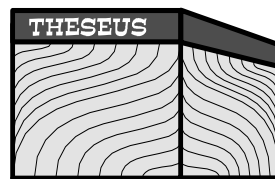


TREASURE CHEST FOR THESEUS

When Theseus was a young man, he had to lift a boulder to retrieve a sword and sandals left by his father Aegeus. Perhaps one day he would have liked to have left a similar “buried treasure” for his own son. Into this chest he might have placed objects signifying episodes and accomplishments in his life. The purpose of this assignment is for you to create a treasure chest for Theseus. The materials you will need are

one shoe box
wrapping paper
clay
ribbons
art paper
blank note cards
assorted art supplies (pipe cleaners, feathers, puff balls, foil, etc.)

Begin by covering the shoe box with the wrapping paper you have selected. Add decorations and Theseus’ name to the top.



Next, place into the box models of ten items that might be of significance to Theseus. For example, you might place in a pair of sandals made from cardboard and string, or you might include a map of the way out of the labyrinth.



Finally, use the ribbon to attach a note card to each item you have created stating, from Theseus’ point of view, the significance of that particular item.



After you have finished with your project, share it with the class by displaying each item and asking the class members to relate the significance. See if their responses match the ones you wrote.

Theseus and the Minotaur

*By S. Hengelsberg
with the help of a group of second graders
in the Rushford (NY) Elementary School, 1990*

*Tune: "Hoosen Johnny" a.k.a. "Little Black Bull"
(see music, next page)*

Once there was a monster called the Minotaur
Down in the labyrinth, down in the labyrinth;
He roared and he snored and he ate human flesh,
Long time ago.

Long time ago, long time ago,
He roared and he snored and he ate human flesh,
Long time ago.

Theseus went after that Minotaur
Down in the labyrinth, down in the labyrinth;
He followed that ball of magic string,
Long time ago.

Long time ago, long time ago,
He followed that ball of magic string,
Long time ago.

With his bare hands he killed the Minotaur,
Down in the labyrinth, down in the labyrinth;
He followed that string right out again,
Long time ago.

Long time ago, long time ago,
He followed that string right out again
Long time ago.

Theseus And The Minotaur

S. Hengelsberg

Tune from "Hoosen Johnny, folk song from Illinois



Once there was a mon - ster called the Min - o - taur,



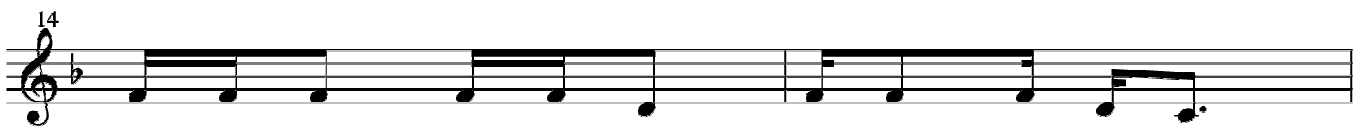
down in the lab - y - rinth, down in the lab - y - rinth. He



roared and he snored and he ate hu - man flesh, _____



long time a - go, long time a - go, long time a - go. He



roared and he snored and he ate hu - man flesh, _____



long time a - go.

The Constellation, Corona Borealis

According to another ancient legend, Thetis, the sea nymph, gave Theseus a glowing crown to light his way through the dark labyrinth. This crown, studded with jewels from India, had been created by Hephaestus. When Theseus and Ariadne fled from Crete after the Minotaur was dead, Ariadne wore the glowing crown. After Theseus abandoned Ariadne on the island of Naxos, Dionysus found her and took her for his wife. In joy, Dionysus threw her crown into the sky, and it became the constellation, Corona Borealis. The brightest star in this constellation is named Gemma, the Latin word for "jewel."

