



Ancient Greece

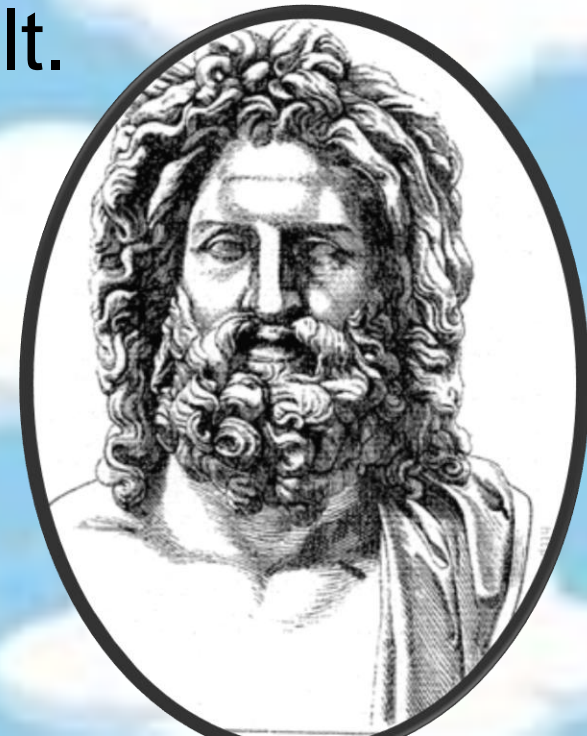
Religion was important to the ancient Greeks because they believed that it would make their lives better while they were living. They also believed the gods would take care of them when they died.

The Ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. The Greeks believed that these gods and goddesses controlled everything in their lives and the environment. There was a god for every aspect of their lives. It was important to please the gods; happy gods helped you, but unhappy gods punished you. People had special places in their homes where they could pray to the gods. There were also public shrines in all sorts of places where people could pray and leave presents.

Greek gods
and
goddesses

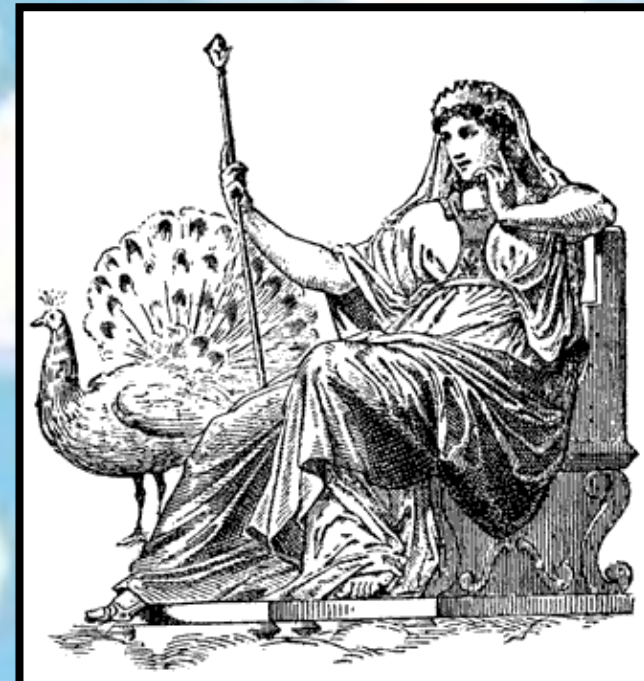
Zeus

Zeus was the supreme god of the Olympians and the ruler of the gods. He was the god of the sky. His weapon was a thunderbolt.



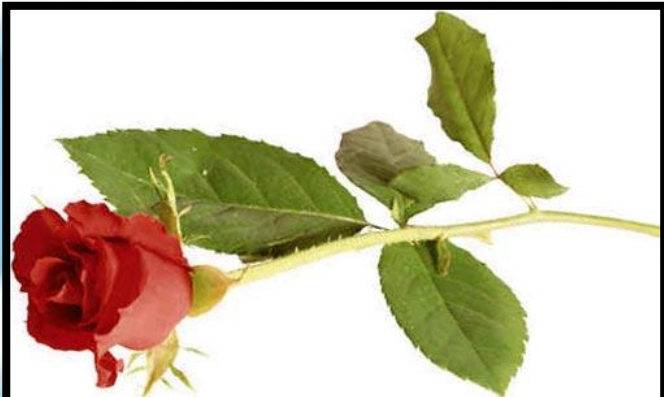
Hera

Hera was the goddess of marriage. Hera was the wife of Zeus and Queen of the Olympians. Hera's symbol is the peacock.



