



Parthenon Songs and Stories

Steve West, Intern (Belmont University)

Lesson: A Story Within A Story

Work of Art: The Parthenon's East Pediment / Zeus and the Birth of Athena

Lesson Grade level: All

Subject areas: Music, Mythology, Language Arts, and Visual Arts

Line of Inquiry

How can we use songwriting and poetry to deepen our understanding of what Zeus, Athena, and the Parthenon represent?

Entry Point

Learn the story of the pediments and appreciate the artistic beauty of Alan LeQuire's reproduction of Athena -- then have some fun by writing lyrics about Zeus and Athena set to the music of The Beatles' "Hey Jude."

Warm Up

Listen to the recording of Hey Jude with your imagination wide open. Without knowing the story behind the song, what do you imagine it to be?

Activity

After selecting a favored first line for a verse, build on the story with additional related verses and choruses.

Materials required

CD, boom box, erasable markers, singing voices, imagination.

HEY ZEUS
Music by Paul McCartney
(Tune: "Hey, Jude")
New lyrics by Steve West

Hey Zeus... don't feel so bad
You have a son who'll make you feel better.
Remember to let it into your head
And then instead you'll start to feel better.

Hey Zeus... don't be in pain
You'll feel fine once all this is over.
The minute you let her out of your head
You'll find instead you'll start to feel better.

(Bridge)

Athena's out and she's got snakes, she's great, she's cool
Medusa is right there on her breastplate.
And don't you know that Zeus is too, his son, his tools
Relieved him of all his pounding headaches.

Na nana na na nana na na

Hey Zeus, don't be afraid
You've released her for all the people.
Athena will gladly open her heart
And do her part to make things better, better, better... ahhh

Na nana nana na na.... nana na na.... hey Zeus
Na nana nana na na.... nana na na.... hey Zeus