

RICK RIORDAN'S

MAGNUS CHASE

and the GODS of ASGARD



THE SWORD OF SUMMER ACTIVITY KIT



MAGNUS CHASE



BLITZEN



HEARTHSTONE



SWORD OF SUMMER



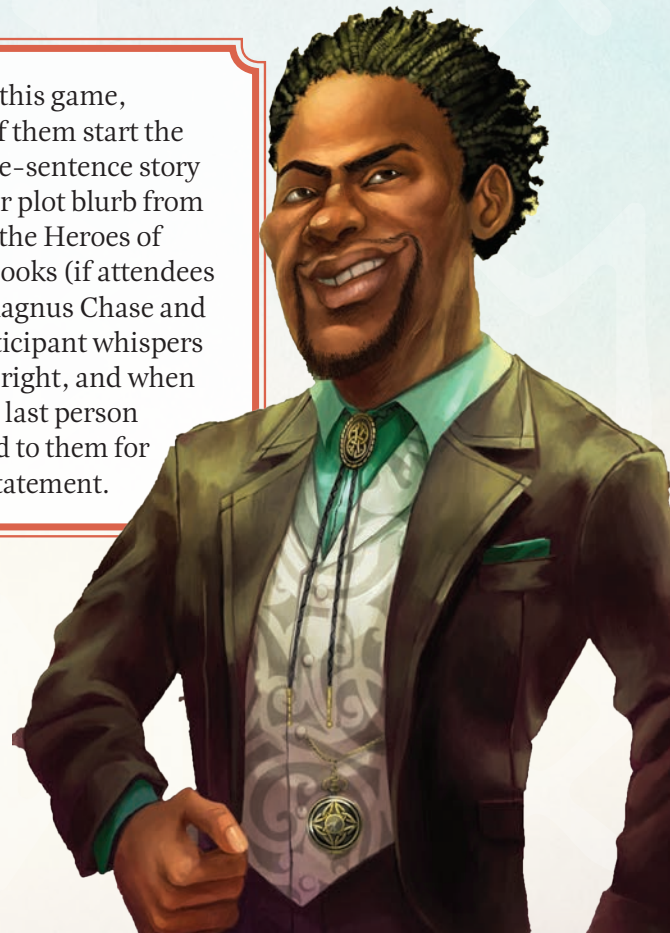
LOKI



SAMIRAH

A NORSE FEAST: Building a civilization (or being the gods worshipped by it) in the frozen climes of far northern Europe is hard work! The Norse offset the cold climate and frequent combat with hearty feasts, so entice your partygoers with a wide variety of foods inspired by Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard. To begin, offer treats with a nod to Scandinavian flair, such as Swedish Fish, Swedish meatballs, Danishes, peppermint and spearmint gum, oatmeal cookies, “lefse” (a sweet or savory flatbread you can represent with chips), “seagull eggs” (malt balls), Warheads, and “mead” (ginger ale or lemonade). Follow these with a spread fit for a healthy Viking by offering a choice of fruits, veggies, and nuts (labeled and separated, of course—you don’t want to trigger any allergies).

VIKING HORN BUGLES: For this game, participants circle. Have one of them start the rumor ring with a two-to-three-sentence story excerpt, character summary, or plot blurb from *The Sword of Summer* or one of the Heroes of Olympus or Kane Chronicles books (if attendees haven't yet read book one of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard). Each participant whispers the story to the person to their right, and when it has made the full circuit, the last person announces what was whispered to them for comparison with the original statement.



ARMED FOR BATTLE

The Norse peoples were famous in history for being fierce warriors who terrified those who might fall to one of their raids. But every Viking needs armament! Ask each party participant to design a sword, a shield, or a helmet featuring an original logo and symbol to serve as a source of strength and protection in battle. Provide markers, paint, glitter, glue, tape, construction paper, cardboard, and the like for the task. Spirit animals such as bears, wolves, foxes, serpents, dragons, owls, eagles, and fish were popular among the Norse, as were symbols of raw power in nature such as lightning, fire, mountains, and the sea. Symbols of the gods, of course, were very popular as well. Encourage participants to think out of the box and use a symbol that fits their own personal style and worldview.



