

Artemis, the goddess of the moon and the hunt

In Ancient Greek religion, people worshipped many different Gods. Artemis was the daughter of Zeus and the goddess of hunting and of the moon. Her twin brother, Apollo, was god of the sun. Artemis' symbols were a bow and arrow, dogs, deer and bears.



Artemis and her
bow and arrow

Powers

Artemis had perfect aim with her bow and arrow and was extremely clever. There are a lot of myths featuring Artemis that show how clever she was. She was also able to transform herself and others into animals and she had healing powers. Because she was often found in woods and forests, she had control of nature.

Personality

Artemis was very strong-willed and knew exactly what she wanted. When she was three years old, she asked Zeus if she could be known by three different names which would fit her moods and reflect the changing moon. When she was cheerful and the moon was bright, she was called Selene. When she was in a bad mood and the moon was dark, she was called Hecate. The rest of the time she was called Artemis.

Interesting facts

Artemis didn't enjoy the company of men and so Zeus gave her female followers called nymphs instead. Artemis never fell in love with a man and used lots of clever tricks so that she never had to spend time with any gods or mortal men. Artemis was especially honoured by the tribe of warrior women, the Amazons. They never married either.

Because she was a goddess of the moon, Artemis has a crater on the moon named after her.

Artemis was a clever and strong goddess who was worshipped by women and who valued nature. She was one of the Twelve gods of Olympus.



A Greek statue of
Artemis