

As the goddess of wisdom, Athena was held in high regard by all, mortal and immortal alike. She was the goddess of wisdom, crafts, and skills. Athena is depicted as wearing a full suit of armor, a helmet, and an aegis (shield). She wields a spear that has a picture of the Gorgon's head painted on it.



She is associated with the owl (which symbolizes wisdom), and an owl is often seen perched on her shoulder.

She was Zeus's favorite daughter and was said to have sprung from his head fully grown and armed. She was the protector of heroes in battle, leading armies whenever their causes were just, and watched closely over the city of Athens.

Apollo: The Sun God

Apollo, god of light, the sun, music, and poetry, was the most beautiful of gods. He was also the god of medicine and was the first to teach mortals the art of healing. He was a fine marksman and shot silver arrows from his silver bow. And at Delphi, on Mount Olympus, he had an oracle through which he predicted the future. People came from far and wide to consult the oracle and find out the will of the gods. It is



said that he is the one who carries the sun across the sky each day, pulling it with his sun chariot.

Apollo was the twin to Artemis. He was considered the god of archery, and while his sister lived only for the hunt, Apollo was a versatile god and enjoyed a great many things. He was at times a shepherd or cowherd, at other times a great musician not to be seen without his lyre or cithara. Apollo is associated with several different creatures, including the wolf, deer, dolphin, crow, vulture, and swan, and is also associated with the laurel plant.

Artemis: Goddess of the Hunt

Being goddess of the hunt, Artemis was little interested in anything else. She roamed the mountainsides with a band of nymphs, hunting animals and, at times, even men. But don't think her bad. She was also the protector of children, wild animals, and the weak. Legend has it that her arrows could cause sudden death without pain, but if one were to get on her bad side, Artemis was said to have been quite vindictive and vengeful.



Artemis is most often depicted carrying her weapon of choice—a bow and arrows. Some myths even describe her as a girl-child—

eternally youthful — as tame as the wild animals she hunted and protected. As all wild animals are within her domain, she is not associated with one in particular.

Artemis and Apollo would not have been born if Hera had her way. But their mother, Leto, was able to escape Hera and give birth, first to Artemis. Though an infant, Artemis was said to have helped her mother through nine days of intensive labor to give birth to Apollo. Since their mother had suffered so much for them, Artemis and Apollo would continuously protect and indulge her throughout the myths.