



# MYTHLOPEDIA™ OH MY GODS!

More spreads on  
following pages

## ↓ Profile of Apollo

Sounds Like: **uh-pol'-oh**

Roman Name: **Apollo**

Aliases: **Phoebus Apollo, "Shining One," Delphinios**

Generation: ☒ Titan ☐ Olympian ☐ Other

Divine Powers: **Archery, Healing, Music, Poetry, Prophecy, Truth**

Attributes: <b>Bow and arrow, Dolphin, Hawk, Laurel tree, Laurel wreath, Lyre, Omphalos</b>	Oracle: <b>Raven, Snake, Swan, Tripod, Wolf</b>
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Top 10 Things to Know About Me:

10. With my bow and arrow, I shot the hero Achilles right in his weak spot—his heel!
9. My twin sister and I got even with Niobe by using her kids for target practice.
8. I built a temple at Delphi where my oracles call it like I see it—shout-out to the Pythia!
7. I schooled a satyr in a music throwdown.
6. Thanks to a diet of nectar and ambrosia, the food of Olympians, I went from a baby to a full-grown god in one day.
5. My love affairs end badly—for my sweethearts, that is.
4. With my mad musical skills and poetry props, I lead the Muses.
3. I shot poisoned arrows into Agamemnon's camp to infect his soldiers with the plague.
2. I killed the Cyclopes, who'd given Zeus his thunderbolts, then spent a year on Earth, exiled from Olympus.
1. My dad, Zeus, rules heaven and earth.

## ↓ Family, Flings, Friends, and Foes

<b>▼ Parents</b> <p>Zeus and Leto</p>	<b>▼ Siblings</b> <p>Artemis</p>	<b>▼ Offspring</b> <p>Asclepius, Orpheus, Aristaeus, Troilus</p>	<b>▼ Flings</b> <p>Cassandra, Coronis, Daphne</p>	<b>▼ Friends</b> <p>The Pythia, Poseidon, Dionysus</p>	<b>▼ Foes</b> <p>Hera, Python, Eros, Agamemnon, Niobe, Marsyas</p>
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# APOLLO

## LONELY ON MOUNT OLYMPUS

Handsome god of prophecy, archery, music, and more seeks a special someone who won't "make like a tree and leave" when she sees me. I have many talents and can see into the future. Well, except when it comes to love. If you like hawks, music, and poetry, and are ready to be treated like a goddess, shoot me an arrow with your number attached. Laurel trees, no need to apply!

*I should have seen that coming!*

*Heads up, handsome!*

**REALITY CHECK**  
 In the 1960s, NASA named its crewed space program Apollo, after the god of archery and prophecy.  
Want to know more? Go to: [www.nasa.gov/collections/imagery/apollo/apollo.htm](http://www.nasa.gov/collections/imagery/apollo/apollo.htm)





# MYTHLOPEDIA™ OH MY GODS!



PERSONIFICATION A DRINK OF THE GODS

AMBROSIA FOOD OF THE GODS

## APOLLO'S

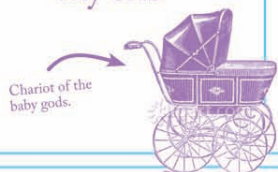
"The future's so bright, I gotta wear shades"

## MYTH LOPEDIA

### PERSONIFICATION

or giving human characteristics to a nonhuman thing, is BIG in Greek mythology. For example, the little island of Delos worries that after Apollo is born, he'll be ashamed of the modest island. Leto vows to build a temple there and Delos happily agrees to be the god's birthplace.

"From the moment I was born, I always had nectar and ambrosia in my crib"



### A GOD IS BORN

Jealous Hera throws a fit, but a little island saves the day.

Apollo and his twin sister, Artemis, were born on the island of Delos, the only place that would allow their mother, Leto, to give birth. That's because Zeus was the daddy of Leto's twins, which didn't please his wife, the goddess Hera, at all! In fact she forbade the birth to take place on land or anywhere the sun shone. Fortunately Poseidon, the god of the sea and Apollo's uncle, revealed a small bit of the island that had been covered with water (the Greek word *delos* means "visible"). As soon as Apollo was born, he was fed **nectar** and **ambrosia**, and within a day he had become a full-grown god!



