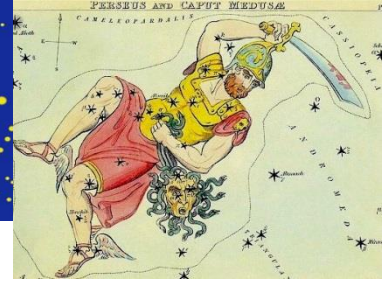
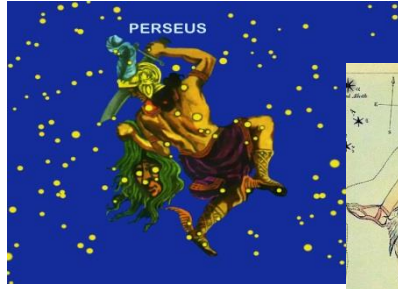


# Perseus and the Gorgon

## Chapter Three

### A Helpful Priest



Perseus woke to find himself lying on a bed in a gloomy house. Daylight shone through cracks in the wooden walls, dazzling his bleary eyes.

“Ah good, you’re awake,” said a voice.

“Huh?” said Perseus, struggling to see.

The village priest was watching him.

“Aagh...” Perseus started to sit up and moaned, as pain shot through his head.

“Where am I? What happened?”

“I saw you trying to save your mother from the king’s guards,” said the priest. “And I heard what you said about Medusa. But you were in no state to fight anything, so I brought you to my house to recover.”

“Now,” he went on, “there are things you need to know. First your father...”

“Oh, I don’t know who he is,” Perseus interrupted, “I’ve never met him.”

“I’m not surprised,” the priest replied. “It’s Zeus, King of the Gods.”

“What?” cried Perseus, astounded.

“My father is Zeus?” he repeated. “But that means I’m half a god! King Polydectes won’t be able to stop me. I must go to the palace and rescue my mother at once.” And he stood up from the bed.

At once, the priest sprang in front of him, blocking the door.

“Don’t be a fool,” he said. You wouldn’t get anywhere near your mother. The palace has hundreds of guards. There’s no way you can defeat them on your own, whoever your father was.”

“No,” he went on, “you must do as you promised your mother. Find and kill the Gorgon Medusa, then come back and turn her head on the king.”

Now Perseus looked doubtful. “Even if I am Zeus’s son,” he said, “can I really defeat Medusa?” Some of the country’s bravest warriors have tried and all of them failed.

“The gods will send gifts to help,” said the priest.

As he spoke, a razor-sharp sword and shimmering shield appeared.

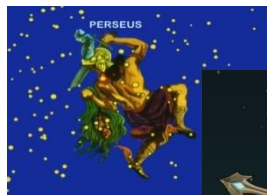
“The sword will cut anything,” he explained. “And you can look at Medusa safely in the shield. Her reflection has no power.”

He went to a cupboard, took out a leather bag and handed it to Perseus. “For the Gorgon’s head,” he said grimly. “Now go to the forest and find the three witches. Only they know where Medusa lives.”



## Perseus and the Gorgon

### Chapter Three Worksheet



1. Why did the priest take Perseus to his home?
2. What did the priest tell Perseus about his father?
3. How did Perseus react to this news?
4. Did the priest agree? (Give a reason for your answer).

5. What did the priest advise Perseus to do?
6. What gifts did the gods send Perseus to help him?
7. If you could have a magical power what would it be and why?



**Finished everything so far?**



This chapter contains a lot of direct speech! Using the examples in the chapter to help you, punctuate the following:

I really like Greek myths said Miss Gallagher

If you had a super hero power what would it be asked Miss McLaughlin

Do you enjoy reciprocal reading asked Miss McFadyen-Graham

We love our literacy group exclaimed the students

