

Apollo, god of the sun, poetry and medicine

Apollo is the Greek god of music, poetry, light, prophecy, and medicine. He is one of the Twelve Olympian gods who live on Mount Olympus. Artemis, the Greek goddess of hunting, is his twin sister. His symbols include the musical instrument, the lyre, and the raven.

Powers

Like all the Olympian gods, Apollo was an immortal and powerful god. He had many special powers including the ability to see into the future and power over light. He could also heal people or bring illness and disease. When in battle, Apollo was deadly with the bow and arrow.

Personality

Apollo usually is a calm, wise and knowledgeable god, who likes to write poems and sing songs with his friends, the Muses. He is loyal to his father Zeus and has a great love for his mother. He is liked by all the gods. He was also a clever fighter and could send diseases or heal the sick during battle.



Apollo shown on a Greek vase.



A bust of Apollo

Interesting facts

Apollo and Poseidon once attempted to overthrow Zeus. As punishment, they were forced to work for mortals for a time. It was during this time that they built the great walls of Troy.

Apollo was the leader of the Muses; goddesses which provided the inspiration for science, art, and literature. The god Hermes created the lyre, a stringed musical instrument, for Apollo. This is why he became god of music.

Apollo's involvement with disease and healing means that he became the god of health and healing which meant he was often an important god to pray to during battle.