

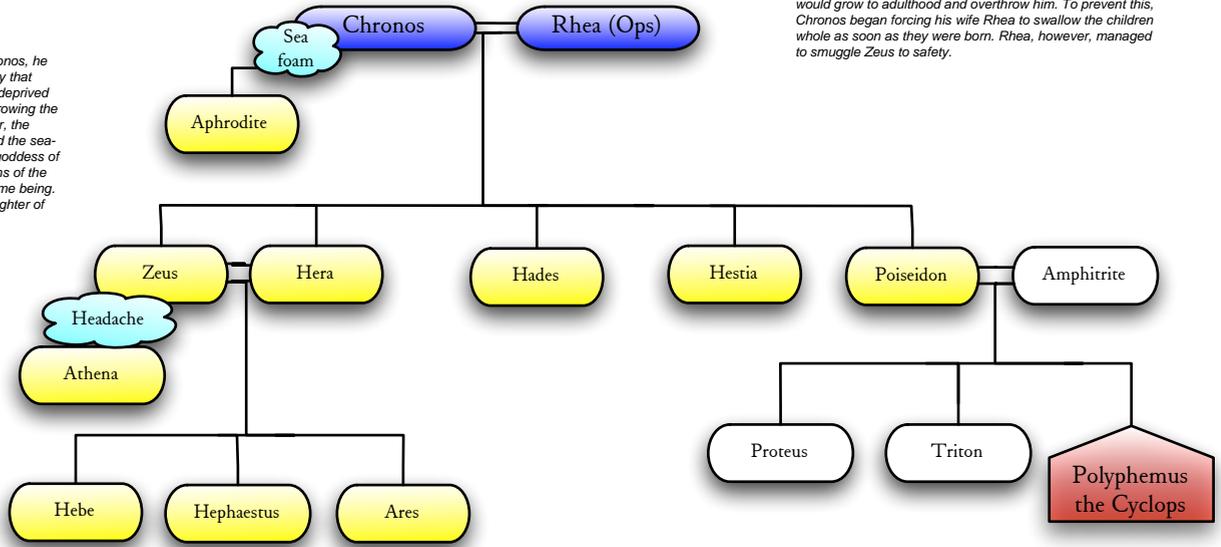
The Greek legends appear in many different mythological works, and not all the authors agree about which deity gave birth to whom when. The major accounts include Hesiod's *Theogony*, Aeschylus' *Prometheus Bound*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and, of course, Sophocles, Homer, and Virgil.

OLYMPIAN GODS IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY

The Fates warned Chronos (Time) that one of his children would grow to adulthood and overthrow him. To prevent this, Chronos began forcing his wife Rhea to swallow the children whole as soon as they were born. Rhea, however, managed to smuggle Zeus to safety.

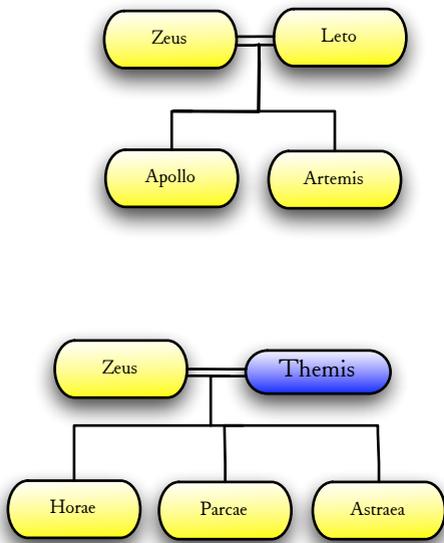
When Zeus, overthrew his father, Chronos, he did not want to kill him in the same way that Chronos killed Uranus. Instead, Zeus deprived him of power by castrating him and throwing the body parts into the sea-foam. However, the Titan's generative powers impregnated the sea-foam, and from this arose Aphrodite, goddess of love and erotic desire. In some versions of the myth, Chronos and Uranus are the same being. In other versions, Aphrodite is the daughter of Zeus and Dione.

Athena's birth was rather unorthodox. She sprang fully grown and armored from Zeus' head after he had a splitting headache. From where else should wisdom come but the head of the leader of the gods?

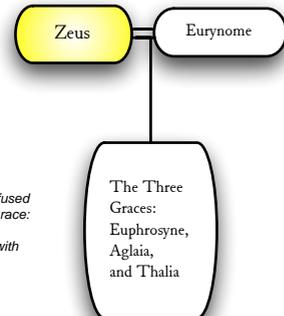
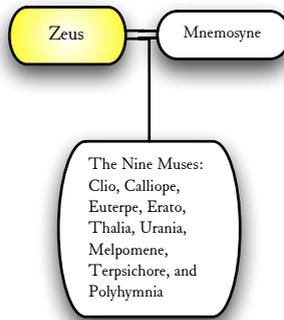
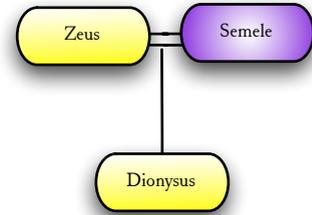
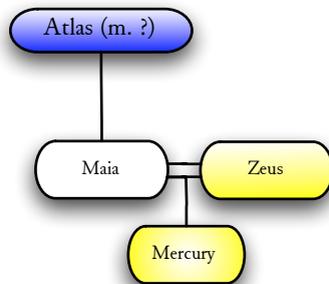


ZEUS' MANY LOVERS

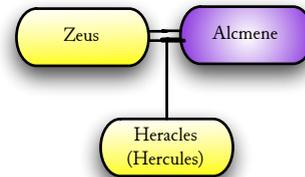
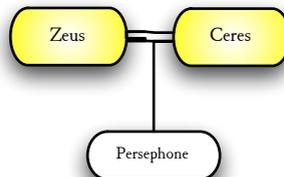
Zeus was particularly promiscuous, a fact that made for much strife between him and his wife Hera, the goddess of marriage. It also led jealous Hera to persecute relentlessly his half-human children and his mortal lovers.



In some myths, the Parcae or Fates are the offspring of primal nocturnal forces (see earlier sheet). In other legends, they are offspring of Zeus and the Titan Themis (Law). This Titan, rather than serve her term of imprisonment in Tartarus, offered her services to Zeus as a counselor in legal matters. Their children are all in some way connected to divine order, the Horae representing the hours of the day, the Parcae representing divine fate, and Astraea serving as the blindfolded goddess of Justice.



Thalia the Muse shouldn't be confused with Thalia the Grace: same name, but different beings with different powers.



Key:
Gold: Gods
White: Lesser Deities
Purple: Mortals or nymphs
Red: Monsters
Blue: Titans