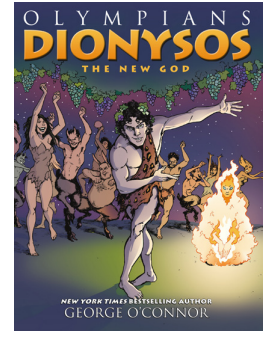
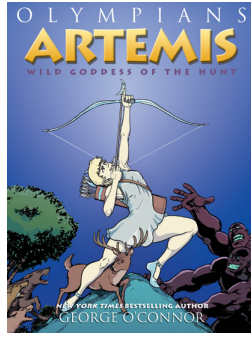
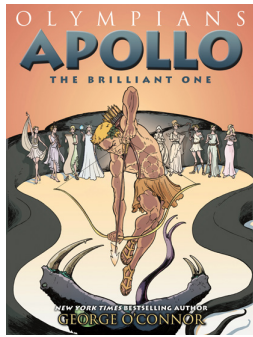
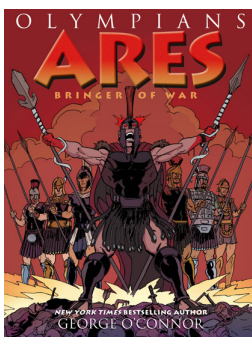
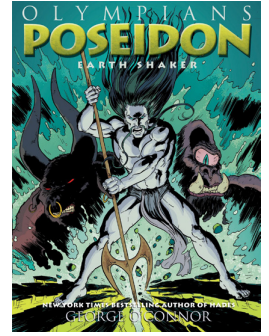
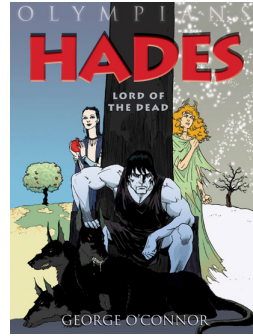
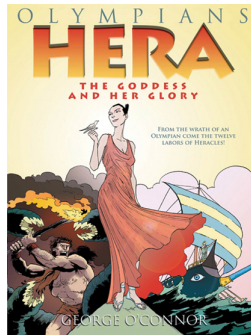
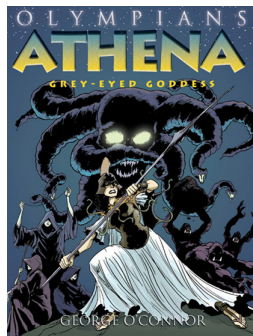
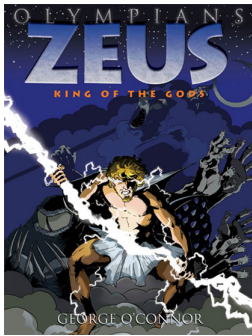


# ABOUT THE SERIES

IN **OLYMPIANS**, George O'Connor draws from primary documents to reconstruct and retell classic Greek myths. They're action-packed, fast-paced, high-drama fantasy adventures, with monsters, romance, and not a few huge explosions. O'Connor's vibrant, kinetic art brings ancient tales to undeniable life, in a perfect fusion of super-hero aesthetics and ancient Greek mythology.



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**GEORGE O'CONNOR** is the *New York Times*–bestselling author of the *Olympians*, a series of graphic novels featuring the tragic, dramatic, and epic lives of the Greek gods. George is also the creator of popular picture books such as the *New York Times*–bestselling *Kapow!* and *If I Had A Triceratops*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

## BEFORE READING: GREEK MYTHOLOGY

1. It's been said by many comics fans that today's superheroes are our version of the Greek gods. In what ways do you think this is true? What are the roots of these heroes in Greek mythology? Which modern heroes are most like the Greek gods?
2. Why do the stories of the Greek gods still matter to us? What is the importance of reading about their stories? What is the purpose of Greek mythology?
3. Who are some of the Greek gods you know about? What are their traits?
4. What is your favorite Greek mythology story?
5. In what ways are the Greek myths and gods connected to other cultures and religions?
6. The Greek gods often look like humans. Are they like us? In what ways are they alike and how are they different?

## SERIES DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What morals or lessons from these stories can be applied to life today?
2. Which god would you want to be? Why?
3. Which god would you choose to follow? Why?
4. Create a new god for the world of today, complete with an origin story. What obstacle(s) would they have to overcome? Draw this new god. What powers would they have? Where would they live? What would their outfit look like? Or even create yourself as this new god. What would your quest be? What would be the moral of your story? Create a comic based on this moral.
5. Research the story of the god depicted in one of the myths in this series. Discuss, write, or draw your own story. Possible research sources: [www.theoi.com/greek-mythology/greek-gods.html](http://www.theoi.com/greek-mythology/greek-gods.html), [www.greekmythology.com/](http://www.greekmythology.com/), [www.ducksters.com/history/ancient\\_greek\\_mythology.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_greek_mythology.php), [pantheon.org/mythology/greek/](http://pantheon.org/mythology/greek/).

6. The gods often change shapes. Why do you think they do this? What shape would you choose? Draw the god in this new shape.
7. Create a character trait list for the Greek god you are reading about. Compare this with lists from other students. What are some ways they are alike and how are they different?
8. Using the author's Greek Notes provided at the end of each book, reflect upon and discuss the top three notes that really added to the story or surprised you the most. Go back and compare the notes to the panels being written about. How do they change your understanding of the story?
9. Pick one image or panel from a comic you read in the series and write a paragraph describing your choice. Compare this to the choices of other students.
10. If you were one of the Greek gods, how would you interact with humanity?
11. What is your favorite moral from these stories? Which one makes you think of experiences in your own life?
12. Analyze the covers of the books and discuss how they do or do not match the personality or character of each god.
13. In what ways do colors and symbols play a part in these stories?
14. The Greek gods often go by different names. Come up with a new name for each god you read about.
15. Discuss the impact of reading these stories in comics form.
16. Which of these gods should replace Zeus as being in charge of Olympus? Why? Debate this with other students, perhaps even defending Zeus.
17. Compare these stories to other cultures and religions. Are there any similarities?
18. What would you add to or change about one of the books? Explore the author's website for ideas—[www.georgeoconnorbooks.com/foreducators](http://www.georgeoconnorbooks.com/foreducators)—and choose an activity. For several of the books, there is the ability to add art or words to the original drawings.