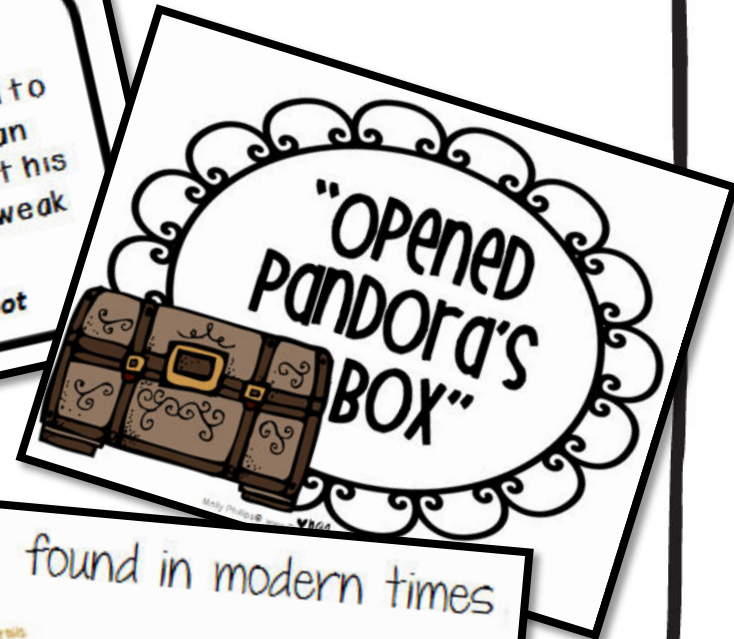
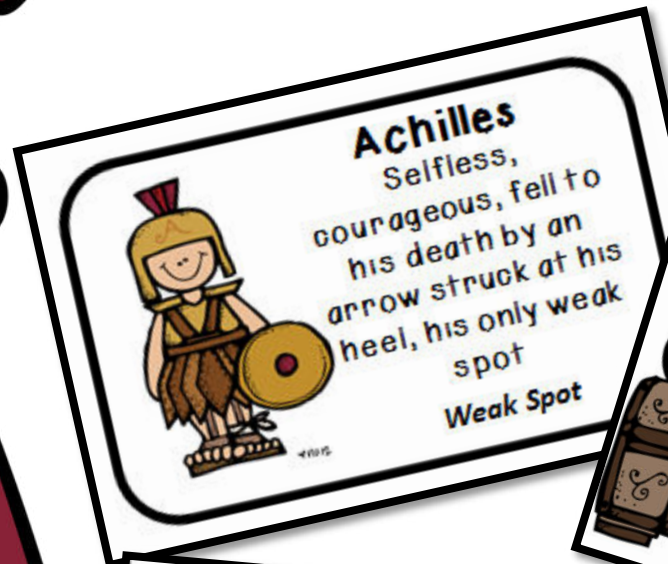


Common
Core
ELA-RL.4.4

Words in Text Alluding to Mythological Characters



A note from Molly.....

If you are like me, you are always short on time. For this little lesson, I was looking for a way to help students understand that texts sometimes use words or phrases that we don't fully understand, but if we look closely, there is typically meaning behind them. In the case of this lesson, the text would allude to mythology.

This lesson is not really meant to teach mythology in the full context, but to sort of *introduce* what it is in order to show that today much of our language and saying derived from mythology and mythological characters. If we understand the origin of these sayings, we can better understand what text is saying.

I will be using the "Mythology – What is it?" sheet to display using the projector to introduce mythology. I will probably show some books/ mythological stories, and I will read one or two short stories so they can get an idea of what mythological stories are.

The eight small cards can be used to display also, but if you are interested in having your students try to make reference in their own writing, they may glue the cards into their writer's notebook.

I then picked 4 frequently used terms that derived from mythology that I will discuss with my students. For example, I will explain that if you ever read a passage that says something like, "He had the Midas Touch," it would mean someone was fortunate.

I then included 9 posters for students to illustrate. You can use them however you would like in your classroom. I wanted to show the kids how many words we use today or even that businesses use for their business names or even to name products, often refer to mythology. Discuss the products listed on the cards. You can either have students look up the exact logo of the company mentioned, or students can simply illustrate them using their imagination. For example, for Pegasus Airlines they can draw an airplane with wings or even use horse wings to do a play on the mythological character Pegasus.

