HEROES, GODS & MONSTERS
TEACHER’S GUIDE

The following Teacher’s Guide is designed to help you prepare your class for their upcoming presentation of Heroes, Gods & Monsters when the Northern Stars Planetarium visits your school. Much of the enclosed material is for you, the teacher, to help you prepare your students. Puzzles and worksheets are designed to be copied and distributed directly to your students. PLEASE NOTE: Not all of the material in this guide may be appropriate for your particular class. Some of the material may be too old or too young because this program is adaptable for several age levels. Please use only what is appropriate.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Winter and Spring Version:
I. Orion Stories
   A. Orion and the Scorpion
   B. Orion, Artemis and Apollo
II. Hercules Stories
   A. Nimean Lion (Leo)
   B. Slaying the ten headed Hydra
   C. Draco and the Golden Apples

Summer & Autumn Version:
I. The kidnapping of Persephone (Virgo the Maiden)
II. Andromeda, Perseus, & Pegasus the Flying Horse
III. Helios and Phaethom: Driving the Sun Chariot

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Which mythical gods correspond to the names of the planets? (i.e. Venus is named after the goddess of love and beauty.)
2. Are the planets named after Greek or Roman gods? (Roman)
3. How do you think they decided which planets should be named after which gods? (example: The planet Mercury might have been named after the god Mercury, the messenger and god of travel, because of the planet’s swift motion through the skies.)
4. Why do you think so many constellations are named after so many Greek Heroes and Monsters?
5. Why do you think the Romans changed almost all the names of the Greek gods and goddesses?
6. Who were the Titans? Who were the Olympian Gods? What was the difference? (The Titans were the first generation gods and were not very powerful. The Olympic Gods were the second generation gods and were quite powerful.)
## PRINCIPLE GREEK AND ROMAN GODS

Note: All underlined characters are in stories told in the planetarium.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREEK NAME</th>
<th>ROMAN NAME</th>
<th>WHO THEY ARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE TITANS</strong> (the Titans were the earliest gods and not powerful)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>Heaven, father of the Titans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaea</td>
<td>Earth, mother of the Titans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cronus</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Ruler of the Titans, father of Zeus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>The river that encircled the Earth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyperion</td>
<td>Father of Sun, Moon and the Dawn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlas</td>
<td>He holds the world on his shoulders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prometheus</td>
<td>He gave mankind fire and was punished for it</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OLYMPIC GODS</strong> (the second generation of gods – they held more real power)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeus</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>King of the gods, God of Lightning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hera</td>
<td>Juno</td>
<td>Queen of the gods, Goddess of Marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hades</td>
<td>Pluto</td>
<td>King of the Underwold and the Dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poseidon</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>God of the Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>God of Healing, Poetry and Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemis</td>
<td>Diana</td>
<td>Goddess of the Hunt and Moon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demeter</td>
<td>Ceres</td>
<td>Goddess of Agriculture and Fertility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athena</td>
<td>Minerva</td>
<td>Goddess of Wisdom and the Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helios</td>
<td></td>
<td>God of the Sun. He drove the Sun’s chariot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ares</td>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>God of War and Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hephaestus</td>
<td>Vulcan</td>
<td>God of Fire, Blacksmith of the gods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aphrodite</td>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Goddess of Love and Beauty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eros</td>
<td>Cupid</td>
<td>God of love</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Heroes, Gods & Monsters

#### Northern Stars Planetarium, John T. Meader, Director, 15 Western Ave., Fairfield, Maine 04937

**Heroes, Gods & Monsters Teacher’s Guide**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heroes &amp; Mortals</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hermes</strong></td>
<td>Mercury Messenger of the gods, God of Travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dionysus</strong></td>
<td>Bacchus God of Wine and Grapes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Heroes & Mortals**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heroes &amp; Mortals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hercules</strong></td>
<td>The strongest man in the world. A great hero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orion</strong></td>
<td>A young man of great size. He was a great hunter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phaethon</strong></td>
<td>The son of the Sun god, Helios.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pleiades</strong></td>
<td>The seven sisters, daughters of Atlas, chased by Orion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perseus</strong></td>
<td>The first of the great Greek heroes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cassiopeia</strong></td>
<td>Queen of Ethiopia, mother of Andromeda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cepheus</strong></td>
<td>King of Ethiopia, father of Andromeda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Andromeda</strong></td>
<td>The princess, daughter of Cassiopeia and Cepheus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daedalus &amp; Icarus</strong></td>
<td>The greatest inventor of ancient times, and his son.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monsters & Strange Creatures**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monsters &amp; Strange Creatures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medusa</strong></td>
<td>She had a scaly body, bulging red eyes, wings, and snakes for hair. Simply seeing her turned the viewer to stone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cetus</strong></td>
<td>The sea monster. Also the whale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pegasus</strong></td>
<td>The winged horse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sphinx</strong></td>
<td>A monster with a maiden’s face, a lion’s body and a serpent’s tale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sirens</strong></td>
<td>Three sisters: half women – half birds. They sang songs from cliffs that enticed sailors to crash on the rocks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cerberus</strong></td>
<td>The three headed dog of Hades that guards the underworld.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Centaur</strong></td>
<td>Half man—half horse. Chiron was a wise Centaur who trained many heroes, such as Hercules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fates</strong></td>
<td>Three dreaded sisters who controlled fate. Even the gods must obey them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nerieds</strong></td>
<td>Beautiful sea-nymphs or mermaids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cyclops</strong></td>
<td>Giants with only one eye in the center of their forehead.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PLACES

