

Poseidon

Vocabulary Words

1. trident (noun) a weapon used in the past consisting of a pole with three sharp metal points on the end
Example: The young child found the trident of Neptune and gained its powers.
2. defeat (verb) to win against someone in a fight, war, or competition
Example: Napoleon was defeated by the Duke of Wellington at the battle of Waterloo.
3. underworld (noun) in mythology, a place under the earth where the spirits of the dead go
Example: Hercules and Xena joined forces to save Persephone from the underworld.
4. calm (adjective) peaceful, quiet, and without worry:
Example: He has a very calm manner.
5. shatter (verb) to (cause something to) break suddenly into very small pieces:
Example: The glass shattered into a thousand tiny pieces.



Poseidon was the god of the sea in ancient Greek mythology. According to legend, he was one of the 12 chief gods who lived on Mount Olympus. Poseidon also was said to have a palace under the sea. Poseidon's main symbols were the dolphin and the **trident**.

According to legend, Poseidon was the son of Cronus and Rhea, who were Titans. The Titans were a race of giants who once ruled the world. Poseidon had two

brothers, Zeus and Hades. Together they **defeated** the Titans and took power. Zeus became the supreme ruler on Earth, and Hades became the lord of the **underworld**. Poseidon became the ruler of the oceans.

The ancient Greeks believed that Poseidon used his trident to **stir up** storms at sea or to **calm** the waves. He also used his trident to **shatter** rocks. Because of this, he became known as the god of earthquakes. The Greeks also honored Poseidon as the creator of the horse.

Discussion

1. If you have the power over the ocean, what would you do?
2. Have you heard about Atlantis? What do you know about it?
3. What do you imagine Atlantis looks like?
4. If you can live underwater in the legendary world of Atlantis, would you want to? Why or why not?
5. Which part of marine life do you think scientists should try to discover more about?