Have fun and be creative.😊

greek MYTHOLOGY

What is it?

- “story” or narrative
- “traditional”, meaning that they were told from generation to generation
- “powerful”, deal with issues about culture and religion

Greek mythology was used to express admiration for heroes and to show a desire to have people to look up to (role models), used to try and explain their surroundings, and explain life and death.



Achilles

Selfless,
courageous, fell to
his death by an
arrow struck at his
heel, his only weak
spot

Weak Spot



Hercules

a hero , famous for
his seven labors,
carried the world
atop his shoulders

Strong, Great Effort

Pandora's Box

Opens the box she is told not to
touch, when she opens the box,
bad things happen in the world



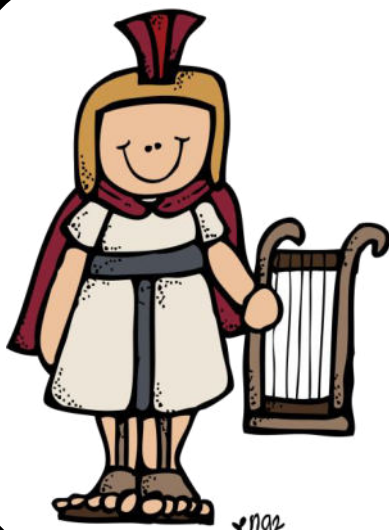
***Things have gotten
'out of hand' – out of
control***



King Midas

wants as much gold as
he can possibly have
so he can be the
richest man, what he
touches turns to gold

Fortunate



Orpheus

was a legendary musician, prophet, ability to charm all living things and even stones with his music

Talented, Wise



Odysseus

quick thinking helps him out of some very tough situations, very good speaker who can convince others

Intelligent, Strong



Medusa

Beautiful but turned ugly, snakes for hair, could turn men into stone by looking at them