HISTORY OR LEGEND

How much do you know about the Norse and Germanic worlds? Look at the statements below and circle “History” if you think the statement is true, or “Legend” if you think it is false.

1. In spite of many efforts, the Scandinavian and Germanic worlds were among the few in Europe never to be conquered by the Roman Empire.

LEGEND

HISTORY

2. Viking warriors wore helmets with large horns to scare their enemies in battle.

LEGEND

HISTORY

3. In order to go to Valhalla in the afterlife, one had to live a good and productive life.

LEGEND

HISTORY

4. Viking sailors reached the shores of the Americas almost 500 years prior to Christopher Columbus.

LEGEND

HISTORY

5. The Norse were a warrior civilization who had to raid neighboring regions for resources since Scandinavia was too cold for farming.

LEGEND

HISTORY

6. Thanks to abundant forests and because of the cold climate, the Norse people constructed elaborate tree houses for shelter.

LEGEND

HISTORY

7. Though commonly associated with evil, the Norse god Loki was actually associated more with trickery and mischief and could be involved in harm or good depending on his view of the situation.

LEGEND

HISTORY

8. The Norse people celebrated a holiday similar to Christmas.

LEGEND

HISTORY

9. Thor, the Norse god of thunder and lightning, was the king of the Norse gods.

LEGEND

HISTORY

10. Norse women and girls enjoyed many more rights and freedoms than most other women in Europe in their time.

LEGEND

HISTORY

11. The Vikings were a strong empire who ruled most of northern Europe in the Middle Ages.

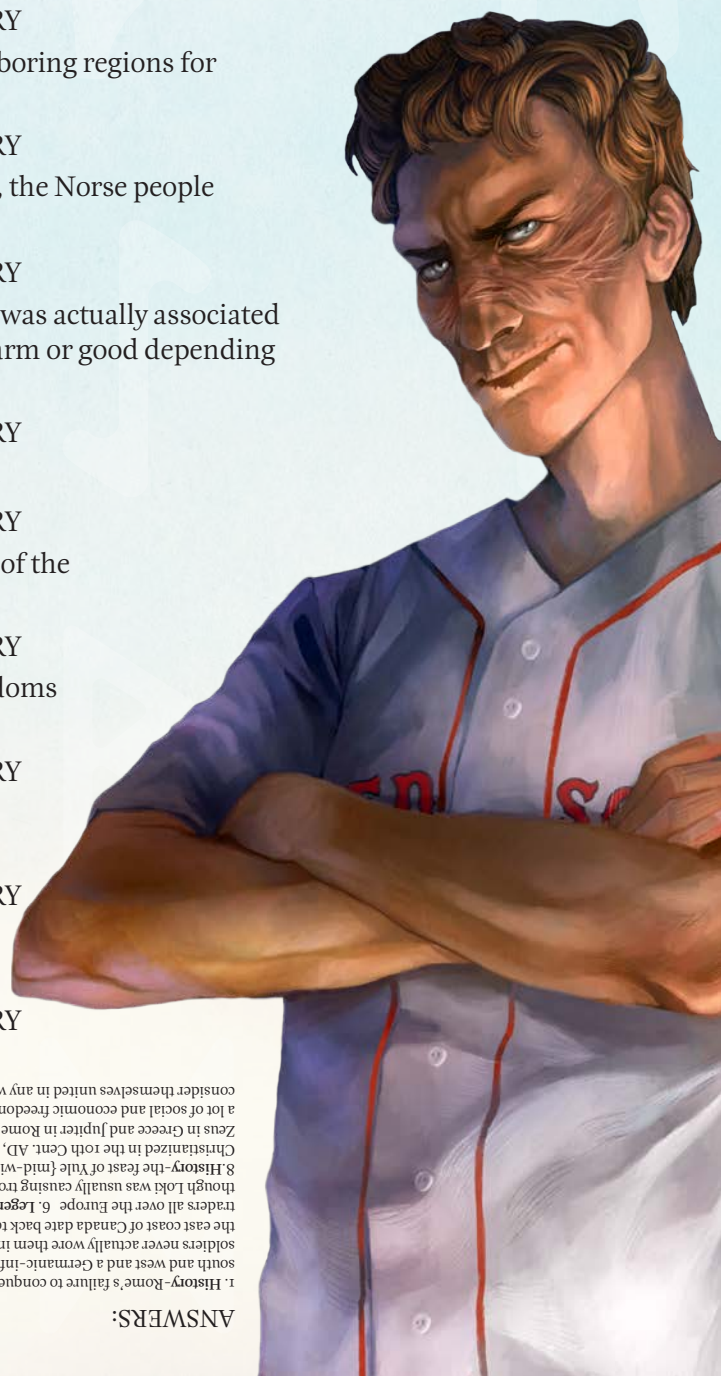
LEGEND

HISTORY

12. Most of the days of the week are named after Norse gods and goddesses in the English language.

LEGEND

HISTORY



ANSWERS:

1. History-Rome's failure to conquer north central Europe-in spite of several tries-resulted in a great cultural split in Europe between a Roman-influenced south and west and a Germanic-influenced north and east. 2. Legend-horned helmets were used in costumes of 18th/19th Cent. plays and operas, but Viking soldiers never actually wore them in battle. 3. Legend-Valhalla was reserved for those who died bravely in battle. 4. History-Evidence of Viking settlements on the east coast of Canada date back to at least the 1000's AD. 5. Legend-Scandinavia actually supported very productive agriculture, and Norsemen were active traders all over the Europe. 6. Legend-an interesting idea, but northern European peoples lived in homes made of wood, stone, or sometimes sod. 7. History-though Loki was usually causing trouble, the Norse religion didn't really put their beliefs in terms of good and evil-just troublesome and not troublesome. 8. History-the feast of Yule (mid-winter) was celebrated on Dec. 20-21, and was a day of merriment, feasting, and gift giving. After most of Scandinavia was Christianized in the 10th Cent. AD, they celebrated the religious holiday of Christmas. 9. Legend-though Thor was associated with the same powers in nature as Zeus in Greece and Jupiter in Rome, his father Odh was actually the king of the Norse gods. 10. History-though not given equal rights as men, Norse women had a lot of social and economic freedom due to their husbands being gone for long stretches of time. 11. Legend-the Vikings lived as small tribal groups that didn't consider themselves united in any way with other Norse groups. 12. History-only Sunday, Monday, and Saturday have Roman roots in the English language.

