

Tips for Families

Level 4 Module 2 | *Myths and Enduring Stories*

We are excited about the skills and knowledge that your student will build in *Arts & Letters*™ level 4 module 2. Read on to learn more—and for ideas about how you can support learning outside of school.

What topic is my student studying?

Arts & Letters students build knowledge of important topics in history, science, and literature. They build their vocabulary and background knowledge so that they are ready to learn more. In level 4 module 2, *Myths and Enduring Stories*, students consider the lasting qualities of myths and stories that entertain, teach, and connect people across time and place. They answer the module's Essential Question: What do people learn from myths and stories?

Support your student by asking questions like these about the topic:

- How does your family or community share stories? What stories do they share?
- What is one of your favorite stories? Why do you like the story?

What is my student reading?

Arts & Letters students read books, poems, and articles. They study art. They watch knowledge-building videos. Together, these resources build students' knowledge and literacy, including their understanding of different text genres. In level 4 module 2, students read and learn from these books:

- *Gifts from the Gods: Ancient Words and Wisdom from Greek and Roman Mythology*, Lise Lunge-Larsen and Gareth Hinds
- excerpt from *Understanding Greek Myths*, Natalie Hyde
- *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, Brian Selznick

Support your student by talking about books and reading together at home. Continue to read aloud to your student, choosing more advanced books than they could read to themselves and discussing what you read.

What is my student writing?

In *Arts & Letters*, students write about what they are learning, and they build their skills by writing narratives, opinion essays, and informative essays. Each module focuses on one type of writing. In *Myths and Enduring Stories*, students plan, organize, and write stories using words derived from Greek and Roman myths.

Support your student's writing by ensuring they have tools, technology, and opportunities to write. Provide time for your student to use a computer at school, at home, or at the local library to write a story they can share with family and friends.



What vocabulary is my student learning?

Learning more words enables students to read, write, and speak at higher levels and about different topics.

In this module, your student will study and use these words:

- endure
- fortune
- heroic
- illuminate
- invention
- muse
- myth
- nemesis
- story
- victory

Engage your student in talking about and using these words and in exploring words more broadly. For example, with your student, follow a website that features a word of the day. Discuss each day's word, its meaning, and its origin with your student.

What else can we do to continue learning outside of school?

If you speak a language other than English, engage your student in speaking, reading, and writing in your home language. Engage in some of the literacy activities above in that language.

Support your student in researching the author of their favorite book. Discuss with your student what they learn from their research.

Invite your student to share their favorite children's story with a younger sibling or friend. Encourage them to consider creative ways to tell the story. For example, they could invent unique voices for different characters, create a short video, or use puppets.