Powerful, Vain

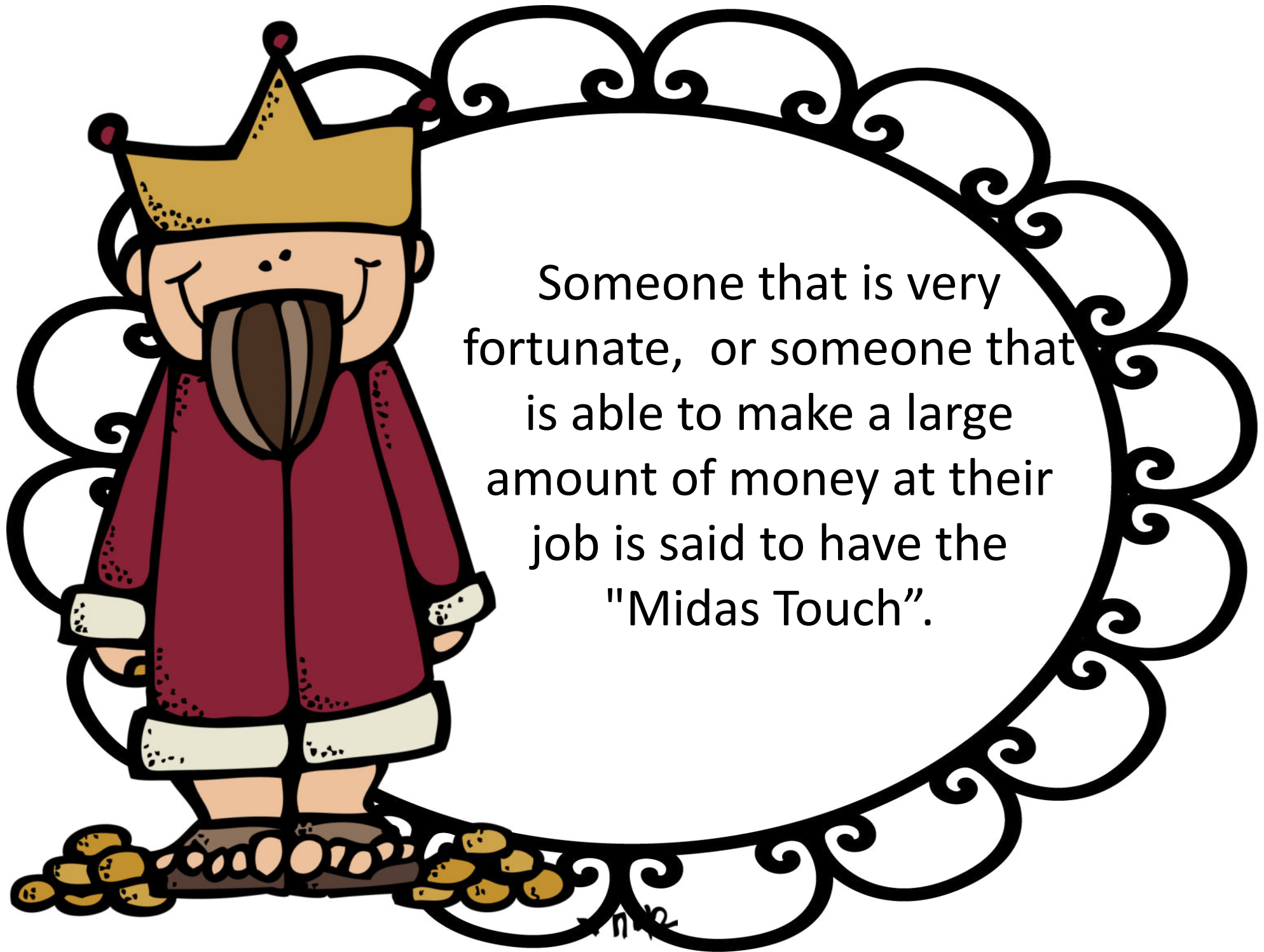


Pegasus

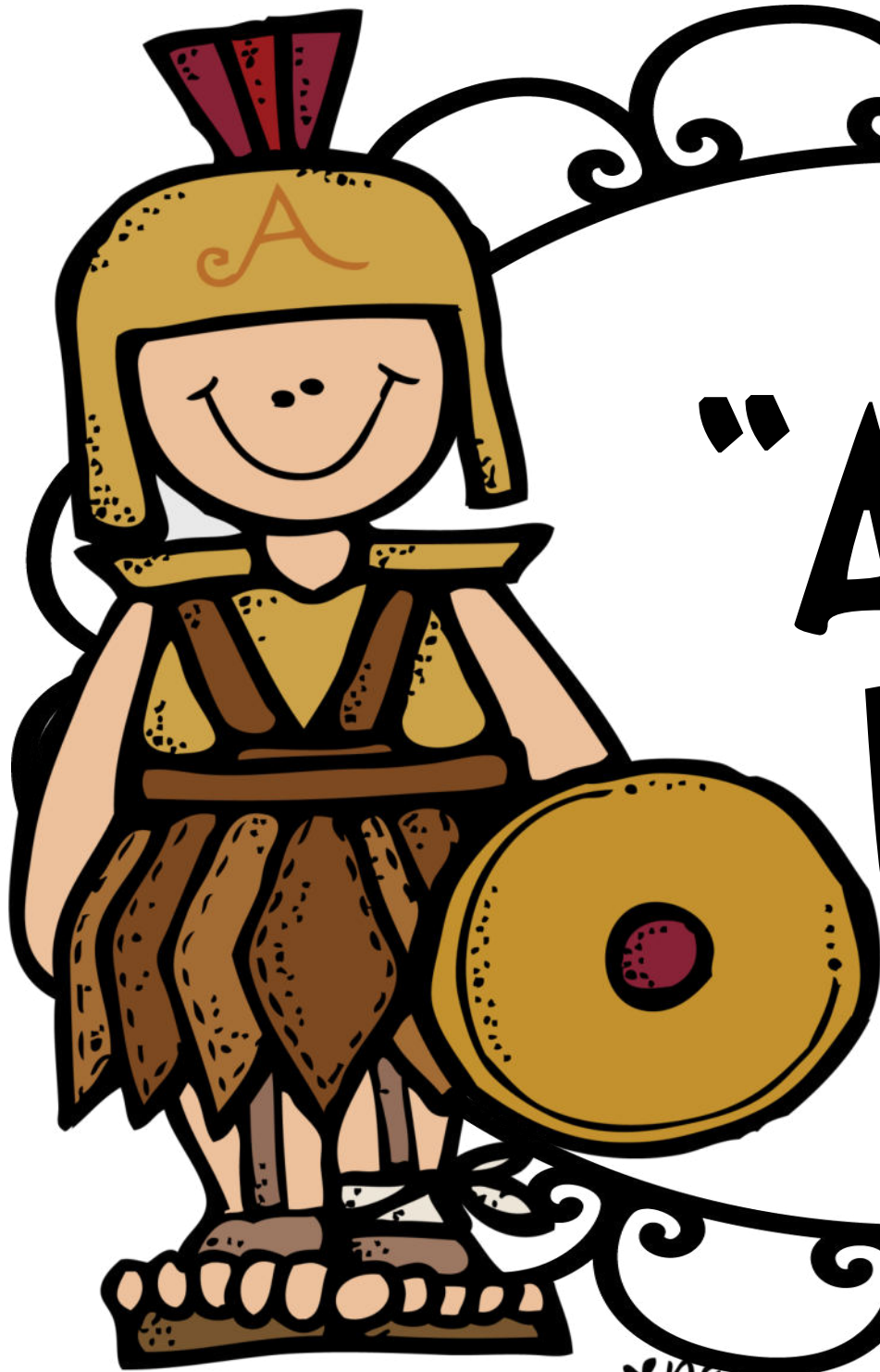
Winged horse, could gallop faster than the wind, at risk of being kidnapped, carried the wounded at war, constellation name for him

