

1 The Dedication of Praxias

from the Sanctuary of Asklepios on the south slope of the Acropolis



Inside this stone block you can see part of a woman's face with impressive brown eyes that have a lively and intense expression. Praxias, a faithful believer in the gods, dedicated it to Asklepios, the god of medicine and health, as a thank you gift for the treatment of his wife's eyes.

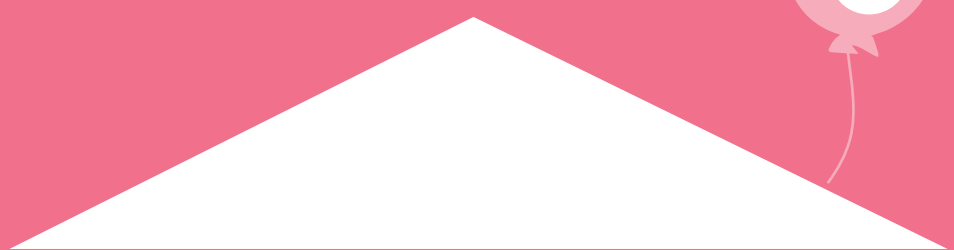
Look next to the block and find other similar dedications. Which parts of the body are presented in these?



2 Pediment of the "Archaic Parthenon", the first large temple on the Acropolis which no longer exists today

Pediment: the triangular area formed by the roof on each narrow side of a temple

In the centre of the pediment two lions tear a bull. To the left another great battle is raging between Hercules and Triton, a mythical sea creature with a human body and a fish tail. To the right you can see the winged Three Bodied Daemon, with three human bodies to the waist and from the waist down, snakelike tails entwined together. The first figure holds a lightning bolt, the symbol of fire, the second; water and the third; a bird, the symbol of air.



Draw the pediment with your own fantastic creatures!

3 The "Peplos Kore"

an archaic Kore, a dedication to the Sanctuary of the goddess Athena



This Kore is called the "Peplos Kore" because of the clothes she wears, namely the "peplos". It's thought she might represent the goddess Artemis. Look at the colours that still survive on her wavy hair, her face and her clothes. Her bright eyes and radiant smile give her a lively and pretty appearance.

Peplos: Usually a woolen fabric that was wrapped around the body and folded at the top. It was fixed at the shoulders and waist.



Look at the digital representation of the statue on the screen and try to find how many different animals decorate her clothes

4 The goddess Athena

from the pediment of the "Old Temple", an ancient temple of the Acropolis that no longer exists



Here you see Athena in another mythical battle, that of the Gigantomachy between the Gods of Olympus and the Giants. The goddess Athena lunges toward Engyalados, the Giant of Earthquakes! You can only see a part of his foot now.

The goddess threatens with her outstretched left hand, that is completely covered by her aegis, a leather coat with snakes around its edges. To her left and right are other fallen or injured Giants.

Can you imagine what Athena was holding in her right hand?

Look at the reconstruction of the statue in the coloured text label.



