

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Greek Myths and the Wonders of Nature: Explaining Seasons and Thunderstorms

### Short Answer Key

1. The myth explains that when Persephone is with her mother Demeter, the earth flourishes, and it's spring and summer. But when Persephone returns to the Underworld, Demeter mourns her absence, leading to autumn and winter.
2. Zeus, as the king of the gods, was associated with thunderstorms because he hurled lightning bolts across the sky. The thunderous roars were the sound of his chariot wheels rolling across the heavens.
3. The compromise allowed Persephone to spend part of the year with her mother and the other part in the Underworld with Hades. This arrangement gave rise to the changing seasons.
4. People in ancient Greece viewed Zeus's thunderbolts as displays of his anger and reminders of his authority over the natural world. They built temples and altars dedicated to him to seek his favor and protection from his lightning bolts.
5. Greek myths continue to inspire curiosity about the natural world and the human desire to explore the mysteries of our environment. They serve as a bridge between ancient and modern explanations for natural phenomena.

