Collection Development Bibliography: Mythology

Highly Recommended Books


**Summary:** These two lovely volumes showcase many figures from world mythology placed on maps illustrated in an antique style by Stuart Hill. The pretence here is that the maps have been “discovered” in the collection of the “…16th century recluse, Cornelius Waters” and “Great Great Aunt Helena,” an explorer. They are valuable additions to any collection for their global perspective and are just plain fun!

**Curricular use:** A good tie-in for studies of Ancient Cultures.

**Audience:** Grades 4-6


**Summary:** Kiviuq is a hero of Inuit mythology. In this tale he is trapped in an isolated area by a sudden storm and must make his way home before the winter sets in. Trouble is, a pack of angry, clawed mermaids wants to sink him! Creepy and atmospheric illustrations highlight this slim but engaging volume by Inuktitut language and literature professor McDermott.

**Curricular use:** A window onto the rarely seen world of the Arctic, with a lengthy vocabulary list of Inuktitut words. Useful for supplementing geography and social studies lessons.

**Audience:** Grades 2-4.


**Summary:** This beautifully illustrated volume features maps, diagrams, and labelled depictions of twelve mythological traditions: Native American; Aztec; Irish; Norse; Greek; Slavic; Hindu; Japanese; Polynesian, Egyptian; Yoruba; and Yanomami. It is missing an index, but contains an extensive pronunciation guide, featuring such figures as Mictlantecuhtli, the Aztec lord of the dead, and Egbere, the Yoruba spirit who will wail outside your window at night. A lovely introduction to many lesser known figures and tales.

**Curricular use:** A good tie-in for studies of Ancient Cultures.

**Audience:** Grades 4-7.

The Mythology Book.


**Summary:** This illustrated edition of the 2005 sensation may be more accessible for reluctant chapter book readers, and tells the same great, fast-paced story that spurred the resurgence of popular mythology a decade and half ago. Rocco’s illustrations are colorful and numerous-nearly every page contains a graphic. This will fly off the shelf.

**Curricular use:** The story line alludes to many of the major figures of Greek mythology, with a modern twist.

**Audience:** Grades 5-8.

Summary: The sequel to 2016’s *Arthur and the Golden Rope*, this is Stanton’s second entry in the **Brownstone’s Mythical Collection** series, documenting the adventures of the fictional Brownstone clan, adventurers in the vein of Indiana Jones. In this edition Marcy (the daughter of Arthur from the first book) sets out to rescue her dad when he disappears on location in Egypt while trying to extract a legendary book from inside the Sphinx. The storytelling is secondary here. It is really the delightful and entertaining illustrations that will beguile young mythology (and graphic novel) enthusiasts.

**Curricular Use**: Both books in the series mention numerous mythological figures (from Norse and Egyptian traditions). These books will serve as springboards for more detailed exploration.

**Audience**: Grades 1-4.


Summary: This graphic novel tells of Gamayun, a bird God of Slavic mythology. This is a strange, but oddly compelling, collection of short tales, in large part because of Utkin’s beguiling illustrations. The best section follows a merchant who travels with Gamayun to receive a reward from one of his three sisters.


**Audience**: Grades 5-8.

**Supplemental Books**


- **Norse Myths**. ISBN: 9781515796046.

**Audience**: Grades 4-6.


**Audience**: Grades 5-8


Includes *The Epic Adventures of Odysseus; Hades and the Underworld; Hercules and His Twelve Labors; Jason, the Argonauts and the Golden Fleece; Olympians Vs. Titans; Perseus the Hero; The Quest of Theseus*; and *The Trojan War*.

**Audience**: Grades 3-6