Summary: Anna Górska, Analysis: Marta Pszczolińska, "Entry on: Mythology [Mitologia] by Mirosław Rutkowski ", peer-reviewed by Katarzyna Marciniak and Elżbieta Olechowska. Our Mythical Childhood Survey (Warsaw: University of Warsaw, 2021). Link: http://omc.obta.al.uw.edu.pl/myth-survey/item/1334. Entry version as of November 05, 2026.

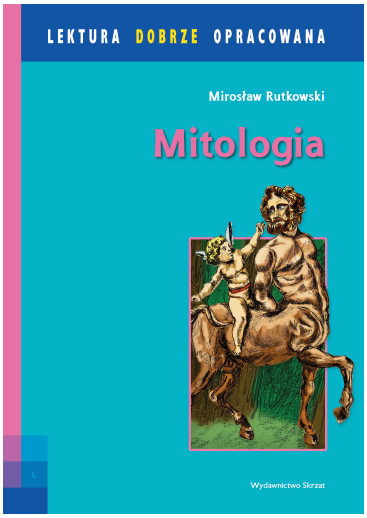
Mirosław Rutkowski

Mythology [Mitologia]

Poland (2010)

TAGS: Amphitrite Andromeda Aphrodite Apollo Ares Argonauts Ariadne Artemis Asclepius Athena Baucis Chiron / Cheiron Danae Demeter Dionysus / Dionysos Eos Eros Gaia / Gaea Galatea Golden Fleece Hades Hebe Helios Hephaestus Hera Heracles Hermes Hestia Jason Medea Midas Minotaur Muses Oceanus / Okeanos Ouranos / Uranus Perseus Phaethon Philemon Poseidon Prometheus Pygmalion Selene Sisyphus Tantalus Theseus Titans Zeus





Courtesy of the publisher.

General information	
Title of the work	Mythology [Mitologia]
Country of the First Edition	Poland
Country/countries of popularity	Poland
Original Language	Polish
First Edition Date	2010
First Edition Details	Mirosław Rutkowski, *Mitologia*, "Well-Prepared Readers [Lektura dobrze opracowana]". Kraków: Wydawnictwo Skrzat, 2010, 185 pp.
ISBN	9788374374774
Genre	School reader*
Target Audience	Children
Author of the Entry	Summary: Anna Górska, University of Warsaw, anna.gorska@gmail.com Analysis: Marta Pszczolińska, University of Warsaw, m.pszczolinska@al.uw.edu.pl

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Creators



Courtesy of the Author.

Mirosław Rutkowski , b. 1963
(Author)

Born in Cracow. English and Latin teacher at the I General Education High School in Stargard Szczeciński (north-western Poland) from 1990 to 2003. Authored two books for children on the topic of Greek mythology published by Wydawnictwo Skrzat in Cracow: *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Bogowie* [Greek Myths for Children. Gods], 2003, and *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Herosi* [Greek Myths for Children. Heroes], 2006. In 2012 Friends of Stargard Society published his book entitled *Stargard nie tylko dla dzieci* [Stargard Not Only for Children] describing the past and the present of the city. He lives now in Piasecznik by Choszczno, where he works on his farm.

Source:

Based on the material kindly provided by the Author.

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The Editors would like to express their thanks to Anna Lewicka, Director of Maria Dąbrowska Municipal Public Library in Choszczno, for the contact with the Author.

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Additional information

Summary

Based on: Katarzyna Marciniak, Elżbieta Olechowska, Joanna Kłos, Michał Kucharski (eds.), *Polish Literature for Children & Young Adults Inspired by Classical Antiquity: A Catalogue*, Faculty of "Artes Liberales", Warsaw: University of Warsaw, 2013, 444 pp., section by Anna Górska, pp. 326–331.

Intended for middle and high school students learning mythology. First part of the book presents well-known myths, such as the origin of the world, Jason and the Argonauts, or Hercules' Twelve Labours. The language of the first part is simple to ensure that students understand every detail. Myths are not modified, they corresponds to the popular, original classical versions. The second part is designed to provide students with basic information to study myths. The author explains the names of gods and heroes, places and religious festivals. The main purpose is to teach students classical mythology and help them write about it. The book explains many various related terms, helps to learn the basics allowing readers to start their adventure with ancient literature.

Analysis

The series, "Well-Prepared Readers", contains texts of school readers and complementary material facilitating the students' understanding and analysis of the main content and adding some secondary information. Mythology by Rutkowski meets the purpose of the series as it has an informative character. The myths presented by Rutkowski are not the types of stories to be told to explain the world nor to entertain the reader but to learn. The narration is straightforward, divided into short chapters and sub-chapters, each of them focused on an individual myth.

The publisher recycled texts from the two mythologies by Rutkowski: *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Bogowie* and *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Herosi*, presented there as books for children. The edition for children used graphic design aimed at a young age group, with colorful and black-and-white illustrations, ancient motifs as borders on the upper margin (meander, palmette, anthemion, wave), full-page maps drawn in colour displaying details mentioned in the book, larger fonts and page formats are used there. In this edition, the text is divided into smaller sections, restructured differently and aimed at older readers,

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	although, in some cases, it appears too basic for high school students. The educational character of this publication becomes obvious through illustrations: instead of the previous colourful layout, there are drawings of sculptures of specific gods and/or mythical scenes. The selected figures are all very well-known (like for example, the statues of Zeus of Otricoli, Apollo Belvedere, *Menelaus bearing the corpse of Patroclus* from Loggia dei Lanzi from the Roman times, or the Baroque Italian sculpture, *The Rape of Proserpina* by Bernini), and are described along with their history and location so that the students receive comprehensive information. The book also uses historical black-and-white photographs of some important Greek sites (Delphi, Sounion, Acropolis of Athens) from the album by Tadeusz Zieliński *Grecja. Budownictwo, plastyka, krajobraz* [Greece. Architecture, Fine Arts, Landscape] published in 1923. At the end, additional material is provided, including information about Greek religion, myths, Hesiod and Homer, the main gods, Dionysus, heroes and archetypes, topoi, as well as the types and functions of myths. There are no indexes.
Classical, Mythological, Traditional Motifs, Characters, and Concepts	Amphitrite Andromeda Aphrodite Apollo Ares Argonauts Ariadne Artemis Asclepius Athena Baucis Chiron / Cheiron Danae Demeter Dionysus / Dionysos Eos Eros Gaia / Gaea Galatea Golden Fleece Hades Hebe Helios Hephaestus Hera Heracles Hermes Hestia Jason Medea Midas Minotaur Muses Oceanus / Okeanos Ouranos / Uranus Perseus Phaethon Philemon Poseidon Prometheus Pygmalion Selene Sisyphus Tantalus Theseus Titans Zeus
Other Motifs, Figures, and Concepts Relevant for Children and Youth Culture	Abandonment Authority Character traits Conflict Death Disability Emotions Family Friendship Heritage Heroism Journeys Life Loss Love Murder Names Nature Orphans Prediction/prophecy Punishment Relationships Revenge Romance Sacrifice Siblings Step-parents Violence War
Further Reading	Rutkowski, Mirosław, *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Bogowie*, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Skrzat, 2003. Rutkowski, Mirosław, *Mity greckie dla dzieci. Herosi*, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Skrzat, 2006.

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Addenda

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