

MEET THE GODS AND MONSTERS

In the book, *The Lightning Thief*, young Percy Jackson learns that he is not completely human, he is part Greek God, also known as a “demigod.” Here are some of the Gods and monsters featured in the musical adaptation of the book.

APOLLO



The youthful god of archery, music, poetry, and the sun. He fancies himself the “hottest” god and enjoys being the center of attention.

ARES



The son of Zeus and Hera, he is also the god of war.

ATHENA



Goddess of wisdom, war and arts. She is proud and has a bad temper.

HADES



Son of Kronos, brother to Poseidon and Zeus. Hades is the god of the Underworld.

HERMES



God of travelers, merchants and thieves. Known for his winged feet, he is always on the run.

KRONOS



Titan god of time. He is the father of Zeus, Poseidon, Hades, Demeter, Hera, and Hestia.

PAN



God of the wild, shepherds, and flocks. Pan has the legs and horns of a goat.

POSEIDON



Son of Kronos, brother of Zeus and Hades, and father of young Percy Jackson. He is also the god of the sea.

PROMETHEUS



Titan god who molded humankind out of clay.

ZEUS



Son of Kronos, brother of Poseidon and Hades, he is the king of the gods, and the ruler of humankind.

CENTAUR



Has the head and torso of a man and the body of a horse.

CYCLOPS



A giant with one large eye in the middle of his face.

FURIES



Spirits who are controlled by Hades, god of the Underworld.

HARPIES



Female monsters who take the form of birds with human faces.

MINOTAUR



A monster with the body of a man and the head and tail of a bull.



MEDUSA

A woman with hair made of venomous snakes who bragged about her beauty and was turned into a monster by Athena. Anyone who gazes at her will turn to stone, including herself if she looks into a mirror.



— HERO'S JOURNEY: — WHAT ARE YOUR SPECIAL POWERS?

PHOTOS BY JEREMY DANIEL

In stories of heroes, the protagonist starts out as a normal, insignificant, or misunderstood person. Often, they struggle to fit into society. As the story progresses, they decide to become something better than they are. They experience successes, but also setbacks and failures. Often, they even decide to give up. But then, there is a pivotal moment in the story that gives them a new perspective and understanding of what they can become and the good they can do for the world. They take action and become the hero the world needs.



In the beginning of *The Lightning Thief*, Percy Jackson thinks he is a normal 12 year old struggling with school, dyslexia and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. He is shocked to when he learns that he is actually the son of Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea. His dyslexia is the result of struggling to read English when his brain is wired to read Ancient Greek and his ADHD is a symptom of the battle reflexes inherited from his father and a personality that some find difficult to predict. Rick Riordan, who wrote the books that chronicle Percy Jackson's journey, has said that the character was inspired by his own son's struggles with dyslexia and ADHD. Instead of treating his challenges as problems, Riordan turns them into powers.

ACTIVITY: WRITE YOUR OWN HERO'S JOURNEY



CREATE

Give your hero a name. Describe what they look like. Describe their special power in detail. Draw a picture of your hero in action.



WRITE

Write a story about your hero and how their unique characteristics make them a better person in the world.

MYTH

Noun

1. A traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining some natural or social phenomenon and typically involving supernatural beings.

2. A widely held but false belief or idea

The Lightning Thief uses Greek myths, gods and monsters to tell a story of adventure set in the modern day.

Write a short mythical story about your school or your community.