

## Rex Mythology - 1<sup>st</sup> grade

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### Resources Used :

1. Ancient Greece! 40 Hands on Activities to Experience This Wonderous Age by Avery Hart and Paul Mantrell
2. Spend the Day in Ancient Greece: Projects and Activities That Bring the Past to Life by Linda Honan
3. The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus by Alikei
4. Adventures of the Greek Heroes by McLean and Wiseman
5. Greek Myths for Young Children by Usborne
6. Discoveries : Ancient Greece by Louise Schofield ( Barnes and Noble Books)
7. The Children's Book of Myths and Legends retold by Ronne Randall

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## Classroom Ideas for the Study of Ancient Greece in the Lower Grades

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1. Research Project ~ Assign each child a god, goddess, hero or creature to research using select and age appropriate web sights. Provide a folder of information on each person or creature complete with pictures. The children are to then write about their person and illustrate an interesting part of their life using the KidPix program. The KidPix slides will be combined to create a slide show to be presented to the parents.

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2. Creating-a-float ~ Each child is asked to bring in a shoebox covered in a solid color paper. The children will then decorate it to represent the god, goddess, creature, or hero they are studying. These will be on display during the KidPix slide show.

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3. □ Architectural Study

**Take an architecture walk.** Discuss Doric, Ionic and Corinthian style columns. Introduce the parts of these various columns. (volute, capitals, flute) Discuss the use of the Pediment as a support structure as well as an ornamental aspect of a building. Show pictures of ornamental, decorative carved or painted designs used on many buildings. (Acanthus Leaf, Egg and Dart, Bead and Wheel, Dentil, Greek Key) Resources are from Spend the Day in Ancient Greece by Linda Honan. Give each child a clipboard with examples of the various things you have discussed together and a paper folded into 4 parts. Students will walk around the Garden District neighborhood as a group and record architecture that they recognize from class. They will illustrate and label their findings.

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4. Greek Theater - Discuss drama, Comedy and Tragedy using resources from Ancient Greece: 40 hands-on Activities by Hart and Mantell. The articles relating to our discussion are "The Importance of Theater" and "The Theater: Where Laughing and Crying Met" For visual aid we used Discoveries: Ancient Greece by Louise Schofield. The pictures of the masks used and the fold-out of the theater were impressive.

□ Make a mask ~ using paper plates, large craft sticks, and art supplies we made a two sided mask. One side represented Tragedy and the other Comedy.

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5. □ Jeopardy Game - Inspired by the students' journal writings; topics were selected for the Jeopardy board. The topics were: Gods, Goddesses, Mythology, and It's all Greek to Me. The class is then divided into two teams. The Athenians and the Olympians compete for points. Of course, both teams are winners!!!!

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6. Select one story to bring to the stage. We selected the story of Theseus and Minotaur: A Musical for Young Choirs by Audrey

Snyder and Kathleen Black published by the Hal-Leonard Corporation.

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7. Have a *Greek Festival* - prepare *Greek dishes* for the children to sample. Have them dress in the costumes that were prepared for the play.