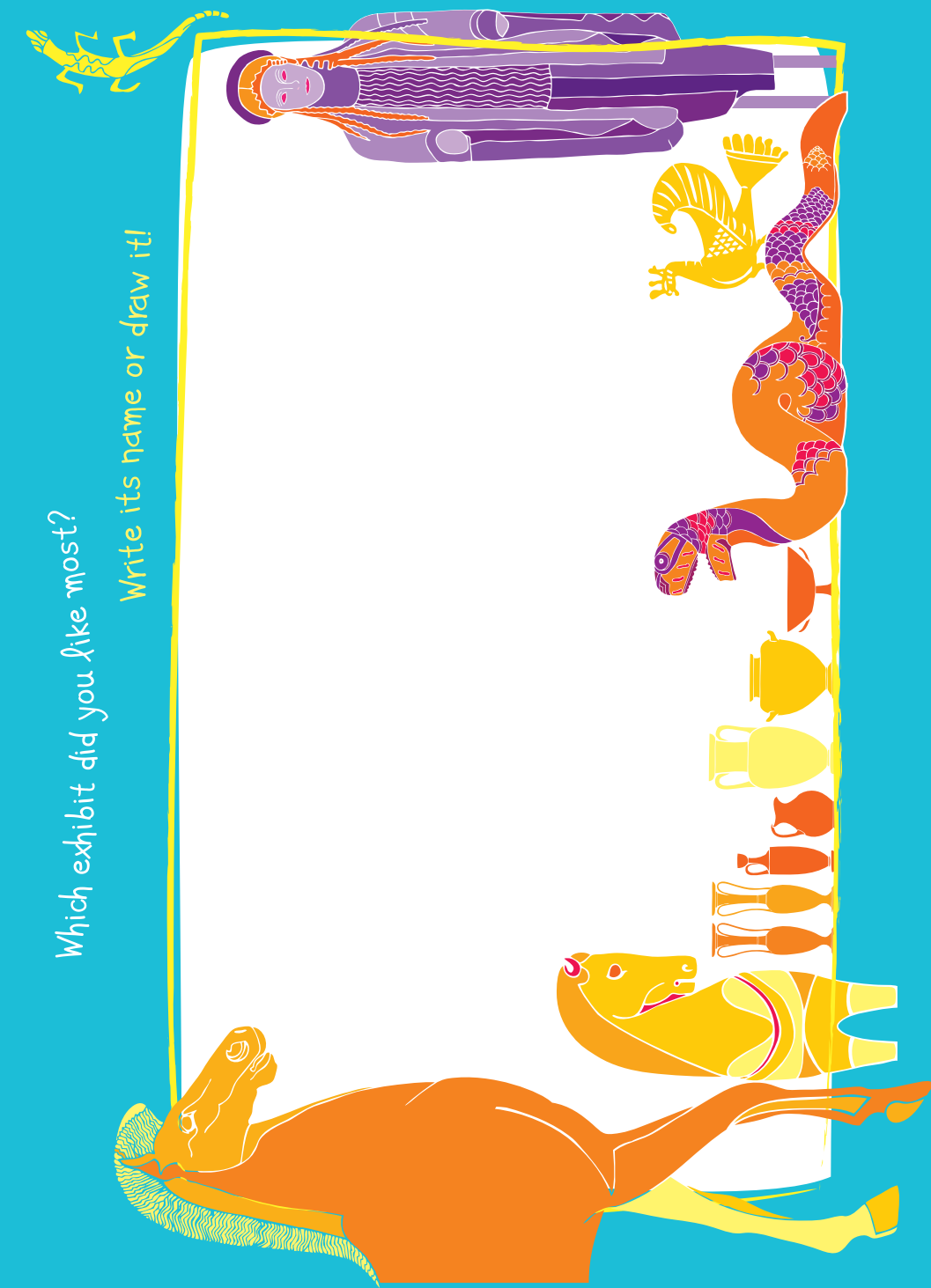
5 Caryatids

the Korai (young girls) of the Erechtheion, an important temple on the Acropolis



These impressive female statues supported a small section of the Erechtheion in the place of the columns. The folds of their clothes do in any case look a little like the flutes (grooves) in columns! Would you believe that they guarded the tomb of the mythical king of Athens, Kekrops!

Look at the video on the nearby screen that shows how the surface of the statues was cleaned. Find the small black points left behind deliberately by the conservators so you can see the 'before' and 'after' the cleaning!



Which exhibit did you like most? Write its name or draw it!

Cut off the card and leave it at the Museum's Front Desk.

6

10

Send your 10th birthday wishes to the Acropolis Museum! Write a wish or make a drawing!

10

10

6

Ionic Capital

from the Propylaia, the monumental gate of the Acropolis



It's the upper section of an Ionic column. Imagine how big the whole column was!

Now behind you is a model of the Propylaia. Can you see that on the outside of the building there were Doric columns and Ionic ones inside?

Found it!

7

a Nike

a winged goddess from the small Ionic Temple of Athena Nike (Victory) at the entrance to the Acropolis



The goddess bends over to fix her sandal, and that is why she is called the "Sandal binder". She is one of the most beautiful relief sculptures of the marble parapet that was built around the temple to protect the faithful from falling off the temple!

Try and find:

- A Nike that runs with her wings outstretched
- Two Nikai that drive a bull to sacrifice
- A very serene Nike

Found it!