### REALITY CHECK

Is there really an island of Delos? Yes! Delos is in the Aegean Sea, near the island of Mykonos. The Greeks considered it sacred, and built temples and statues there honoring the gods.

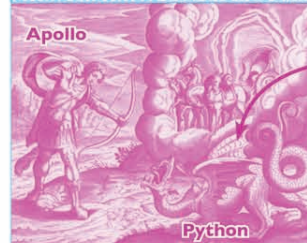
Want to know more? Go to: [whc.unesco.org/en/list/530/multiple=1&unique\\_number=620](http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/530/multiple=1&unique_number=620)

NECTAR A DRINK OF THE GODS

AMBROSIA FOOD OF THE GODS

DIVINE PROVINCES SPECIAL POWERS OR KNOWLEDGE

NECTAR A DRINK OF THE GODS



Python was born out of the slime after a major flood in Delphi.

The temple contained:

- a golden statue of Apollo
- the **omphalos**
- the supposed tomb of Dionysus
- a deep **chasm**, on top of which sat a **tripod**.

### THE ORACLE AT DELPHI

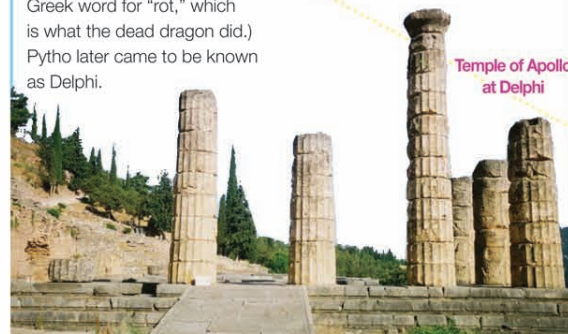
Apollo finds a spot for his temple, slays a dragon, and sets up shop at Delphi.

As the god of **prophecy**, or predicting the future, Apollo needed a temple where mortals could ask him questions. He found the perfect spot at Pytho—well, perfect after he killed a horrible dragon that lived there. Apollo's answers were spoken through the Pythia, or priestess of the temple. (The term **Pythia** resembles the Greek word for "rot," which is what the dead dragon did.) Pytho later came to be known as Delphi.

### REALITY CHECK

Was there really a Temple of Apollo? Not was. Is! The ruins of Apollo's temple at Delphi can still be seen today, on the slopes of Mount Parnassus in Greece.

Want to know more? Go to: [www.ancient-greece.org/architecture/delphi-temple-of-apollo.html](http://www.ancient-greece.org/architecture/delphi-temple-of-apollo.html)



Temple of Apollo at Delphi



### HIDE AND SEEK

Daphne makes like a tree and leaves—for good!

Apollo was madly in love with the nymph Daphne, but she didn't feel the same way. (The naughty god of love, Eros, had shot Apollo with a golden arrow to make him feel lovey-dovey, and shot Daphne with a leaden one so she'd say "NO WAY.") One day Apollo followed Daphne to the banks of the River Peneus. As he reached out to her, Daphne cried to her father, a river god, for help. Suddenly she turned into a laurel tree! Apollo swore on the spot that he'd always love Daphne. To prove it, he wore a laurel wreath on his head forever.



DIVINE PROVINCES SPECIAL POWERS OR KNOWLEDGE

NECTAR A DRINK OF THE GODS





# MYTHLOPEDIA™ OH MY GODS!







# MYTHLOPEDIA™

## SHE'S ALL THAT!

### ↓ Profile of Aphrodite

Sounds Like: **af-roh-dy'-tee**

Roman Name: **Venus**

Aliases: **Aphrodite Urania**  
(goddess of spiritual love)  
**Aphrodite Pandemos**  
(goddess of all people)

Generation: ☐ Titan  
☒ Olympian  
☐ Other

Divine Powers: **Attraction** **Love**  
**Beauty** **Reproduction**  
**Fertility**

Attributes: **Dove** **Mirror**  
**Love of laughter** **Sparrow**  
**Magic belt** **Swan**

#### Top 10 Things to Know About Me:

10. I have the power to make anyone fall in love—except for Hestia, Athena, and Artemis. Too bad for you, girls!
9. In spring and summer, I have hunky Adonis all to myself.
8. I'm the original beauty queen. How do you like them apples, Hera and Athena?
7. Thanks to Botticelli's painting *The Birth of Venus*, you might know me as "Venus on the Half-Shell."
6. Venus, the second planet from the sun, is named after me.
5. I love to cruise the 'hood in my swan-powered chariot.
4. My golden apples helped Melanion beat Atalanta in a race—and win her as his wife!
3. Watch my step! Wherever I walk, flowers spring up from the ground.
2. My hubby, Hephaestus, caught my boyfriend Ares and me in a net!
1. I stepped out of the sea on a froth of foam.