Wise, Strong yet Vulnerable, Loyal





Someone that is very fortunate, or someone that is able to make a large amount of money at their job is said to have the "Midas Touch".



"Achilles
Heel"

4/10/12

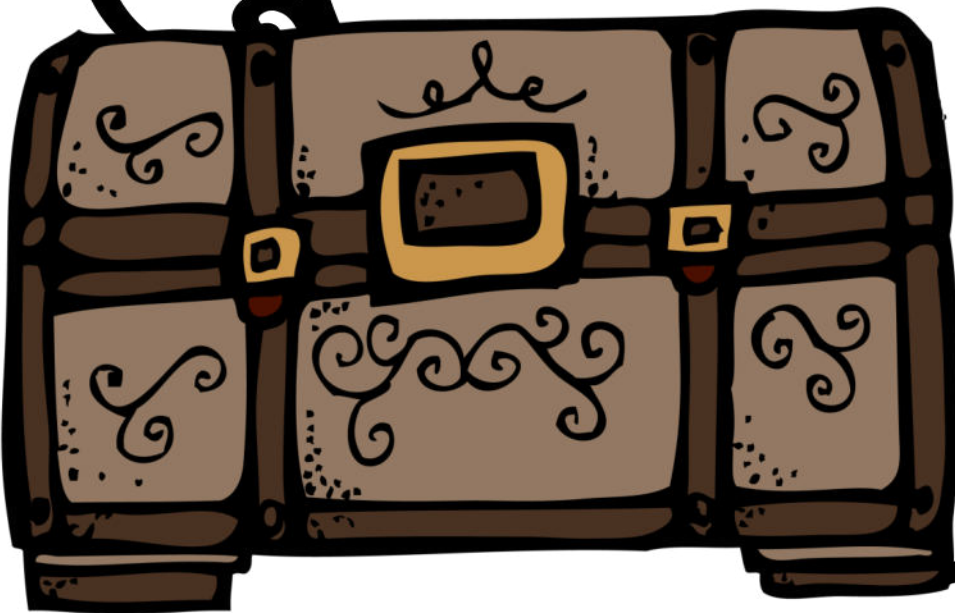


Making
reference to
someone's
weak spot.

