



# THE LIGHTNING THIEF

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES EDITION

## THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

*Sunrise*  
THEATRE COMPANY

STUDY GUIDE



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### WHAT'S THE STORY?

Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school. Again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. Worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen and Percy is the prime suspect. Now Percy has ten days to find and return Zeus's stolen property and bring peace to a warring Mount Olympus. To succeed on his quest, Percy will have to do more than catch the true thief. He must come to terms with the father who abandoned him, solve the riddle of the Oracle that warns him of betrayal by a friend, and unravel a treachery more powerful than the gods themselves.



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## TERMS TO KNOW

**Myth** – A traditional story used to explain natural events, history, or customs, often involving gods or supernatural beings.

**Underworld** – In Greek mythology, the place where souls go after death, ruled by Hades.

**Hubris** – Extreme pride or arrogance, often leading to a character's downfall.

**Oracle** – A person or place believed to deliver wise or prophetic messages from the gods.

**Muse** – A source of inspiration; in Greek mythology, the nine Muses inspired art, music, and literature.

**ADHD:** ADHD stands for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, which is a condition that describes differences in brain development and activity often resulting in hyperactive behavior and impacting a person's ability to sustain attention. ADHD is also an important marker for identifying a demigod in The Lightning Thief; a demigod's struggle to pay attention and control their impulses is actually the signs of a demigod's natural battle skills and reflexes.

**Dyslexia:** A learning disability that affects the areas of the brain in charge of processing language. This often makes reading challenging, as it can cause difficulty with deciphering the relationship between words and speech sounds. In the Percy Jackson series, this is one of the key identifiers for confirming someone is a demigod, as dyslexia is the result of half-bloods' brains being hardwired for Ancient Greek.



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### MEET THE DEMI-GODS

**PERCY JACKSON:** Son of the sea god, Poseidon. Percy is a good kid with ADHD and dyslexia, who can't seem to stop getting into trouble. Percy wants to find a place where he can belong. That opportunity comes from the most unexpected place when Percy is given a quest from the gods to find and return Zeus' lightning bolt, save his mom from the Underworld, and prevent a war between the gods.

**GROVER UNDERWOOD:** Percy's best friend. Unbeknownst to Percy before he goes to Camp Half-Blood, Grover is also a satyr—a child of Pan and protector of demigods.

**SALLY JACKSON:** Percy's hard-working mom. Sally has raised Percy on her own, and would do anything to protect her son.

**MR. D:** Also known as Dionysus, Mr. D is the god of theatre and wine, and the grouchy director of Camp Half-Blood.

**ANNABETH CHASE:** The daughter of Athena. Smart, feisty, and eager to prove herself to her mom, Annabeth is skeptical of Percy at first, but becomes one of his best friends through the trials they face on Percy's quest.

**LUKE CASTELLAN:** Son of Hermes and one of Percy's first friends at camp. He helps Percy come to terms with finding out that he's a demigod and provides advice when the gods give Percy his quest.

**CLARISSE LA RUE:** The daughter of Ares. Competitive and tough-as-nails, she's known for her prickly demeanor and battle skills in "Capture the Flag".

**POSEIDON:** Percy's dad, the sea god Poseidon. He's a bit of a beach bum.

**HADES:** Poseidon's brother, the god of the Underworld.

**CHARON:** The ferryman to the Underworld.

**KRONOS:** Father of the Olympians, his children trapped him in Tartarus after losing against them in a war.

**ARES:** The god of war.

**MR. BRUNNER/CHIRON:** The kind, but stern Latin teacher. He expects the best out of his students, especially Percy. He also happens to be a centaur.