I'm irresistible, I know. I get that a lot.



# APHRODITE

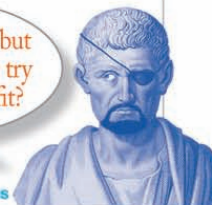
## ALL U NEED IS ♥

Since I stepped out of the sea foam, it's been *Hel-lo* Romance! The gods on Olympus are 2GTBT! Except for Zeus—who ordered me to marry that loser Hephaestus! Heph fell so hard for me that he wove me a magical golden belt that makes me *more* irresistible than I was before (LOL). Now Ares and Adonis totally ♥ me. BTW, I also won a beauty contest that just *might* have started a war.

XOXOXO



You look lovely, but could you please try on another outfit?



Hephaestus

#### REALITY CHECK

The Venus flytrap uses its leaves to catch food. When an insect lands on one of its sticky leaves, the leaf snaps shut and traps the insect.

Want to know more? Go to: [www.botany.org/bsa/misc/carn.html](http://www.botany.org/bsa/misc/carn.html)



### ↓ Family, Flings, Friends, and Foes

#### ▼ Parents



Uranus or Zeus and Dione

#### ▼ Siblings



The Furies

#### ▼ Spouse



Hephaestus

#### ▼ Offspring



Eros



Aeneas



Himeros

#### ▼ Flings



Adonis



Ares



Anchises

#### ▼ Friends



Helen of Troy



Paris



Melanion



The Graces

#### ▼ Foes



Helios



Hera



Artemis



Hestia



Athena





# MYTHLOPEDIA™ SHE'S ALL THAT!



## APHRODITE

"I am simply irresistible."

## MYTHLOPEDIA

### IT'S GREEK TO ME

The Birth of Venus was painted by Italian artist Sandro Botticelli around 1483. It shows the love goddess Aphrodite (her Roman name is Venus) rising out of the sea on a shell. This painting explains why Aphrodite is sometimes called "Venus on the Half-Shell."

"Spread the love!"

### SEA FOAM SWEETHEART

The goddess of love steps out of the sea in a froth of foam.

A goddess as gorgeous as Aphrodite was too special to be born in an ordinary way. After the Titan Cronus mutilated his father, Uranus (the sky), he threw some of Uranus's body parts into the sea. The waters began

to foam and froth. Suddenly, from the foam rose the beautiful goddess of love, Aphrodite. The waves carried her to the island of Cyprus, and as Aphrodite stepped onto land, flowers sprang up beneath her feet. Now that's what you call making an entrance!

### REALITY CHECK

The Greek word for foam, *aphros*, sounds similar to Aphrodite's name. How appropriate, since the goddess was born in a froth of sea foam!



### FAIREST OF THEM ALL

Aphrodite wins a beauty contest—and starts a war!

All the gods and goddesses were gathered at a wedding, except for one: Eris, the goddess of discord. Annoyed that she hadn't been invited, Eris started trouble by tossing a golden apple marked "For the Most Beautiful" into the reception. The goddesses Aphrodite, Hera, and Athena each claimed that the apple was intended for her, and they began to argue. The mighty god Zeus decided that Paris, prince of Troy, should settle the argument by judging a beauty contest. Each goddess contestant offered Paris a bribe, hoping that he would choose her as the most beautiful.

Paris couldn't resist Aphrodite's offer: She promised to make

him irresistible to Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world. Helen was already married to Menelaus, king of Sparta, but that didn't stop Paris. The prince kidnapped Helen and took her to Troy. The Greek hero Agamemnon led an expedition to rescue Helen, igniting the Trojan War.