EXPLORE WITH THE NORSEMEN

The Norse were active traders and explorers, extending their presence to the far reaches of Europe as well as to North Africa, Russia, and across the Atlantic Ocean. Read the descriptions below and locate each historically significant place on the map of the Norse-influenced world. Write the letter of the location in the blank space next to its description.

- Scandinavia, the present-day countries of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway and the heart of the Norse world _____
- Remote Swedish Viking trade post that became the center of an active trade in timber, furs, honey, and slaves _____
- Greatest of the Norse settlements in Russia, this city would become the hub for trade with the Byzantine Empire and the Islamic Caliphates _____
- Norse merchants brought highly prized northern goods to this great capital of the Islamic Caliphates _____
- After a rocky start to their relationship, Viking links to the capital of the Byzantine Empire eventually made that culture the greatest influence on Russian civilization _____
- From a colony outside of this ancient North African city, Norse sailors extended trade and later ferried Crusaders to the Holy Land _____
- A successful raid on Palermo led to a short period of Norse rule over this island off of the coast of Italy _____
- The Pope was so terrified of a Viking raid on this holy city that he fled to his fortress in the Alps _____
- While Spain and Portugal were under Arab rule, Norse raiders repeatedly attacked these wealthy cities and even occupied one for a short time _____ and _____
- Using river systems, the Norse were able to raid the largest city in northern Europe _____
- Raids were so successful in this region of northern France that the Norse were able to set up a kingdom from which they would eventually invade England _____
- Norwegian Vikings established rule over this region composed of southern and eastern Ireland and much of Wales and Cornwall _____
- Some of the most infamous Viking raids in history led to Danish rule over much of the east coast of England _____
- Norwegian Viking control over the north coast of Scotland allowed for further exploration across the Atlantic _____
- Overcrowding and limited farmland in Scandinavia probably prompted Norse colonization of this Atlantic Ocean island _____
- Though today its massive glacier makes its name seems strange, a warmer climate in the tenth century left productive farmland for Icelandic Viking settler Erik the Red _____



SWORD OF SUMMER SCRAMBLE

Oh no! The gods have mixed up the letters for these key words from Magnus’s quest! Unscramble and match the highlighted letters below to solve the bonus question: What is the Sword’s true Norse name?

