

NORSE MYTHOLOGY

IN THE BEGINNING...

This is a summary of the first part of the creation story. Norse mythology refers to the beliefs of the people of Northern Europe, Norsemen (later called the Vikings), during the period 1500BC- 600BC. Round about 3500 years ago.

This lesson aid is specifically for Waldorf or Waldorf Inspired parents of Grade 4 children. It is not intended as a lesson for children. It is just a purely to help give homeschool parents the background of Norse Mythology and an Introduction to the Norse Myths.

I have used this and the stories that follow as Waldorf lessons, but obviously have beautified them when I've taught my children. I then followed these lessons with the Main Lesson Block provided by Melisa Nielsen in A Journey through Waldorf Homeschooling Grade 4. By using both the lessons I put together and Melisa's main lesson block, I found that I had no need to buy a separate book on Norse Mythology.

The aim of this download is to give you a sound base to work off so that you do not have to either, trawl the internet for hours, or buy an expensive book. The rest is up to you. How beautiful and exciting can you make this story?



IN THE BEGINNING

The story begins like this.....

In the beginning, before the world was made, there was only Ginnungagap also referred to as “The Gap” or “The Yawning”. It was in complete darkness.

Ginnungagap lay between 2 realms. On one side lay Muspell, the land of fire. Where fiery sparks spewed forth and hot dancing air flowed. freely (northern lights?)

On the other side lay Niflheim, the land of ice, which lay in eternal darkness. Here icy frozen rivers of poison flowed. (glaciers?)

The cold air from the North, Niflheim met the Hot air from the South, Muspell. At this point, the hot air carved the first frost Giant, Ymir, out of the frozen icy river of poison . At the same time a cow, Audumla was carved.

Ymir survived by drinking the milk of Audumla. Audumla survived by licking the salty ice. As Ymir slept he began to sweat. Out of the sweat underneath his left armpit grew a man and a woman. These were the first giants, the enemies of the Gods. Ymir created an almost endless supply of Giants!

Meantime Audumla was licking the salty ice, and out of this emerged Buri. This took 3 days. Buri had a son, Bor. Bestla, one of the younger frost giants, created by Ymir, fell in love with Bor and had 3 sons, Odin, Ville and Ve. They were the first Gods. Odin became known as the All Father of the Gods.

Ymir, became more and more intolerable and evil. Odin, Ville and Ve could stand it no longer and decided to kill Ymir . During this battle, so much of Ymir's blood flowed that it drowned all the frost giants except one family who escaped by using a hollowed out log as a boat, they were Bergelmir and his wife. Bergelmir was the father of all the giants who inhabited Utgard . Some say that Utgard was on earth and others that it was across the ocean.

PRONUNCIATION OF NORSE MYTHOLOGICAL CHARACTERS, PLACES AND THINGS

PLACES

Ginnungagap	ghin-un-ga-gap
Muspell	moo-spell
Niflheim	niffle-hame (like sniffle)

CHARACTERS

Ymir	im-meer
Audumla	ow-doom-la
Buri	boo-ree
Bor	boar
Bestla	best-lah
Bergelmir	bare-ghel-meer
Odin	oh-din
Ville	vil-lee
Ve	vay (like bay)

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For a glimpse into how we home school please come and visit our Blog at

<http://www.ourhomeschooljourney.co.za/wordpress>

We use and recommend Melisa Nielsen's Waldorf Curriculum. To

view it please visit

<http://www.alittlegardenflower.com>