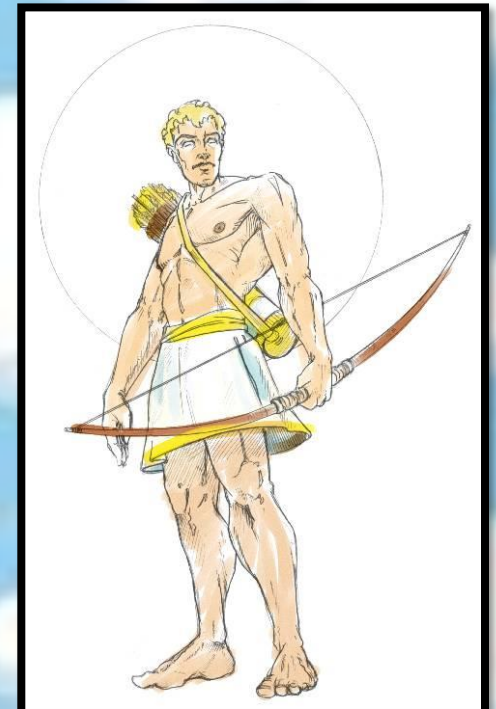
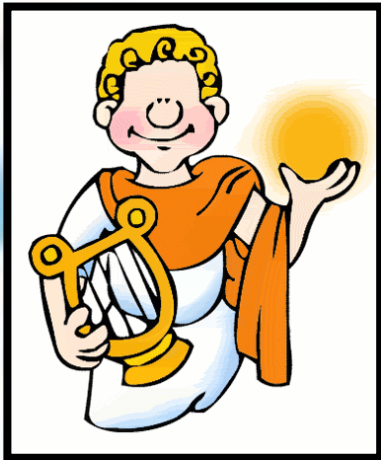
Aphrodite

Aphrodite was the goddess of love, beauty and fertility. She was also a protector of sailors. Symbols associated with Aphrodite include, the swan, the dolphin, the rose and the dove.



Apollo

Apollo was the god of prophecy, healing, light and music. His symbols are a musical instrument called a lyre and a bow and arrows.



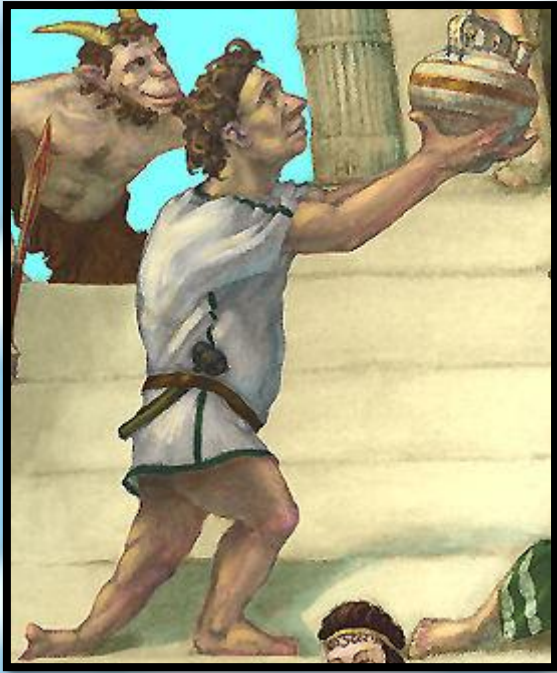
Hermes

Hermes was messenger of the gods. His symbol is a caduceus, which is a special staff.



Hephaestus

Hephaestus was the god of fire and crafts and hence the god of blacksmiths. His symbols and weapons are fire, the axe, pincers and the hammer.



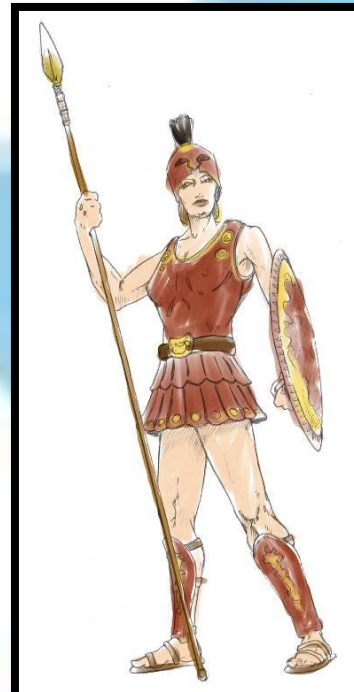
Demeter

Demeter was the goddess of agriculture. She is often shown carrying a sheaf of grain. Her symbol is a sheaf of barley or wheat.



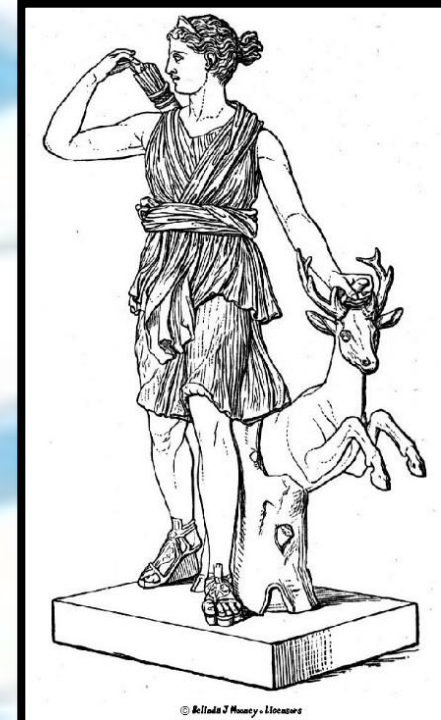
Athena

Athena was goddess of crafts, domestic arts and war. Her symbols are an owl, a shield and an olive branch.