"Well, obviously the apple was meant for me. I mean, *dub!*"



### FIRST ANNUAL MOUNT OLYMPUS BEAUTY CONTEST!

Official Entry Form

Name: Aphrodite Eyes: Ocean blue Hair: Heavenly gold Special talent: Love, and lots of it!  
What is your greatest asset?  
Wow, this question is so hard to answer! My beautiful blue eyes? My long, lustrous hair? My perfect skin? As amazing as those are, my greatest asset is probably my ability to spread love. And who doesn't love LOVE?  
Who is your hero?  
Well, probably myself, because I make everyone so happy when they are in love, and also I am so beautiful.  
Final Notes: I'm so excited to be a contestant for the title! I just know you're going to love me!

Up top!

High five, Bro!



### BIG BABIES

Sons of the love goddess share the love.

The goddess of love was always accompanied by her sons Eros and Himeros. Eros (Roman, Cupid) is the better known of the two: He was the god of love. With his gold-tipped arrows he could arouse love in anyone he chose to shoot—god or mortal. But Eros also had lead-tipped arrows that could inspire loathing. Himeros was the god of longing. He, too, had a bow and arrows that he used on gods and mortals. Unlike Eros, Himeros was a minor god who was paid little attention by mortals except for those he shot.

### REALITY CHECK

When Shakespeare's Romeo first sees Juliet, he says, "Did my heart love till now? Forswear it, sight! For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night." Perhaps he was struck by one of Eros's arrows!

Want to know more? Go to:  
[http://shakespeare.mit.edu/romeo\\_juliet/full.html](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/romeo_juliet/full.html)





# MYTHLOPEDIA™ WHAT A BEAST!

## EYE CANDY®

### Spring Bling for the Pantheon's Elite

The "King of Bling," Hephaestus, and his crew of crafty Cyclopes present EYE CANDY® dazzling accessories for Mount Olympus VIGs!

**EYE CANDY®**  
one-of-a-kind,  
custom-forged jewelry,  
weapons, chariots,  
wondrous objects,  
and more!

Have I got a magic belt for you!

Decent!

Powerful!

Does the warranty cover arrow damage?

Can you make it any sharper?

Hephaestus

Aphrodite

Ares

Zeus

Cyclops

Cyclops

Athena

Cyclops

Poseidon





# MYTHLOPEDIA™ WHAT A BEAST!

## MEDUSA MAKEOVER

Go from GLAM to GROSS in a few simple steps!

Smooth hair  
is out!

Soft, clear skin is a  
sure sign of health.  
Who needs that?

Bright, shiny  
eyes just  
won't do.

Perfect smile?  
That's no way  
to scare the  
neighbors.

**BEFORE**

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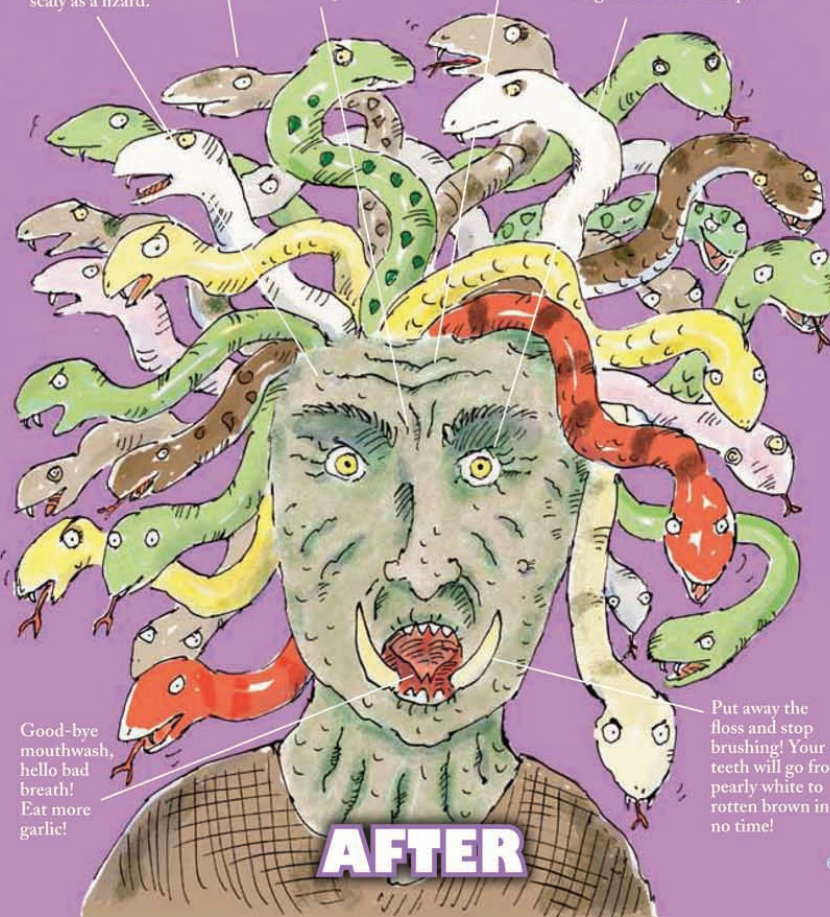
Nothing says hideous like serpents  
for hair. Let them go wild all over  
your head for a more natural look.

