to be associated with. Be it an uphill task, such as killing a vicious monster, or a relatively simple one like punishing the notorious bandits and thieves, Hercules is always known to have emerged victorious. Let us delve into the life and times of Hercules through this SpiritualRay article. As with the rest of Greek mythology, the Romans also adopted the myths and iconography associated with Heracles and included it in their religious literature. From then on, the name Heracles seemed to have become obsolete, with the tradition of Hercules gaining momentum and finding a significant place, even in the later popular culture. Here are some interesting facts about the divine hero that was Hercules. Zeus and a mortal woman, Alcmena. Because of being born from a union of a God and a mortal, he possessed numerous divine qualities, except that of immortality. This tradition was also adopted later by the Roman mythographers. Moreover, his mortal offspring also had to take the brunt of her rage, and Hercules was no exception. However, Hercules suckled so hard that Juno had to push him away from her breast. Her milk was, thus, sprayed across the heavens, leading to the formation of the Milky Way. However, Hercules, even at such a small age, overpowered and killed his attackers. Owing to this, out of his madness, he kills his entire family, including his wife and three children. Myths also tell us that Juno often intervened as Hercules went on succeeding in completing the labors one by one by attempting to make matters worse for Hercules; however, this did not discourage the hero. These were as under: Slaying the Nemean Lion Second Labor: Slaying the Lernaean Hydra Third Labor: Capturing the Golden Hind of Diana Greek: Capturing the Erymanthian Boar Fifth Labor: Cleaning the Augean Stables in a single day Sixth Labor: Slaying the Stymphalian Birds Seventh Labor: Capturing the Cretan Bull Eighth Labor: Stealing the mares of Diomedes Ninth Labor: Obtaining the cattle of the monster Geryon Eleventh Labor: Stealing the apples of the Hesperides Twelfth Labor: Capturing and bringing back Cerberus Throughout his life, Hercules went through many adventures. When Hercules realized this, he slew the giant and took the cattle back from him. During his 12th labor, Hercules entered into an agreement with the Titan wherein, the hero would take on his burden for sometime, if Atlas agreed to get him the apples of the Hesperides. While the hero sought her hand in marriage, Achelous, a river deity, also wished the same. He challenged Hercules to wrestle with him, in which Achelous was defeated, and Hercules married Deianeira. The giant challenged the hero for a wrestling match, but Hercules defeated him quite easily. Hercules freed Prometheus by killing the Caucasian Eagle. When the centaur, Nessus, tries to abduct Deianeira, Hercules saves her by killing the beast with one of his poison-tipped arrows some accounts mention club instead of arrow. However, before dying, Nessus gives Deianeira a tunic soaked in his blood and tells her that it will help her incite love in her husband. When Deianeira tries the trick on Hercules, it instead turns out to be toxic for the hero, who then breathes his last. After his death, Hercules is taken to Mount Olympus, where he marries Hebe the goddess of youth who dwells amongst gods. The Cult of Hercules Temple of Hercules Victor, Rome As the Roman mythographers adopted the tradition of Hercules from the Greek mythology, the hero also developed some distinctly Roman characteristics. By the 5th century CE, it was established that Hercules had visited the Roman mainland, at least once during his 12 labors. Owing to this, there began to develop a huge cult of Hercules in ancient Rome. Not only did Hercules have several temples, big and small, dedicated to him

all across ancient Rome as also in ancient Greece , but he was also worshiped under numerous cult titles. Some epithets that came to be associated with the mortal hero were as under: Hercules Augustus or Hercules Augusti: Protector of the king Hercules Olivarius: Protector of the olive merchants Hercules Triumphalis: The triumphant Hercules Magnus: The great Hercules Musarum: Hercules of the Muses Several festivals and rituals were also held in the honor of Hercules. Owing to his extraordinary feats, Hercules was considered to be the deity of men, while women were usually excluded from the festivities held in his honor. Hercules is essentially characterized by immense strength, courage, and cleverness. Along with Mercury Greek: Hermes , he is regarded as the protector of wrestling schools and gymnasia. Often portrayed wearing a lion skin and holding a club, he is believed to have made the world worth living for human beings by getting rid of several hostile and extremely dangerous forces.

