ATTRIBUTES—CLUES ABOUT WHO’S WHO

Myths are stories, and artists can be great storytellers. To help you recognize the characters in a story, ancient artists depicted them with unique clothing, weapons, or other identifying objects—even animals. These objects are called attributes; they tell us who’s who.

HUNT through the Villa galleries.
FIND the Greek deities described below.
LOOK closely and identify their attributes.

Dionysos, god of wine and theater
In Gallery 114, find a bearded man with long hair and a crown of ivy or grape leaves.

List his attributes:
1. Crown of ivy or grape leaves

2. ______________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________

Athena, goddess of wisdom and warfare
In Gallery 104, find a woman dressed for battle.

List her attributes:
1. Helmet

2. ______________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________
Your Choice
Find another god or goddess to describe.

Name: ____________________________
God/goddess of ____________________________ in Gallery _____

List his/her attributes:
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

NAME THAT ATTRIBUTE
Recognizing the symbols of mythological characters can help you identify the
gods, goddesses, and heroes represented throughout the Villa. As a group,
share the attributes of each deity that you found. If you had an attribute of your
own, what would it be?

TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER
When you return to your classroom, do some
investigative reporting on the adventures of the
god or goddess you selected.

DRAW a scene from one of their stories—such as
Athena being born from Zeus’s head.

OR

WRITE a story about one of their feats—such as
Demeter negotiating the release of her daughter,
Persephone, from the Underworld.