Myths
Stories From the Beginning of Time
What is a myth?

- An ancient story dealing with supernatural beings, ancestors, and heroes.
- It explains the view of a group of people.
Which cultures have myths?

- Every culture has its own mythology
- Universal symbols and themes appear in different cultures’ myths
- Greek, Roman, Native American, Celtic, South American, African, and Norse mythology are examples of myths from different cultures
What are some characteristics of myths?

- Contain heroes and heroines
- Supernatural elements
- Gods and goddesses
- Explains a natural phenomenon
- Told orally (spoken)
Why did ancient people tell myths?

- To help explain the unexplainable
- To explain natural phenomenon
- To tell about their heroes
- To explain human nature
- To teach morals and values
Why do we still study mythology?

- To learn about ancient cultures
- As inspiration for the arts
- To teach values and morals
- For entertainment
What Myths Can You Think Of?
The word mythology is Greek in origin (etymology)

- Muthos = story
- Logo = speech or argument