

01 · HISTORY · MYTHOLOGY · YEARS 5–6 · 2 × 45 MINUTES

Journey to Olympus: Gods, heroes and myths

02 · THINK · DISCUSS

What do you see in the picture?

- Inside the chest are a trident, an owl and a 'thunderbolt'. Who do they belong to? Whisper your guess to your partner.



Study the picture

03

Who's who on Olympus?

⚡ Zeus: king of the gods, sky

Spot the symbol!

🔱 Poseidon: sea and earthquakes

Spot the symbol!

🦉 Athena: wisdom, the olive

Spot the symbol!

🐚 Aphrodite: love, born in Cyprus

Spot the symbol!

04

Myth or science?

🏛️ The myth says

- Zeus throws thunderbolts when angry
- Poseidon strikes his trident → earthquake
- Persephone leaves → winter comes

🔬 Science says

- Electricity in the clouds
- Plates move under the ground
- The Earth tilts as it orbits the Sun

05

How do we know? The sources

- 🏺 Mycenaean tablets (c. 1400 BC): already Zeus, Hera, Poseidon
- 🎶 Bards sing the myths from memory
- 📜 Homer: Iliad & Odyssey · Hesiod: Theogony
- 🏛️ Temples, vases, coins: Parthenon, Olympia, Palaipaphos

06

Theogony: The family of the gods

- Chaos → Gaia (Earth) and Ouranos (Sky)
- The Titans · Kronos swallows his children
- Rhea hides Zeus in a cave on Crete
- Zeus defeats the Titans and becomes king

07

Homer: Odysseus & the Cyclops

- Returning from Troy to Ithaca — 10 years
- Polyphemus traps them in his cave
- 'My name is Nobody!' — cleverness over strength
- They escape hidden under the sheep

08 · VOTE · EXPLAIN

Which god would you want as a helper at school?

A

Athena — wisdom for lessons

B

Hermes — for fast messages

C

Apollo — music at break time