8: 10 Myths And Untold Facts About Ancient Greece And Rome - Listverse

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In literature Ares represents the violent and physical untamed aspect of war, which is in contrast to Athena who represents military strategy and generalship as the goddess of intelligence. Although Ares embodied the physical aggression necessary for success in war, the Greeks were ambivalent toward him because he was a dangerous, overwhelming force that was insatiable in battle. He is well known as the lover of Aphrodite, who was married to Hephaestus, and though Ares plays a limited role in literature, when he does appear in myths it is typically facing humiliation. For example, one famous story of Ares and Aphrodite exposes them to ridicule by the gods when her husband Hephaestus trapped them both naked in a bed using a clever device he made. The Roman counterpart to Ares was Mars, who was known as a father to the Roman people. Because of this, he was a less aggressive and physical form, revealing a more calm and understanding demeanour. Facts about Ares Ares was most notably referred to as the God of War; he represented the unpleasant aspects of battle. He was the son of Zeus and Hera, both of whom hated him according to Homer. Ares was most often characterized as a coward in spite of his connection to war; he responded to even the slightest injury with outrage. The affair between them was not a secret among the Olympians. Ares was never very popular—either with men or the other immortals. As a result, his worship in Greece was not substantial or widespread. He came from Thrace, home of a fierce people in the northeast of Greece. His bird was the vulture. The Amazons, warrior women, were his daughters. Their mother was a peace-loving nymph named Harmony. Otus and Ephialtes, twin giants, imprisoned Ares for a lunar year by binding him with chains of brass; he was eventually rescued by Hermes. Ares always took the side of Aphrodite in the Trojan War. He fought for Hector a Trojan until a Greek warrior pierced him with a spear that was guided by Athena. Harmonia, Goddess of Harmony, was the daughter of Ares and Aphrodite. Eros more commonly known as Cupid was also the child of Ares and Aphrodite. Cycnus, Lycaon, and Diomedes. Ares had a sister named Eris, who was the Goddess of Discord. Hebe, another sister of his, was the Goddess of Youth. Ares rarely figures into mythology stories, but when he does, he usually suffers some form of humiliation. Ares was associated with two other war deities: Ares had many offspring, which is characteristic of nearly all of the notable Greek gods. He conceived more mortal children than divine children. In art, Ares is generally depicted wearing a spear and a helmet.

9: Facts about Demeter for kids ***

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Just step outside in the middle of the night when the sky is clear and the moon is full and look it for a moment. In fact, the moon has been a central part of many myths and legends across different cultures precisely because of how powerful this part of the sky is. Take a look at the following ten moon myths and legends to get a better sense of how people see its beauty and wonder. There is a very famous Chinese myth about this woman who is said to live on the moon. There are different variations of the myth but the basic story is that she and her husband were once immortal beings who were made mortal because of their bad behavior. She is the subject of much Chinese poetry and is one of the central reasons for celebration each Autumn during the Chinese Moon Festival. This is an interesting myth because it crosses across several different cultures. However, it is also a symbol that shows up in myths about the moon in Korea and in Japan. These are the names of the Moon Goddess in Greek and Roman mythology respectively. In the myths associated with these goddesses, the goddess is paired with the god of the sun. He travels throughout the day and she takes over the journey at night. She is typically considered to be a passionate goddess who takes many lovers and who represents the desire associated with the moon. Not all of the deities associated with the moon are goddesses. This is an example of a male god which is associated with the moon. What is interesting about the myths surrounding him are how many of the same symbols from different moon myths are found in the stories about him. The Inuit people of northern regions like Alaska and Greenland have a rather horrifying myth about the moon. They believe that Anningan, the Moon god, raped his sister, the sun Goddess. Worse, they believe that he is still trying to chase her down to possess her. The waxing and waning of the moon is explained as Anningan chasing her until he is starving and then disappearing for a bit to hunt for food to have the energy to come back to chase her again. A much happier couple-based story about the moon is this myth from Africa which says that Mawu is a moon god who is forever linked in unity with the sun goddess Liza. It is believed that lunar and solar eclipses are related to the lovemaking times of the celestial couple. This myth is clearly about the power of the moon, the sun, the sky and love and desire. This is a Hindu god that is associated with the moon. In Hindu art, Soma is sometimes an embryo and sometimes a bull. Fertility is frequently associated with the moon. The bull is also a symbol that has shown up as related to the moon across cultures. The main thing about Soma though is its link with the moon as an elixir. Soma is the name of a drink said to be consumed by the Gods. This is a story that comes from the Maori tribe in New Zealand. The story is about a young woman named Rona who displeased the moon so the moon seized her and took her away. In the myth, she grabs on to a tree and drags it with her to the moon. It is believed by some that the tree is said to represent fertility, further linking the moon with this symbol. The Mayan people have several stories about different moon goddesses. One goddess frequently associated with the moon is Ixchel who is associated with the moon because she is a fertility goddess. One of the creatures that we often see depicted in movie myths and legends is the werewolf. This creature is, of course, affiliated with the full moon. Typically it is believed that these are creatures that have human form but that morph into wolf-like typically violent creatures when the full moon is in the sky. There are many different variations on this because of all of the books and movies that have been made about werewolves. Those are just ten examples of some of the powerful stories that people across time and across the world associate with the moon. Using many different forms of symbolism, the moon itself has become a symbol for love, desire, change, passion, fertility, and violence.

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