

Roman Religion

- Before Christianity, the Romans believed in many different Gods and Goddesses.
- They adopted many of the Greek Gods and Goddesses, and based their beliefs on a series of myths and superstitions.
- What is a myth?
- What is a superstition?

ROMAN GODS AND GODDESSES



Jupiter

Juno

Neptune

Minerva

Mars

Venus

Apollo

Diana

Vesta

Mercury

Roman God: Jupiter

Greek name : Zeus

King of all the Gods

- Brother of Neptune
- Wife; Juno
- Lots of children
- Short temper
- Sense of humour
- Lots of girlfriends
- Not afraid of anything
– except his wife!



Roman Goddess: Juno

Greek name : Hera

Queen of all the Gods

- Goddess of marriage
- Husband; Jupiter
- Jealous of her husband
- Did not like children Jupiter had with other women
- Many stories of jealousy, anger and revenge



Roman God: Neptune

Greek name : Poseidon

Lord of the Sea

- Good looking
- Always on the move
- Very powerful
- Many wives
- Sailors and people who lived near the sea were terrified of Poseidon



Roman Goddess: Minerva

Greek name : Athena

Goddess of Wisdom

- Daughter of Jupiter
- No mother
- Born out of Jupiter's brain
- Jupiter's favourite child
- Always on the move
- Very powerful



Roman God: Mars

Greek name : Aries

God of War

- Son of Jupiter and Juno
- Tall, handsome, mean and self centred
- Did not care who won a battle, just liked bloodshed
- Other gods and goddesses avoided him
- Only caused trouble



Roman Goddess; Venus

Greek name : Aphrodite

Goddess of Love and Beauty

- Daughter of Jupiter
- Could be kind and harsh
- Only ever caused havoc accidentally or if you truly angered her
- Vain



Roman God; Apollo

Greek name : Apollo

God of Sun, Music and Light

- Son of Jupiter and Latona
- Twin sister – Diana
- Very protective of his mother Latona
- Gentle and full of warmth



Roman Goddess; Diana

Greek name : Artemis

God of Hunting and the Moon

- Daughter of Jupiter and Leto
- Twin brother; Apollo
- Cold and pitiless
- Loved floppy-eared dogs



Roman Goddess; Vesta

Greek name : Hestia

Goddess of the Home

- Jupiter's sister
- Important to women
- Watched over women sewing and cooking
- Guardian of women



Roman Goddess; Mercury

Greek name : Hermes

Messenger of the Gods

- Son of Jupiter
- Mischievous and lots of fun
- Fast on his feet and very clever
- Trustworthy and loyal
- Good negotiator
- Helping others out of trouble



Family Tree