Mt. Olympus  The place where the gods lived.
Hades  The underworld or Tartarus. The place of the dead.
The River Styx  The river that borders Hades. The dead were ferried across it by Charon, the boatman. They had to pay a coin to cross.
Elysian Fields  The special part of Hades for heroes and the virtuous.
THE STORY OF BERENICE’S HAIR

It happened that one there was a king named Ptolemy Soter (pronounced ‘Tolemy’) who had a beautiful queen named Berenice. Ptolemy went away to war to fight against the nearby kingdom of Assyria. The war lasted many years and Berenice became frightened that her husband might never return. Fearing for his life, she went to the temple to pray that her husband would return victorious. In her anxiety, she promised that if the gods would assure Ptolemy’s safe and victorious return, she would sacrifice her beautiful long hair to Aphrodite (Venus), the goddess of love and beauty.

After weeks of waiting anxiously, Berenice was relieved when Ptolemy returned home in victory, safe and sound. The kingdom rejoiced at the king’s return, but when Berenice told Ptolemy about her promise to sacrifice her beautiful long hair to Aphrodite, Ptolemy became very angry. Berenice’s hair was the crowning glory of his queen; it was looked after with loving care by Berenice’s many ladies-in-waiting. It was the admiration of the entire kingdom. It inspired poets and artists. Nothing, however, could be done; a promise before the gods could not be broken. Berenice went to the temple where her beautiful locks of hair were cut off and laid on the altar by the priests.

The next day when the king went to the temple to see his wife’s hair, he was furious to find that it had been stolen. He summoned the guards to kill the priests for allowing this to happen. Just at the moment the guards were about to behead the priests, the court astronomer arrived and yelled, “Stop! Please, your majesty. ‘Tis not the fault of thy priests. Just wait until dark and thou shall understand.”

So when the day turned into night, the astronomer took the king outside and pointed into the heavens. “Look! Dost thou not see the clustered curls of thy queen, too beautiful for a single temple to possess?” And there in the sky between the Great Bear (The Big Dipper), Leo the Lion and Virgo the Maiden was a faint mass of twinkling stars. The astronomer declared, “Zeus, himself, came to the temple last night and gathered the locks of hair. He carried them high into the heavens where he and Aphrodite placed them for the whole world to marvel at.” The king was satisfied with this great wonder and Berenice was delighted to be so honored by the gods themselves.

-Paraphased from: Julius Staal’s New Patterns in the Sky, pp 149-150.
THE STORY OF DAEDALUS AND ICARUS

Daedalus was known throughout Greece as the greatest craftsman and inventor in all the world. His name spread even to King Minos on the island of Crete. King Minos pleaded with Daedalus to build him a cage to hold a terrible monster called the Minotaur. The Minotaur was half man-half bull. This hideous beast ravaged the island of Crete, devouring men, women, and children at his will. No one in all the land could destroy or even control this horrible creature.

Daedalus accepted King Minos’ challenge and built the king a large and elaborate maze he called the Labyrinth. The passageways were so complicated that anyone who entered the Labyrinth could never find their way out again. And so, the Minotaur was trapped within the maze.

The people of Crete were so happy that they praised Daedalus unendingly. But King Minos became very jealous and he imprisoned Daedalus, along with his son Icarus, inside the Labyrinth. Daedalus and Icarus could not find their way out of the maze and were in constant fear of the Minotaur. It seemed there was no escape and only a matter of time before their doom would be sealed by meeting the hungry, hideous creature.

Daedalus, however, had not given up hope. While no man nor beast once inside the Labyrinth could ever find their way out, he noticed that one small creature came and went as quickly and easily as the wind – the birds. For the Labyrinth had no roof and the birds could fly in and out. But men could not fly. Could they? Daedalus instructed his son Icarus to collect as many feathers as possible. Icarus didn’t understand why, but he did as his father asked. When enough feathers were gathered, Daedalus, the master inventor, fashioned wings from the feathers, holding them together with thread and wax. He made a large pair of wings for himself and a smaller pair for Icarus.

