

Myth Practice Activities

Directions: Join with a family member or friend and create an outline for a Myth you could tell. To accomplish this:

1. Read a few famous Myths together. Good examples are:
 - a. Demeter and Persephone
 - b. The Japanese Creation myth of Izanagi and Izanami
 - c. The 12 Labors of Hercules
 - d. The Lakota Native American story of Bear's Tower (Devil's Tower)
2. After reading a few of these stories, decide on what type of Myth you want to tell:
 - a. An origin myth.
 - b. A Nature myth.
 - c. A Hero myth.
3. Next, decide on the setting for your story.
 - a. Where could your story take place?
 - b. What will the location look like?

*Try to be as descriptive as possible!
4. Then, decide on the characters for your story.
 - a. Who is the main character?
 - b. Who will the minor characters be?

*What kinds of characters make sense for the setting you have developed? Try to be as descriptive as possible!
5. Decide on the problem of the story.
 - a. What is the problem the main character encounters?
 - b. How does the main character solve the problem in the end?
5. As a challenge, write this story.

Myths are stories made up by ancient people in an attempt to answer the great questions of life, (Who are we? Why are we here? What is our purpose?) explain the wonders of nature, and help teach others how to live their own life. Myths are found in every region of the world. They have been so important to the different cultures of the world that we still see their impact today in terms of art, music, architecture, and specific aspects of daily life.

Origin Myths

- Stories that tried to explain how the world and people came to be.

Nature Myths

- Stories that tried to explain the "whys" of the natural world.

Hero Myths

- Stories that told of great human heroes/heroines on glorious adventures.

- These characters were guided by the Gods as they battled fierce monsters in order to save the universe.