Create permanent  
wrinkles by frowning.

Soap? Sunblock?  
You won't need it  
when your skin is as  
scaly as a lizard.

Remember, furrow that  
brow—deeper!

Tired of everyone looking at you?  
Stare back with a stony gaze and  
watch the fun begin! Remember,  
sunglasses are for wimps.



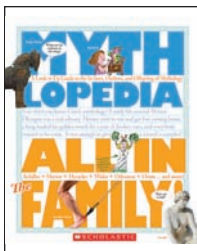
Good-bye  
mouthwash,  
hello bad  
breath!  
Eat more  
garlic!

Put away the  
floss and stop  
brushing! Your  
teeth will go from  
pearly white to  
rotten brown in  
no time!

**AFTER**

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# MYTHLOPEDIA™

## ALL IN THE FAMILY!

### Profile of Heracles

Sounds Like: **herr'-uh-kleez**

Roman Name: **Hercules**

Generation: ☐ Titan  
☒ Olympian  
☐ Other: Hero

Characteristics: **Courage**  
**Fickleness**  
**Fierceness**  
**Loyalty**  
**Strength**

Attributes: **Club**  
**Lion skin**

#### Top 10 Things to Know About Me:

1. For all my troubles on Earth, I finally made it to Mount Olympus.
2. Nobody would build my funeral pyre, so I built it myself.
3. My wife gave me a shirt that finally did me in.
4. Two serpents tried to kill me in my cradle, but I strangled them first.
5. My favorite weapons are my club and my poison-tipped arrows.
6. I'm not so lucky with the ladies.
7. I completed ten labors put to me by King Eurystheus, but then that trickster made me do two more!
8. My life is a challenge, that's for sure.
9. Hera, Zeus's wife, hates me. REALLY hates me.
10. My father is a god.

All I do is work, work, work ...

### Family, Flings, Friends, and Foes

#### Parents



Zeus and Alcmena

#### Spouses



Megara



Deianeira

#### Offspring



Hyllus

#### Flings



Iole

#### Friends



Jason



Prometheus

#### Foes



Hera



Hydra



Nessus



King Eurystheus

# HERACLES

## HERO FOR HIRE

What can I do for you? Are vicious monsters terrorizing your town? Ferocious beasts running wild? Is a vengeful goddess all up in your grille? There's no monster too mean, no beast too big, and no labor too lowly—I'll tackle them all and be home in time for dinner! Limited time offer: Two-for-one Hero Special! That's right! Two impossible feats for one low price. I must be crazy to offer such a deal!

And take the garbage out!

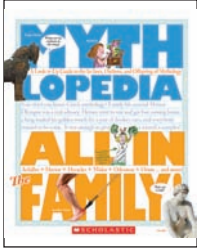
### REALITY CHECK

The C-130 Hercules military aircraft takes its name from the mighty hero Hercules (Heracles), for whom no challenge was too great. It was originally designed to evacuate people in emergencies and transport cargo. Today it has many more uses, such as fighting fires and observing weather.

Want to know more? Go to: [http://www.globalaircraft.org/planes/c-130\\_hercules.pl](http://www.globalaircraft.org/planes/c-130_hercules.pl)