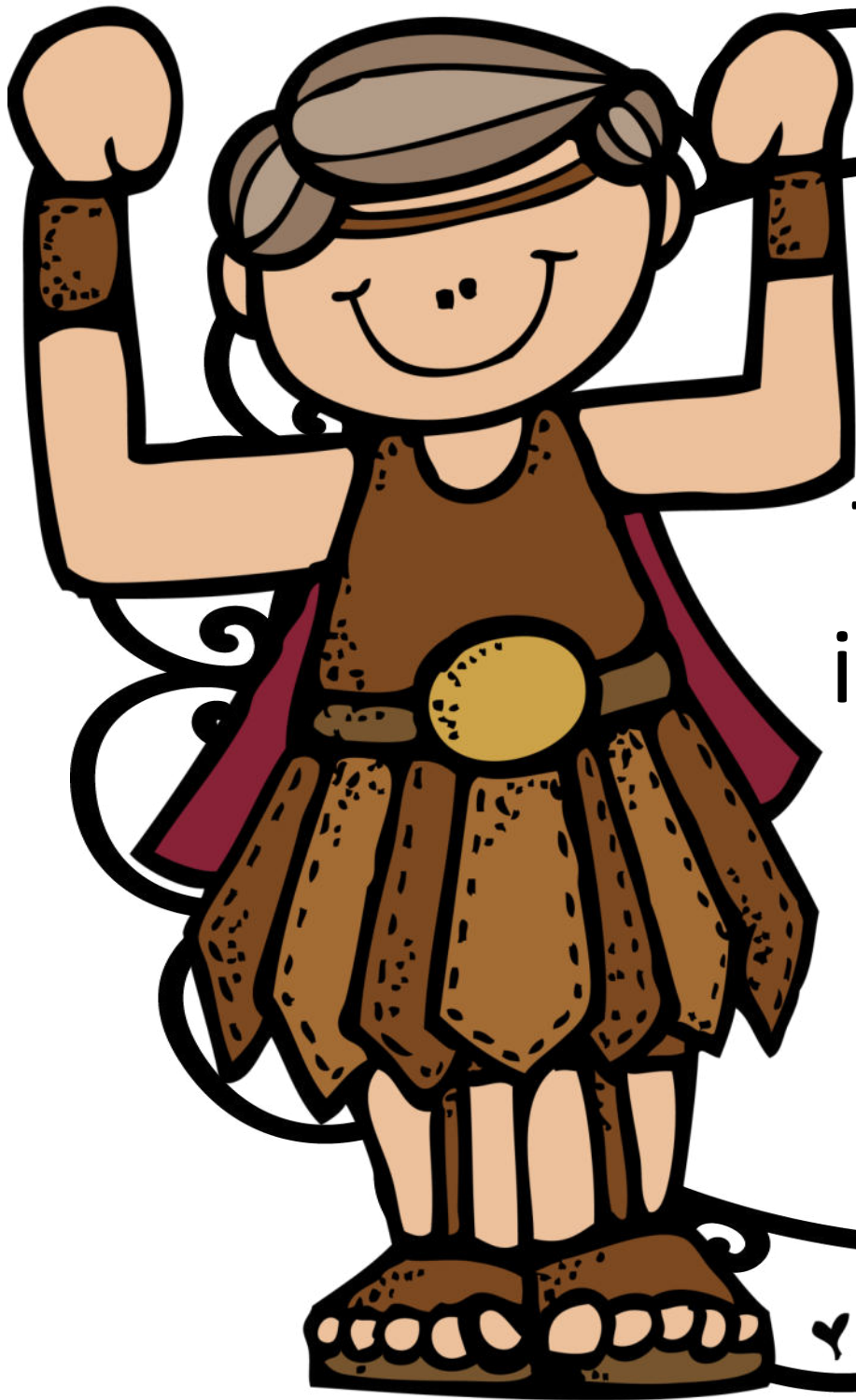
"OPENED
PANDORA'S
BOX"



To open Pandora's
Box is to unleash
unforeseen troubles
or let things get out
of hand.







To say someone
is making a great
effort.

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Ajax - Greek warrior in the Trojan War, who "cleaned up" in battle;
popular household cleanser.

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Amazon - Race of warrior women; amazon.com - huge on-line bookstore

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Atlas - Was doomed to support the heavens on his shoulders; a modern moving company is called Atlas Van Lines

greek **Mythology**

found in modern times

Mars - Roman name for Ares, god of War; name of popular candy bar.

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Midas - King with the golden touch, who transformed all he touched to gold; a famous muffler and brake chain of service stations

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Nike - Winged goddess of Victory, who can run and fly at great speeds; a famous sports company

Greek Mythology

found in modern times

Pegasus - Winged horse that was born from Medusa's head when she was killed; An airline company is called Pegasus Airlines

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Trident - The three-pronged spear of Poseidon, god of the seas; Trident Gum is a popular gum.

greek Mythology

found in modern times

Mercury - Roman name for Hermes, the Messenger god; name of car model produced by the Ford Motor Company

Created by:

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