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Don't Know Much About World Myths

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Davis, Kenneth C.. *Don't Know Much About World Myths*. Illustrated by Ruzzier, Sergio. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN 0060286067. \$20.89. 144 pp.

Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar

Reading Level: Intermediate

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Nonfiction;

Subject: World Mythology--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

Don't Know Much About World Myths follows the same question and answer format as the other books in Davis' "Don't Know Much About . . ." series. Davis begins his latest addition with an explanation of what mythology is and how myths, legends, fables, and folktales differ. He points out that there are common themes to every region's mythology: how the earth and man were created, the story of a great flood, and man's relationship to the divine. The text covers mythologies of the Middle East, Far East, South Pacific, Mediterranean, Africa, Northern Europe and the Americas. Each section includes boxes containing bits of trivia. For example, the "Mythic Link" boxes draw connections between mythologies with a common link, such as how the story of Romulus and Remus is similar to the story of Cain and Abel. Davis also includes references to modern myths such as *The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter* and the *Star Wars* movies. Scattered through the text are Sergio Ruzzier's cartoon-like drawings as well as some black and white photographs. Davis' book is a dependable reference work and starting point for readers interested in learning more about world myths.