



<p>What are myths?</p>	
<p>What kinds of myths are there?</p>	
<p>Why did people create myths?</p>	
<p>How are myths important today?</p>	



Mythology Matrix

<p><b>Civilization:</b> <i>What do you know about this civilization?</i></p>	<p><b>Title of Myth</b></p>	<p><b>Characters:</b> <i>What do we know about the gods and goddesses?</i></p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> <i>What is the theme or message of the myth?</i></p>
<p><b>India</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sanskrit was the main language of the ancient Aryans</li> <li>Created two religious epics-<i>Mahabharata and Ramayana</i>, about Hindu beliefs</li> <li><i>Panchatantra</i>—book of stories intended to teach lessons</li> </ul>	<p>from <i>The Bhagavad Gita, Song of the Lord</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Krishna-god Vishnu in human form</li> <li>Arjuna-prince</li> <li>Rama—was a prince but really the god Vishnu in human form. He was in human form to rid the world of demons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Krishna tells Arjuna how to find peace and achieve salvation</li> <li>Models how Indians should behave</li> </ul>
<p><b>Greece</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athens created the world’s first democracy</li> <li>Cleisthenes considered “father of democracy”</li> <li>Pericles was the elected leader and encouraged Athenians to participate in government. He began to pay people who served in public offices</li> </ul>	<p><i>Arachne</i></p> <p><i>Midas</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athene—goddess of wisdom</li> <li>Arachne—young woman with great weaving skills, is turned into a spider</li> <li>Midas-King of Pessinus</li> <li>Silenos-foster father and old school master of Dionysos</li> <li>Dionysos-god of wine and theater</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains why spiders were created and what happens to humans that insult the gods</li> <li>Midas is offered a reward and he asks that whatever he touches would be turned into gold. Dionysos agrees but feels he has not made a good choice. At first Midas is thrilled with his new powers but soon realizes the poor choice he made and asks Dionysos to take the power away. Explains “the Midas touch”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Romans liked science and engineering to improve their lives</li> <li>Roman architecture and art were based on Greek ideas</li> <li>Roman literature and language have influenced how people write and speak today</li> <li>Latin influenced other languages and many Latin words entered English, like <i>et cetera</i>, <i>circus</i>, and <i>veto</i> along with many legal terms</li> </ul>	<p><i>Romulus and Remus</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aeneas-Trojan hero</li> <li>Romulus and Remus-descendants of Aeneas and founders of Rome</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains the origin of Rome. Romulus was the first king of Rome taking the throne in 753 BC</li> </ul>



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<b>Sumeria</b>	<i>from The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>  <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh-He Who Saw Everything</i>		
<b>Egypt</b>	<i>The Egyptian Cinderella</i>		

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<b>India</b>	<i>from the Bhagavad Gita, Song of the Lord</i>		
<b>Greece</b>	<i>Arachne</i>  <i>Midas</i>		
<b>Rome</b>	<i>Romulus and Remus</i>		

