

William F. Natale Jr.

Reading and Writing Via the Myths. Curriculum Unit 83.02.05

USA (1983)

TAGS: [Olympian gods](#) [Homer](#) [Greek History](#) [Roman History](#)

General information	
<i>Title of the work</i>	Reading and Writing Via the Myths. Curriculum Unit 83.02.05
<i>Year of publication</i>	1983
<i>Country of publication</i>	USA
<i>Publisher</i>	<p>Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute</p> <p>According to the publisher, the webpage for the Curricular Resources of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute allows users to search for thousands of curriculum units in STEM and the humanities. These units were written by Institute Fellows in local seminars in New Haven led by Yale University faculty members between 1978, the year the Institute was founded, and 2019. These units are readily adaptable for use throughout pre-college grades.</p> <p>Users can browse and search for these units using keywords, our topical index, and our listings of units by year and by volume. The topical index might be especially useful to audiences of your project interested in curriculum units about mythology, Ancient Greece, and other subjects related to Antiquity.</p> <p>URL: https://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/curriculum/</p> <p>For similar content, see also the Yale National Initiative</p> <p>URL: https://teachers.yale.edu/curriculum/search/start</p>
<i>Original language</i>	English
<i>Target and Age Group</i>	4th – 6th grades
<i>Link (to resource)</i>	Reading and Writing Via the Myths Accessed on 25 June, 2020
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Creators

William F. Natale Jr.

William F. Natale Jr. is part of a group of seventy-nine teachers from New Haven, who organised seminars on topics related to curriculum developments between March and August 1983, including one on The seminar entitled "Greek and Roman Mythology", led by William G. Thalmann, Associate Professor of Classics from USC.

Additional information

Contents & Purpose

The purpose of this unit is to encourage reading and creative writing. The creator's aim among others, is "to use mythology as an impetus to creativity in other areas of schoolwork such as in art, English, and social studies", hence link between mythology and other subject from the students' curriculum.

The activities involve reading, creative writing: sending letters to other students while pretending to be characters from a story (for example, writing a letter to Zeus), giving stories new endings, keeping a diary as a main character, writing new stories similar to the ones in the book, class newspaper. Art: creating posters, dolls, clay figures. Drama: pantomime, puppets show, panel discussions.

The unit also provides introduction to early Greek and Roman history.

The unit includes three lesson plans samples, bibliography for teachers and students, various materials for classroom use (videos, records, etc.).

Further comments

This unit focuses on using mythology as an incentive for reading for young students, relying on the entertainment values of the myths (adapted to young readers). The myths offer adventure stories, fantasy, heroes and more. Furthermore, the creator wishes to introduce the reading of myth to other subjects in the students' curricula, thus emphasizing the universalism of myth, which can relate to other learning fields as well.