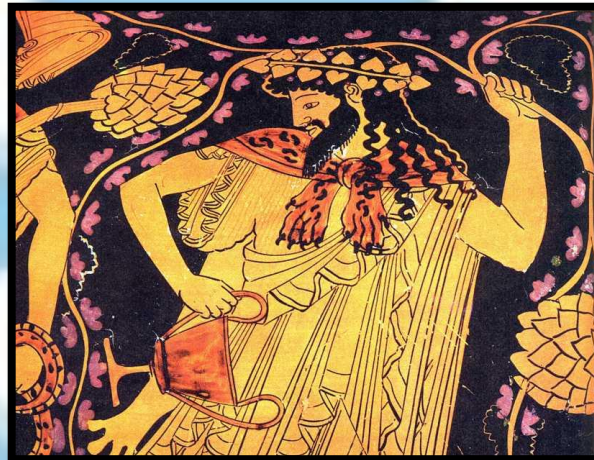
Artemis

Artemis was the goddess of the hunt and the moon. Her symbols are the bow, the crescent moon and the hound.



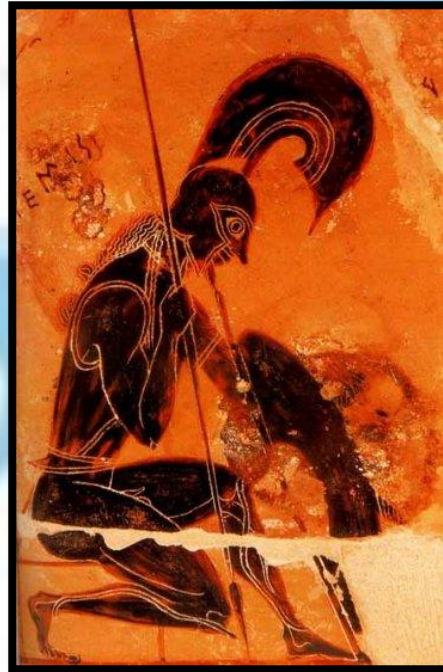
Dionysus

Dionysus was the god of wine. His symbols include ivy, the snake and grapes.



Ares

Ares was god of war. His symbols are the spear and the helmet.



Poseidon

Poseidon was the god of the sea, earthquakes and horses. His symbols are the three-pronged trident and the dolphin.



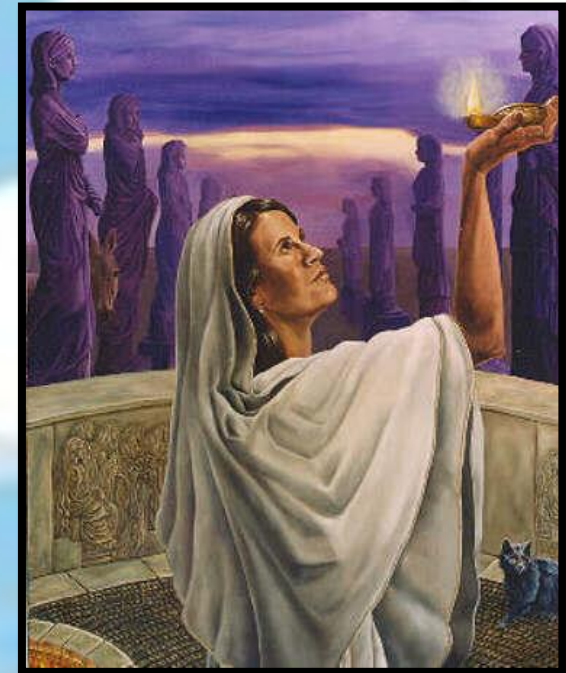
Hades

Hades was the god of the underworld. His symbols are a helmet, metals and jewels.



Hestia

Hestia is the goddess of the hearth. She also protects families. Her symbol is fire.



Interesting fact:

The Greeks believed the gods and goddesses had human qualities.

Your turn.....



Can you create an informative page about what you have learnt?

Try and answer the following questions...

What did the Greeks believe?

What part did the Greek Gods play in Ancient Greek Culture?

What did they believe gods and goddesses did?

Why did they believe it was important to please gods?

Where did the Greeks pray to the gods?

Can you create a fact file for a god or goddess you have learnt about?

Can you design your own Greek God or Goddess?

What is their name?

What are they the God/Goddess of?

What powers does she/he have?

Would they be good or bad?

What do they look like?

Can you think of a background story for your God or
Goddess?