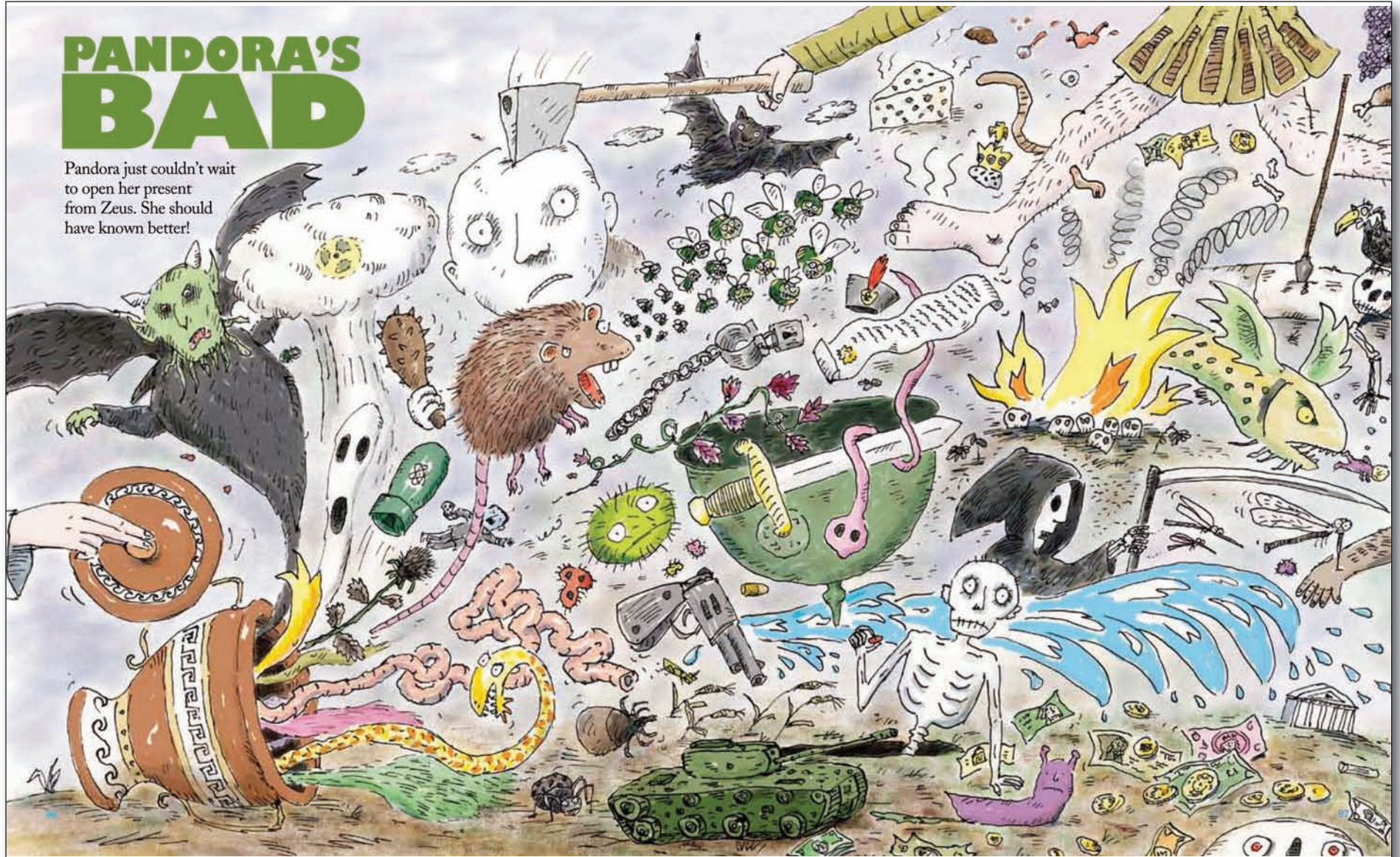




# MYTHLOPEDIA™ ALL IN THE FAMILY!

## PANDORA'S BAD

Pandora just couldn't wait to open her present from Zeus. She should have known better!





# MYTHLOPEDIA™

**M**YTHLOPEDIA™, a four-book series of Look-It-Up Guides to classical Greek mythology, takes a humorous, “irREferent,” kid-friendly approach to a complex subject. This series presents the superstars of Greek mythology along with the myths that put them in the pantheon.

- **Full-spread illustrated map** of ancient Greece
- **Introduction:** Origins of mythology
- **A-Z Hall of Fame:** Yearbook-style entries
- **Profiles and Myths:**
  - First-person profiles; Pronunciation and Roman name; Key attributes, powers, and characteristics; “Top Ten Things to Know about Me”; Family, Friends, Flings, and Foes
  - Reality Checks connect ancient mythology to the present day “real world”
  - Curriculum-related myths; Sidebars explain difficult concepts and terms
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