Mythology is a collection of traditional stories that express the beliefs or values of a group of people. The stories often focus on human qualities such as good and evil. Myths often tell the story of ancestors, supernatural beings, heroes, gods, or goddesses with special powers. Sometimes myths try to describe aspects of customs or explain natural events such as the sun or lightning. These stories sometimes contain mythical characters such as mermaids, unicorns, or dragons. All cultures have some type of myths.

Task:
1. Select one of the 88 recognized constellations & research real-life information about it.
2. Create (write) an original myth about your constellation and present it to the class.
3. Create (make) a visual aid of your constellation to use during your presentation.

Your visual aid and written information will be scored using the attached rubric.

Use this worksheet to collect and organize information about your constellation and myth.

***You will turn in this sheet as part of your rough draft. Your final draft research and myth should be word processed in size 12 font or neatly written in blue or black ink.***

Select a constellation.  *(Sign up with teacher, first come, first served!)* ______________________

Research:
1. Briefly describe the constellation:
   a) relative size (compared to other constellations, is yours large, small or average size?)
   b) brightness (is it bright and fairly easy to see or is it dim and difficult to find?)
2. Identify when and where your constellation is located.  *(ex:. it is found in the north skies of the northern hemisphere during fall)*
3. Identify the constellations that are near yours and identify any asterisms that are a part of your constellation.  *(ex: it is found between Canis Major and Gemini)*

Visual Aid:
4. Clearly show the stars in your constellation *(ex: holes in black construction paper with foil or white paper behind the holes ~or~black poster board with stickers or light colored pencil)  Using Ms. Parrish’s glow stars on the ceiling…etc.
5. Label all major stars.(use the Greek symbols, include “real” names if given)
6. Connect the stars to show the constellation *(Note: you may use your imagination to create your own figure using the same stars in your constellation. Ex: instead of Taurus the bull, perhaps you see Taurus the antelope. Instead of Lyra the lyre, you see Lyra the kite…etc.)*
7. Outline the mythological figure on your constellation.
8. Include the title of your constellation on the poster *(ex: Libra the scales)*
9. Write your name, date and period in one corner
Mythology:

10. Create an original myth for your constellation. This is your own creation, not something copied from another source.
   a) It must relate to the shape or name of your constellation. (ex: If you pick Canis Major, the big dog, your myth should be about a dog. If your drawing looks like a banana split, your myth should include a banana split.)
   b) This may be a story of good vs. evil, a story about how something came to be, a story explaining a natural event or custom or a story telling a lesson or a moral. (ex: How the Earth bear lost their long tails. Why the scorpion is always near the horizon. How Pegasus got its wings. Why sheep flock together. Why Hercules stands alone in the sky.)
   c) Your story should have a beginning, a middle and an end. It should make sense and read like a children's story.
## CONSTELLATION MYTH PERFORMANCE TASK SCORING RUBRIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points / Category</th>
<th>In Progress</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Myth**          | Myth is incomplete  
It is not original and 
was taken from 
another source.  
10 | Myth is not logical; not 
related to stars selected; or 
not related to location in 
sky.  
21 | Myth is original, logical 
and relates to your 
constellation. It cannot 
stand alone as a complete 
tale.  
24 | Myth is complete, original, 
logical, can stand alone as a 
tale. It is creative; related 
not only to your 
constellation, but to 
surrounding stars in the sky 
30 |
| **Visual Aid**    | None  
0 | Drawing is sloppy, 
incomplete; lacks detail or 
hard to see. Stars are not 
connected, constellation is 
not outlined. Major stars 
are not labeled. Missing 
title, name, date or period. 
14 | Drawing is complete but 
could be neater. Stars are 
connected but constellation 
is not outlined or all major 
stars are not labeled. Title, 
name, date and period are 
clearly labeled.  
16 | Drawing is neat, complete 
and detailed. All major stars 
are labeled, stars are 
connected & constellation 
is outlined. Easy to see. 
Title, name, date and period 
are clearly labeled. 
20 |
| **Research**      | None  
0 | Relative size, brightness, 
time or location is given, 
description is incomplete or 
research is inaccurate. 
7 | Relative size and 
brightness, time and 
location are given, names 
of some nearby asterisms or 
constellations are given. 
8 | Description of constellation 
is complete, including 
relative size, brightness, 
time, location, names of all 
surrounding constellations 
and asterisms is given. 
10 |
| **Presentation**  | None  
0 | Presentation is read word 
for word, no eye contact, 
awkward. Unable to locate 
constellation.  
14 | Presentation is not polished 
with some eye contact and 
use of notes.  
16 | Presentation is well 
rehearsed, voice clear and 
loud, good eye contact. No 
notes were used, told 
20 from memory. |
| **Written Copy**  | Written in 
pencil, difficult to 
read, contains many 
errors, or crossouts. 
10 | Hand written in ink, could 
be neater, contains many 
mechanic, usage and 
grammar errors. 
14 | Typed, word-processed or 
hand written neatly in ink 
with few errors.  
16 | Typed, word-processed or 
hand written neatly in ink 
with no errors.  
20 |
| **Comments**      | 100 Points Possible |