8

Pyrriche, a war dance

scene from a dedication to Atarbos

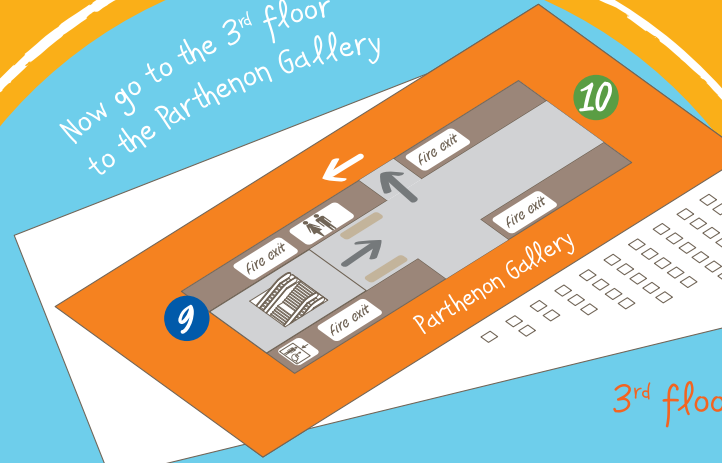


Found it!

The war dance known as "pyrriche" was a competition during the festival of the Panathenaia. A scene from that dance appears on the base that once held three bronze statues. A choregos (sponsor) called Atarbos had dedicated it, after his troupe won! To the left you can see the sponsor himself with two groups of dancers, each group with four members dancing in step.

Look at the dancers and try to see what they are holding in their left hand.

Now go to the 3rd floor to the Parthenon Gallery



3rd floor

9

The Battle between Athena and Poseidon

from the west pediment of the Parthenon



The battle to be the protector of the city between the two gods ended with Athena being the winner and so Athens got its name.

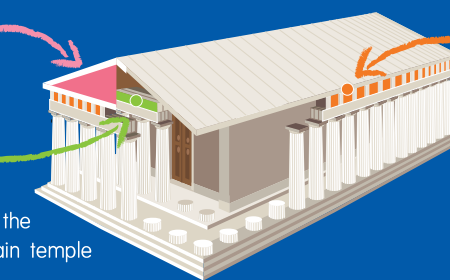
In the center of the pediment stand the two gods with their horse-drawn chariots, one driven by the goddess Nike and the other by the wife of Poseidon, Amphitrite. Beside them two winged messengers, Hermes and Iris arrive to announce the end of the battle.

Now look at the metopes and find the other mythical battles. You'll see a different one on each side of the temple. Do you recognize which battles they are?

pediment

frieze

the continuous relief band that decorated the upper part of the main temple on its four sides behind its external columns.



metope square block with a sculpted surface that decorated the temple on its four sides above the external columns.

Found it!

10

The handing over of the peplos

scene from the east frieze of the Parthenon



In this scene from the frieze a man and a child, hold the gift of the Athenians for their goddess. It's a peplos, a new dress that they offer to Athena during the festival of the Panathenaia.



Can you guess which myth was woven into the peplos:

- The labours of Hercules
- The Gigantomachy
- The abduction of Persephone

Congratulations! You found all 10 exhibits!

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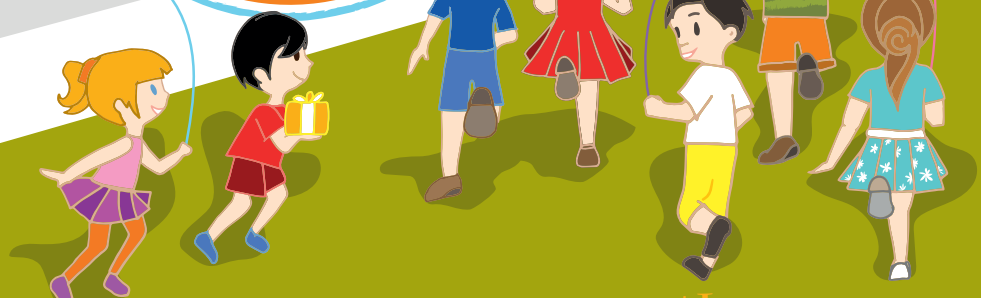
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Family Trail

10 YEARS

The Museum is celebrating its birthday and invites you to discover 10 unique exhibits in its galleries



A special day at the acropolis museum

