

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.