EXAMPLE:

SMAGNU = M A G N U S

1. SNROE

2. URST

3. AMISAH

4. HHTTNEEAORS

5. ROTH

6. ZNTIEBL

7. RNHEEIARJ

8. LAHLAAVL

9. GNTAI

10. DOGS

11. ERYF

12. RKELAIYV



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

HINT: Its name in Old Norse — Summer Sword.

EINHERJAR WORD HUNT

Search for these words like a Valkyrie searches for their Einherjar!

BLITZEN

HEARTHSTONE

ODIN

CHASE

LOKI

SAMIRAH

FREY

MAGNUS

THOR

Bonus word: What's a word for "doomsday" in Norse mythology?

L	S	R	V	V	H	M	M	F	K	Q	Z	E	H
D	B	H	O	I	X	T	N	P	T	Y	C	S	V
H	J	N	C	H	A	S	E	R	K	C	Y	G	Z
X	E	S	Q	T	T	K	W	W	H	Q	A	O	Y
G	G	A	S	Z	L	L	B	L	I	T	Z	E	N
U	Z	M	R	A	G	N	A	R	O	K	D	Q	G
L	U	I	A	T	H	S	R	W	I	U	S	I	Y
X	V	R	R	G	H	U	I	X	N	D	R	Q	H
W	G	A	E	O	N	S	N	M	E	I	H	Y	P
L	K	H	B	I	L	U	T	Y	Y	L	D	E	E
I	D	L	L	R	O	W	S	O	L	E	C	O	U
E	D	B	O	P	L	P	T	D	N	W	Z	G	W
I	J	Z	K	U	F	R	E	Y	A	E	F	O	W
N	A	W	I	X	Y	P	W	Q	X	A	B	A	F

L	S	R	V	V	H	M	M	F	K	Q	Z	E	H
D	B	H	O	I	X	T	N	P	T	Y	C	S	V
H	J	N	C	H	A	S	E	R	K	C	Y	G	Z
X	E	S	Q	T	T	K	W	W	H	Q	A	O	Y
G	G	A	S	Z	L	L	B	L	I	T	Z	E	N
U	Z	M	R	A	G	N	A	R	O	K	D	Q	G
L	U	I	A	T	H	S	R	W	I	U	S	I	Y
X	V	R	R	G	H	U	I	X	N	D	R	Q	H
W	G	A	E	O	N	S	N	M	E	I	H	Y	P
L	K	H	B	I	L	U	T	Y	Y	L	D	E	E
I	D	L	L	R	O	W	S	O	L	E	C	O	U
E	D	B	O	P	L	P	T	D	N	W	Z	G	W
I	J	Z	K	U	F	R	E	Y	A	E	F	O	W
N	A	W	I	X	Y	P	W	Q	X	A	B	A	F

Bonus Word: RAGNAROK

ANSWER:



MAGNUS MAD LIBS

Find a friend and fill in the blanks! Without showing the other person, read the prompt below each line to complete your own wacky version of the opening scene of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard.

My day started out _____ enough. I was sleeping on the _____ under a

ADVERB

NON-GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

bridge in the Public Garden when a guy kicked me awake and said, “_____.”

SCARY PHRASE

By the way, I’ve been _____ for the past _____ years. Some of you may

ADJECTIVE

NUMBER

think, Aw, how sad. Others may think, Ha, ha, _____!

TEASING NICKNAME

But if you saw me on the street, _____ percent of you would walk right past like

NUMBER

I’m _____.

ADJECTIVE

You’d pray, Don’t let him ask me for _____.

NOUN

You’d wonder if I’m _____ than I look, because surely

COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVE (HINT: adjective + er)

a teenager wouldn’t be wrapped in a stinky old _____, stuck outside in the middle

NOUN

of a _____ winter.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Somebody should _____ that poor boy!

VERB



Oops . . . the wolf is free.
Ragnarok begins!