



### Brunel home learning w/c 27.04.20

Hi Brunel,

I hope you are all keeping well and looking after yourselves. Thank you to all of you who sent me work last week and accessed the online learning. For those of you that haven't, please try your best to get on this week.

This week's English/Topic activity is all about Greek mythical monsters. Have a read of the description of the 3 monsters below (and perhaps do some research about others online).

Task 1:

Create your own mythical creature and draw a picture of it. Label the picture to show any special parts.

Task 2:

Write a character description of your monster. Use lots of descriptive language to tell me what your monster looks like, how it acts and the kind of place it lives.

You can send me your work through [brunel@ksmacademy.com](mailto:brunel@ksmacademy.com) or Showbie.

I look forward to seeing your work soon.

Mr Collier



## Who is Cerberus?

Cerberus, also known as "hound of Hades", is a multi-headed dog who guards the gates of **the underworld**. Although he will devour anyone who tries to sneak past him, there's more to this dog than his monstrous appearance and gruesome job would suggest!

## Physical Description

As you might expect of a dog that guards the gates to the underworld, Cerberus is a ghastly monster. He has the body of a dog with shaggy bronze or black fur, but there ends any sort of normality to this monster.

Cerberus has multiple heads—usually three, although some writers have given him as many as one hundred—with "eyes that flash fire," "jagged teeth" and three tongues per mouth. Most writers claim that all of these heads are dog-like, but a few writers have described half of the heads as dog-like and the other half are "heads of beasts of all sorts."

Cerberus's tail slowly morphs into a **serpent**, with a venomous head at the end, and more serpents sprout from his body. Some writers claim that these serpents form a mane around his head, while others describe the serpents growing up from his spine or hanging down like tangled fur all over his body.

## Personality

Despite his nightmarish appearance and his position at the gates of the underworld, Cerberus was not a demonic creature.

Above all else, this mighty dog was loyal. He was deeply devoted to his master, Hades, and when Hades decided to make him one of the guardians of the underworld, he became devoted to his duty as well. Cerberus obeyed two rules: he prevented living souls from entering the underworld and dead souls from leaving the underworld. Anyone, alive or dead, who tried to break these rules and sneak past Cerberus was sure to be torn to pieces—but remember, this was a duty given to him by his master, not a random slaughter of innocent victims.

Cerberus was capable of being loving and affectionate, as well as loyal. Greek writers described him "fawning over" the new souls who arrived at the underworld, welcoming them with excited affection. He also has a special relationship with **Persephone**, who he allows free passage to and from the underworld.





## What is the Minotaur?

The Minotaur is an ancient Greek monster, half-man and half-bull. The beast is most famous for dwelling inside a labyrinth, where he devoured 14 human sacrifices each year.

### Characteristics

### Physical Description

The ancient Greeks depicted the Minotaur as a creature with a man's body and a bull's head. His body was fully human, although his legs and arms were bulging with almost superhuman muscles. Beginning at his shoulders, he transformed into a bull with blue-black fur and sharp horns that could easily gore any human challenger. Sometimes, he was drawn with a bull's tail as well.

During the Middle Ages, the Minotaur was only known to be "half-man, half-bull," so he was drawn in much the same way as a [centaur](#). He had a bull's body, complete with all four legs. Where the bull's neck would have begun, he transformed into a man. This misconception was eventually corrected, when more Greek texts were uncovered.

Over time, the Minotaur's image has become less human and more bullish. Today, only his muscled stomach and arms remain human, although he does manage to walk upright on his bull's legs.

### Personality

The Minotaur has gone down in history as a bloodthirsty, mindless monster. He killed innocent, unarmed victims and feasted on their bodies. However, this description is given by the Athenians, who had a reason to hate the Minotaur: they were forced to supply victims for him to eat. It's possible that the Minotaur was not so monstrous; he might even have been viewed as a hero by the people in his native kingdom, Minoa. Unfortunately, their records of the Minotaur were lost to time.



## What is a Centaur?

Centaur is an ancient Greek chimera, half-man and half-horse. With the exception of a few superior individuals, they live in a savage way and often lash out against civilization.

## Physical Description

Centaur is defined by a blend of human and horse characteristics, but this blend can take a number of different shapes. The most common chimeric variety is a man's head and torso, melding into a horse's body, where the neck would be, and terminating in four finely sculpted horse's legs. Others have a full human body, with the hindquarters of a horse sprouting from their hips to furnish two extra legs and a long, silky tail.

Because Centaur is make their home on the rugged slopes of Mount Pelion or in the isolated forests of Cyprus, they carry an air of wilderness with them. Their ears are pointed, their hair unruly, and their skin browned by the sun. Although they often sling a bow and a quiver of arrows over their shoulders, they don't wear any clothing. A few tribes, especially around Cyprus and Lamos, have horns like a goat or a bull.

## Special Abilities

Early on, the Centaur is lived a savage, artless lifestyle. They made crude homes in caves, foraged for berries and nuts, and hunted wild animals with spears and stones as weapons. Their strength and careless bravery made them frightening enemies, but they had no real talent or sophistication beyond this.

Still, a handful of Centaur is rose above their beast-like brothers to become allies of the Greek heroes and gods. Chiron is, by far, the most notable. He was a marvelous teacher who took many of Greece's finest heroes under his wing, as well as a warrior, a medical genius, and a prophet. Likewise, a group of twelve Centaur is, called the "Lamian Pheres" had a gentle, helpful nature. They raised the god [Dionysus](#) in secret and, after he was a grown man, pulled his chariot for him and accompanied him into battle