

Deborah Lynn Turnbull

Dolphins and Whales In Mythology Part One of a Multidisciplinary Unit. Curriculum Unit 83.02.12

USA (1983)

TAGS: [Dionysus](#) [Poseidon](#) [Arion](#)



| General information | |
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Deborah Lynn Turnbull is part of a group of seventy-nine teachers from New Haven, who organised seminars on topics related to curriculum developments between March and August 1983, including one on The seminar entitled "Greek and Roman Mythology", led by William G. Thalmann, Associate Professor of Classics from USC



Additional information

Contents & Purpose

This unit focuses on myths related to dolphins and whales. The lessons involve reading of the texts, with accompanying ancient pictorial representations of whales and dolphins. The unit explains the ancient (and modern) navigation by stars.

The unit develops critical thinking on natural and ecological issues as well. The creator provides introduction to cetacean from different aspects, biological and cultural.

The activities involve mainly reading and discussion. Amongst the ancient texts are: the Homeric hymn to Dionysus, myth of Arion from Herodotus, Poseidon and the dolphin.

The unit provides 3 lesson plans samples, bibliography and teacher resources (local libraries, the Connecticut Cetacean Society and more)

Further comments

This unit connects the ancient myths and culture with current ecological themes, especially connected with sea creatures. It shows students that marine life was well known in ancient times. This unit stresses the importance of dolphins and whales and bridges between the past and the present by examining these creatures from myth to modern biology. It focuses on appreciation the natural world, the seas and the stars and connects human and nature.

