Historic photograph of the so-called Colossi of Memnon. In reality, the two massive stone statues are of the Dynasty 18 Pharaoh Amenhotep III and part of his largely vanished mortuary temple; by the Greco-Roman period in Egypt, it was believed that they represented King Memnon, the hero of the Trojan War who was killed by Achilles. Memnon was the king of Aithiopia, which at this time was the region in Africa located to the south of Egypt, including Nubia.
The Legend of Osiris is a story as old as Egypt itself. Help fill in the missing pieces to create a fun retelling of the story! Once you are done making your own version, go to the end to read the complete myth.

First, fill out each of the blank spaces below with a noun, adjective, or verb. Then go to the next page and fill in each blank with the word in the order that it appears on your list. Once you are done, read the story back!

1. ___________ (Noun)
2. ___________ (Adjective)
3. ___________ (Noun)
4. ___________ (Noun)
5. ___________ (Adjective)
6. ___________ (Noun)
7. ___________ (Noun)
8. ___________ (Noun)
9. ___________ (Adjective)
10. ___________ (Noun)
11. ___________ (Noun)
12. ___________ (Noun)
13. ___________ (Noun)
14. ___________ (Adjective)
15. ___________ (Noun)
16. ___________ (Noun)
17. ___________ (Adjective)
18. ___________ (Verb)
19. ___________ (Plural Noun)
20. ___________ (Noun)
Many, many years ago, at the beginning of things, the world was covered in an ocean of ______ (noun). On top of this ocean floated a single ______ (adj.) ______ (noun), and out of this Ra was born—the god of order, kings, and ______ (noun). Ra flew up into the sky and became the sun, drying the large ocean and creating the land.

Ra was ______ (adj.) in the sky by himself, so he made a wife out of ______ (noun) who became the goddess Nut, ruler of the sky, stars, and ______ (noun). Soon the two gods had children of their own, who had more children until the world was filled with gods and goddesses, each ruling over their little ______ (noun).

To his favorite grandson, Osiris, Ra gifted the ______ (adj.) ______ (noun) of Egypt, which he would rule over with his queen and one true ______ (noun), Isis. The pair soon had a son named Horus, the first ______ (noun) of Egypt.

However, the couple’s ______ (noun) did not last. Osiris had a jealous and ______ (adj.) brother named Set. Set wanted to be king, so he chopped Osiris into tiny pieces and threw him into the Nile River!

When Isis found out what had happened she scooped up all the pieces of Osiris and brought them to the ______ (noun)-headed god of the dead, Anubis. Using his ______ (noun), Anubis was able to piece Osiris back together, but his magic was not ______ (adj.) enough to bring him back to life. Hearing of Set’s treachery and the demise of his favorite grandson, Ra made Osiris god of the dead, since he could never again return to the land of the living.

Now, once a year, Isis comes to the banks of the River Nile and ______ (verb) and cries. Her tears fill the river, causing it to rise and flood the many ______ (pl. noun) of Egypt, bringing peace and ______ (noun) to all.
Many, many years ago, at the beginning of things, the world was covered in an ocean of water. On top of this ocean floated a single white egg, and out of this egg Ra was born—the god of order, kings, and the day. Ra flew up into the sky and became the sun, drying the large ocean and creating the land.

Ra was lonely in the sky by himself, so he made a wife out of air and water who became the goddess Nut, ruler of the sky, stars, and cosmos. Soon the two gods had children of their own, who had more children until the world was filled with gods and goddesses, each ruling over their little slice of the world.

To his favorite grandson, Osiris, Ra gifted the golden kingdom of Egypt, which he would rule over with his queen and one true love, Isis. The pair soon had a son named Horus, the first prince of Egypt.

However, the couple’s joy did not last. Osiris had a jealous and angry brother named Set. Set wanted to be king, so he chopped Osiris into tiny pieces and threw him into the Nile River!

When Isis found out what had happened she scooped up all the pieces of Osiris and brought them to the jackal-headed god of the dead, Anubis. Using his powers, Anubis was able to piece Osiris back together, but his magic was not strong enough to bring him back to life. Hearing of Set’s treachery and the demise of his favorite grandson, Ra made Osiris god of the dead, since he could never again return to the land of the living.

Now, once a year, Isis comes to the banks of the River Nile and mourns and cries. Her tears fill the river, causing it to rise and flood the many fields of Egypt, bringing peace and happiness to all.
MAKE AN ANCIENT AMULET

What are amulets?
An amulet is an object believed to have special powers that can be given to the user or wearer. Amulets often are symbols—an amulet is an image that represents an idea. Amulets were common in ancient times, but today's good luck charms and other similar objects can be thought of as amulets.

Why did people use amulets?
People have always tried to keep bad things from happening to them. People believed—especially in the ancient world, where belief in magic was a regular part of life—that amulets would protect them from harm and bring good fortune.

Amulets had different purposes depending on their shape, color, material, and decoration. Check out these amulets from the OI!

This amulet of the demon Pazuzu may have been worn by a pregnant woman to protect herself from other demons. A25413

This Ibis, representing the god of wisdom, Thoth, poses with a miniature Maat, goddess of truth. E12244

Scarabs were magical symbols of life and rebirth in ancient Egypt. E16323A-C

The Eye of Horus was an important symbol of protection in Egypt. E608

This golden fly amulet represented bravery. E9232

Animal amulets were common. This cat is made with faience, a blue-green material that represented rebirth. This cow is carved from a shell.

E12245

A21522

The face of the demon Pazuzu was also worn to protect Mesopotamians from harm. A17015
CREATE YOUR OWN AMULET


My amulet’s power:

Create your amulet’s design based on its power. How can you symbolize this power through the amulet’s characteristics (such as its shape, color, or material)? You can use ancient or modern symbols, or create your own.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shape</th>
<th>Color and/or material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Does it have any decoration or writing on it? What is it?

How will your amulet be worn? Will it be a necklace? Kept in your pocket?

Sketch and Color Your Amulet!

Optional: Create a physical amulet based on your design! Use cardboard, clay, scrunched up aluminum foil, or other materials from around your house or from outside to create your amulet.

Faience amulet of Bes, an ancient Egyptian god who protected homes. E17500
Relief of a winged genius

A34980, on display in the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery

This relief of a winged “genius” or genie comes from the palace of the Neo-Assyrian king Ashurnasirpal II. Identified as a divine being by its horned crown and wings, this genie is shown holding a pine cone and pail. These objects may have symbolized the genie taking care of the Tree of Life, an important symbol in Mesopotamian myth.