

Name: _____

Number: _____

Poseidon

Info and Myth

Personality and Way of Life

Poseidon was considered to be a bad-tempered, moody, and greedy god among the Olympians. Poseidon loved to cross the oceans and seas with his golden chariot surrounded by dolphins.

Powers

Poseidon was the Greek god responsible for natural and supernatural events (mainly the ones associated to the sea world) and was the savior of ships. He possessed a trident which was so powerful that it could shake the earth. Poseidon was able to cause tempests and earthquakes, drown lands, shatter rocks and had the ability to finally bring back peacefulness.

Poseidon possessed two palaces, the one was up in Mount Olympus and the other was located in the depths of the seas and was bejeweled with gold and precious gems. Usually Poseidon preferred to stay with his wife Amphitrite beneath the ocean.

Appearance

Poseidon was imposing and strong with long, blue hair.

Symbols

The symbol of Poseidon was the trident and his sacred animals were the dolphin and the horse. According to a tradition, he was the one who breathed life into the first horse on earth.

The Contest of Poseidon and Athena

There once came a time in Ancient Greece when the first king of Athens, Cecrops, who was half person and half snake, had to find a patron deity for the city state of Athens.

The two Olympian gods who were particularly interested in the patronage were Poseidon, the god of the Seas and Athena, the goddess of Wisdom and Skill. They presented themselves in front of Cecrops and Cecrops asked from them to offer a gift truly valuable for Athens.

Poseidon came first: he struck the earth powerfully and created a well with his trident. Immediately, streaming water shot forth, but the water turned out to be salty and not very useful for the population.

Next, it was the turn of goddess Athena. Athena stepped forward, struck her spear into the ground and then she kneeled and planted an olive branch in it. This way she created an olive tree, as a symbolization of peace and prosperity on earth.

Cecrops was very impressed by Athena's gift. So he chose Athena to lay claim of the city of Athens and the city was named after her. God Poseidon, however, was not pleased with the decision of Cecrops and cursed the city of Athens to never have enough water from then on. After that, it is said that a major problem of water shortage started in Athens, which continues until nowadays.

Guided Notes for Mythology Videos

Video: Myths and Legends: The Lord of the Dead - Hades, Part 1

The god of the Land of the Dead was _____. He was a god so feared, no one would speak _____.

Hades, God of the Dead, chose his queen: a goddess named _____.

Hades is mythology's warden of _____. He commands the vast and frightening realm that all mortals, good and bad, must enter when they _____. It is his job to make sure they never _____.

The myth of Hades was created to make sense of what happens after _____.

Hades (the Underworld) is the Ancient Greek equivalent of heaven, hell, and _____, all under one roof.

It's the one place we can't ever _____. We can make up _____ about what's going on there.

The fate of the average person in the Underworld is to wander around the _____ shade and not live an exciting or interesting afterlife.

A vast abyss, _____ miles deep, a dungeon of suffering and eternal torment, surrounded by a _____ river: this is _____.

The Islands of the _____ was the Greeks' equivalent of heaven.

Video: Myths and Legends: The Lord of the Dead - Hades, Part 2

In the myth, Hades is a merciless master of _____, but it was not always this way.

Hades' father is _____, the king of Greece's ruling gods: the _____.

Because they're _____, the children the Cronos swallows are not dead; they're locked away inside of his belly.

After the overthrow of the Titans, the _____ now have the job of figuring out who does what in this new order. Hades is the _____ child, which gives him the advantage.

In Ancient Greek custom, the drawing of lots was a typical procedure used to divide things up that were otherwise difficult to discern. The drawing of lots was a legitimate way to make a _____ call like this. The gods draw. _____ claims the sea. Zeus claims the _____, thus becoming mythology's supreme commander, and Hades draws the short straw. He is left with _____.

In Ancient Greek, the attitude towards _____ was not so different to our feelings today towards it, so people would not worship _____ as much as they did Zeus.

Hades is a place that is _____ and _____. It's rivers are full of mist. It has the stench of _____. It's a very forbidding place. It's a place where if you go, you do not _____.