

PART 2: RESEARCH

Directions: Continue your research on chimera's by completing this page with research on two more mythical animals of your choice.



Topics	Research
Chimera name:	Kinnarak
Description:	"The Kinnaras is a creature from Hindu and Buddhist mythology. They are part human and part bird, associated with music and love. It is believed to come from the Himalayas, they often watch over the war - being of humans in times of trouble or danger."
Origin:	Origin Myth: "androgynous beauty and of a lover's devotion, eternal beauty and one's undying devotion towards a lover."
Facts:	geographic origin: "Southeast Asian Buddhist Mythology"; countries such as Myanmar, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines recognize this creature.
igin:	(According to Indian (Hindu) Civilization facts: "In the Mahabharata, Kinnaras kingdoms referred to the territory of a tribe called Kinnaras."
etics:	"The Kinnaras, along with other exotic tribes, were inhabitants of the Himalaya mountains." "Living at mount-Mandara."
uals:	Special powers: "I couldn't really find any, it is just like a god that protects and watches over the people. Because of this, I couldn't find any weaknesses either."
is:	Symbols: "traditional symbol of feminine beauty, grace, and accomplishment."
ails:	"The Kinnaras are noted for their long life."
	"I also couldn't find any religious practices or associated rituals of this creature, and it was just an old mythology, nothing that I could find, so I set its date of origin."
Detailed sketch of this chimera in this box	
Symbol for this Chimera	
Research Topics	Research
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Name and Description	Chimera name: Shenlong Description: "It is a spiritual dragon from mythology who is the master of water also a bringer of rain." "Its appearance is very similar to a Chinese Dragons with its long, horns, etc."
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Symbolism	Symbolism: "The Chinese translation is literally, "god/divine"
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geographic Origin	geographic origin: spiritual dragon from Chinese mythology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civilization Facts	Origin myths: "Agriculture depends on the and when irritates cause storms and heavy rain."
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dates of Origin	Additional: "The Shenlong dragon is featured in the videogame Bull."
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious Practices	"In videogames, the Shenlong was renamed in the English dub versions as "Shenron".
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Associated Rituals	Date of origin: unknown, but I assume also around the day or emperors.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Powers	(As for religious practices and associated rituals, I couldn't find most of the sites I came across were blocked on the internet.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weaknesses	The shenlong is of equal significance to other creatures. Trionlong, the celestial dragon."
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Origin Myth	I couldn't find any other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Details	additional.
Create a detailed sketch of this chimera in this box	
Symbol for this	

The Chimera Project Isaac Stanford 7th Grade Social Studies Cedarbrook Middle School

The project used animal hybrids from cultures all over the world as a lens for students to study culture and mythology. Students had hundreds of kyras or animal hybrids to choose from as these creatures appear in all parts of the world across human history, from the terrifying chimera of Greek mythology to the alibreas featured in the Pixar film, Coco. All over the world and throughout history, cultures have created these animal hybrids and bestowed them with amazing powers. In part one, students were introduced to the Greek myth of Chimera and Pegasus. We read an adaptation of the ancient Greek myth and studied its origin and symbolism. We studied the different forms the Greek chimera had taken in artwork and storytelling. Through history, we watched excerpts from different movies and current television that have used chimera in their storytelling from dragons to gargoyles and mermaids. Chimera appear in hundreds of TV shows, movies, and video games, and we had fun looking for examples. In part two, the research began and students selected four animal hybrids they were interested in and began researching. We examined folklore, myth, symbolism, and cultural traditions all through the lens of these chimera. The project culminated as students reflected on their own culture, personality traits, strengths and weaknesses, and the animals that could be used to symbolize them.

Teacher Reflection

During this project, I learned that 7th graders love mythological creatures and the animal hybrids were an easy and accessible point of entry for almost all students. The 3D print option was difficult to get everyone across the finish line but was a good incentive to keep kids working. It would be helpful to have more than one 3D printer running due to the amount of time it takes to print. We learned about the folklore and myth of cultures all over the world. Hopefully this project will continue to engage students as we work to improve it for next year.

—Isaac Stanford

Student Reflections

I liked that I could make my own Chimera and origin myth. I liked that I could design something based on who I am.

—Ariana H.



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