When they were ready make their flying escape, Daedalus told his son, “Icarus, remember to always maintain a moderate height. If you fly too low, the fogs and vapors will weigh down your feathers and you will not be able to fly. If you fly too high, the heat of the Sun will melt the wax and your wings will fall apart.” But Icarus, excited about escaping and flying, did not listen. With a few sweeps of his wings, Icarus was flying above the Labyrinth. The Minotaur and the king’s guards looked up in disbelief at the father and son flying overhead.

At first they were very nervous being so high, but gradually they became accustomed to the sensation of flight. Icarus slowly grew bold and did more and more daring stunts in the air. Daedalus tried to tell him to stay in the middle levels of the sky, but the sound of the wind kept Icarus from hearing. Soon, all Icarus could think of was touching the stars themselves. He flew higher and higher. Slowly, the Sun warmed and melted the wax. One by one, the feathers began to drop out of the wings. Icarus struggled but could no longer maintain his flight and he fell to a watery grave in the sea below. Daedalus flew on alone. His eyes were full of tears and he cursed the skill that allowed him to make the wings. When he arrived safely on land, he built a temple to Apollo and hung up his wings as an offering to the god. Never again did he attempt to fly.

-Paraphrased from: William Russell’s Classic Myths to Read Aloud.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


(NOTE: All classical myths should be read by the teacher prior to student reading or reading aloud in class as the content may not be appropriate for certain age levels [myths tend to be racy at times].)

CLASSICS FOR THE OLDER READER:

*Bulfinch’s Mythology*

Homer, *The Iliad and The Odyssey*

(There are many various printings of these books)
MATCH GAME

Match the Greek god to its Roman counterpart.

GREEK:  ROMAN:

Athena  Jupiter
Ares  Cupid
Eros  Minerva
Dionysus  Apollo
Zeus  Diana
Poseidon  Saturn
Apollo  Vulcan
Hermes  Mercury
Hephaestus  Venus
Hades  Pluto
Cronus  Juno
Demeter  Bacchus
Hera  Ceres
Artemis  Mars
Aphrodite  Neptune

(Answers are available on the chart of Principle Green and Roman gods)
**WORD SEARCH**

S V E T I T A N S N R D S A T U R N C
C M E R C U R Y T D A P L U T O J F O
O O J P U V D T Y H O M E R F L V I N
R E L A J E R T X E Q D Z A N O A J S
P N D V U K A P O L L O V Q D E G S T
I X H U P M C K Y I M L B D R H X E
U A J T I F O A S O H Y D R A E E H L
S Y N S T O R I E S Q M T Z L R R E L
B H A D E S A M S N P J H T C K J A
K I H E R L D G A Z E U S E O U L Q T
N V N P R O M A N R R S N R K L E P I
D A P Z P I M D M O S Z L O Y E O E O
C A S S I O P E I A E V J E N S J G N
E H T P R N O X D T U G N S E N G A Y
T P H A E T S R I A S P A H P S N S H
U M O N S T E R A Q B T N L T A A U J
S E K Y O R I O N R E X A P U V R S L
P H A E T H O N A I N O I R N S H E V
P O S E I D O N J L C E P H E U S N S
R F J K H R B P L E I A D E S N H G B

Find the following words horizontally, vertically and diagonally:

Andromeda        Hercules        Perseus
Apollo           Heroes          Phaethon
Ares             Homer           Pleiades
Atlas            Hydra           Pluto
Cassiopeia       Jupiter         Poseidon
Cepheus          Leo             Roman
Cetus            Mars            Saturn
Constellation    Mercury         Scorpions
Diana            Monster         Star
Draco            Mythology       Stories
Greek            Neptune         Styx
Hades            Olympus         Sun
Helios           Orion           Titans
Hera             Pegasus         Zeus
Planetarium Program Evaluation--Thank you!

After the Northern Stars Planetarium has visited your class, please take a moment to fill out this evaluation. Your suggestions are very valuable to us!

Mail the completed evaluation to: Northern Stars Planetarium
15 Western Ave.
Fairfield, Maine 04937
Or Email To: info@northern-stars.com

1. Show Name: _______________________________________________________________

2. Group grade/age level: ______________________________________________________

3. Was the material presented at an appropriate level for your class? ________________________

4. Was the amount of material discussed: Enough Overwhelming Not Enough

5. Should any parts of the presentation be developed further? ______________. If so, which parts?

6. Was there sufficient time for questions and answers? Yes No

7. Were you studying astronomy or another related subject at the time of the planetarium’s visit? Yes No

If so, was the planetarium visit helpful? __________________________________________

8. Was the Teacher’s Guide helpful in preparing your class for the planetarium visit? Yes No

Which parts were most helpful? __________________________________________________

Which parts were least helpful? __________________________________________________

9. Did the presenter present the material in a clear and understandable fashion? __________

10. How would you rate the overall program given to your class in the planetarium? __________

11. (Optional) Your name & school: _______________________________________________