# Hercules: The Hero’s Journey - Unit 5 (4 weeks)

## Unit Goals:
- to explore the concept of hero
- to analyze the literary account of Hercules and compare it critically with the Disney version
- to appreciate the geographical and historical context of the story of Hercules
- to employ persuasive writing in a defense/attack of Hercules

## Sample Activities:
- Hero Brainstorm - modern, classic, traits, comicbook
- paired reading of short version
- internet search for images of labors
- map with drawing of each of the 12 labors depicted in location - small group
- Viewing of Disney’s Hercules and comparison with literary versions
- Hercules vs. Modern hero essay

## Integration:
### Social Studies:
- geography for labors map
- time frame of authors of Hercules

### PE:
- research on sports hero

### Math:
- measurement of total distance of Hercules travels

## Assessment:
- 12 labors map presentation
- Hercules Venn diagram
- comprehension quiz
- Hercules vs. Modern hero essay
- written test with student choice questions

## Materials:
- Hercules unleashed [videorecording]
- Hercules - Disney
- computer access
- http://www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/1998/2/98.02.06.x.html
  *(Hercules’ 12 Labors)*

## Oregon State Benchmarks:
- Read a variety of literary works and distinguish among characteristics of a variety of literary forms, including novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and nonfiction. *(Literature - Grade 8)*
- Recognize and examine how character, plot, setting and theme contribute to the meaning of a literary selection. *(Literature - Grade 8)*
- Structure writing in a sequence by developing a beginning, middle and end and by making transitions among ideas and paragraphs. *(Writing - Grade 8)*
- Demonstrate control of eye contact, speaking rate, volume, enunciation, and gestures appropriate to audience and purpose. *(Communication - Grade 8)*