**Chapter 7, Section 2:**

**Life in Ancient Greece**

**Greek Gods and Myths:**

* **Greek gods were divine and exhibited human emotions**
* **Zeus was ruler of the gods. He ruled from Mt. Olympus, the highest mountain in Greece.**
* **Each city had one of the gods or goddesses as their protector. Athens was protected by the goddess, Athena**
* **Myths featured gods and goddesses. They were created to explain the creation of the world and human beings.**

**Honoring the Gods:**

* **Built temples as places for the gods to live.**
* **Staged events to the honor the gods.**
* **Olympic games were held every 4 years in honor of the god, Zeus.**

**Early Greek Literature:**

* **Composed long poems, called epics that told stories about the gods and heroes**
* **Most famous epics, *Iliad and Odyssey*, which use the Trojan War as a back drop for the story. The *Iliad* features Achilles, a Greek hero, which only one weakness, his heel. The *Odyssey* describes the adventures of the Greek Hero, Odysseus, on his trip home after the Trojan War.**
* **Another famous work on the Greeks is a collection of stories known as Aesops’ fables. These were short stories, usually involving animals that teach a moral lesson.**