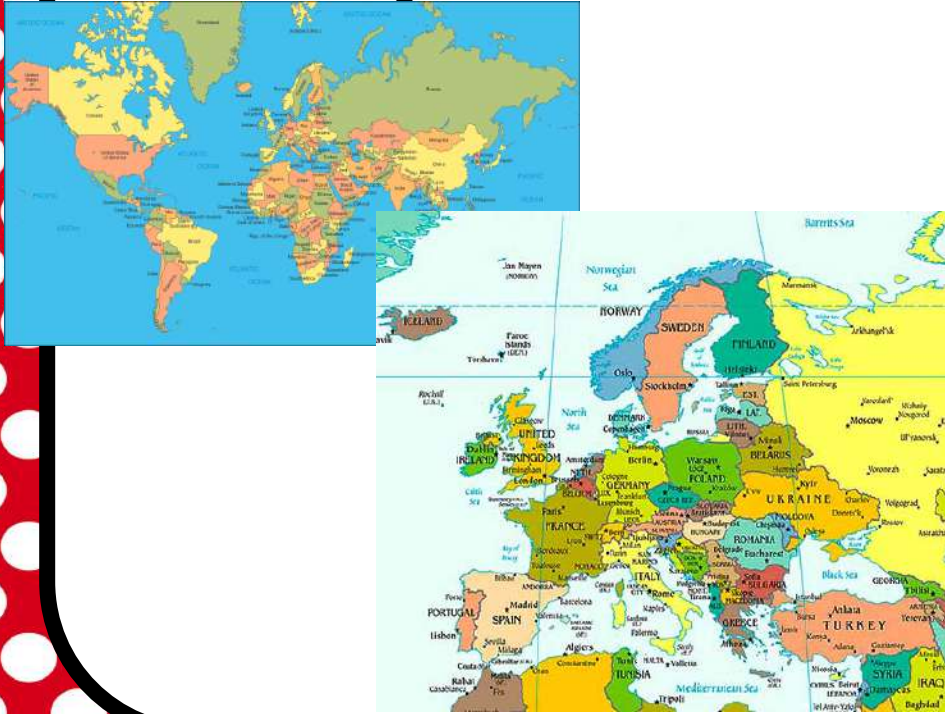


King Midas & the Golden Touch



This is Greece. Greece is a country on the north coast of the Mediterranean Sea just west of Turkey. Does anyone know anything about Greece or this part of the world?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The story you are going to hear today was told a very long time ago in Greece. Many, many years ago most people could not read books, so they told stories aloud to one another. People often made up stories to teach lessons.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



In today's read aloud the king loves gold more than anything in the world. Gold is a precious metal that is found inside of the earth.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



It is considered valuable because it costs a lot of money. This crown is made of gold and jewels. Jewelry, like necklaces or earrings, is often made of gold or of materials that look like gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Sometimes people act very silly when it comes to things that cost a lot of money. Today you will hear a story about a rich king who does something very foolish and learns a lesson from his foolish act. Listen to find out what lesson the king learns.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



What do you see in this picture?

Once upon a time, there lived a very rich king whose name was Midas. Although King Midas lived long ago, he was very much like some people today: he was *fond* of gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



He loved gold more than anything in the world. When he gazed or looked at the gold colored clouds of a beautiful sunset for a few moments, he would wish that the clouds were real gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



If King Midas loved anything as much or more than he loved gold, it was his little daughter, who was named Marygold. When Marygold would run to meet him with a bunch of buttercups, King Midas would say, "Dear child, if these flowers were as golden as they look, then they would be worth picking."

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Every day, King Midas spent many hours locked away in a dark room in the basement of the palace. In this room he stored his treasures. Treasures can be things that are worth a lot of money, like gold. He would go there and carefully lock the door behind him.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Then he would take out bags of gold coins, and pour the coins in piles, and run his hands through them. As he did this, he would whisper to himself, "Oh, rich King Midas, what a happy man you are!" But even as he said this, he felt that he was not quite as happy as he might be. For no matter how much he had, he always wanted more.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



One day, as King Midas was enjoying himself in his treasure room, he looked up and saw a strange young man, who shone with a golden glow. King Midas knew that he had locked the door so that no one could get into the room, yet here stood this man.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



And so, King Midas thought, the stranger must have some magic power. The stranger had a kind smile, so King Midas felt no fear.

Then the stranger spoke to King Midas: "You are a rich man, King Midas," he said.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



“Yes, I have some gold,” answered King Midas, “but it is not enough.”

“What!” cried the stranger. “You are not satisfied? You are not happy or content?”

King Midas shook his head.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"What would satisfy you?" asked the stranger.

King Midas imagined one gold mountain heaped on top of another, and another, yet still it seemed not enough. But then a bright idea occurred to him, and he said to the shining stranger, "I wish that everything that I touch may turn to gold."

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Touch is one of your five senses. With what part of your body do you touch things?

The stranger smiled and said, "A golden touch! Are you quite sure you would be satisfied then?"

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"Yes, I would be perfectly happy and ask for nothing more," answered King Midas.

"Then it shall be as you wish," said the stranger. "Tomorrow, at sunrise, you shall find yourself gifted with the Golden Touch." Then suddenly a great brightness filled the room, causing King Midas to squeeze his eyes shut.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



And when he opened them, the stranger was gone!

King Midas & the Golden Touch



The next morning, when the sun had hardly peeped into his room, King Midas jumped out of bed.

He touched a chair. It turned to gold. He touched the bed and a table, and they were changed to solid gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



He rushed to put on his shoes, and they turned to gold in his hands.

What happens when King Midas touches things? What does it mean to have the Golden Touch?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



In great excitement, he opened the door and he ran outside to the garden. He saw many roses in full bloom. He went from bush to bush and touched each one, until every flower, every leaf, and every bud was changed to gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Now King Midas was hungry, so he returned to the palace for his breakfast. He lifted his cup of coffee and sipped it, but the instant the liquid touched his lips it turned to gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



He tried to take a bite of a boiled egg, but it, too, turned to gold. "I don't quite see how I am to get any breakfast!" said King Midas. Can people eat gold? What problem did King Midas have with breakfast?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Just then King Midas heard someone crying. He turned to see Marygold enter the room, crying as if her heart would break. In her hand she held one of the roses that her father had changed to gold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

“Why, my little lady!” said King Midas. “What is there in this beautiful golden rose to make you cry?”

King Midas & the Golden Touch

“Dear father,” Marygold answered, “it is not beautiful! It is the ugliest flower that ever grew. As soon as I was dressed this morning, I ran to the garden to gather roses for you. But what do you think has happened? All the beautiful sweet smelling roses have been spoiled.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The word spoiled means ruined. Do you have any idea why Marygold thinks the rose is spoiled since it is now gold? The word spoiled can have other meanings. The word spoiled also describes someone who is used to having his or her way all of the time.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



“My dear little girl,” said King Midas, who hated to see his daughter sad, “please don’t cry.” Then he bent down and kissed his child. “My precious Marygold!” he said. But Marygold did not answer.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Alas, what had he done? The moment King Midas's lips touched Marygold's head, her sweet, rosy face turned a glittering yellow color. Little Marygold was now a golden statue! King Midas cried out, wrung his hands, and wished that he were the poorest man in the world if only he could have his daughter back again.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Would King Midas rather
hug his daughter or gold?
How do you know?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Then he noticed someone standing in the doorway. It was the young stranger who had appeared the day before in King Midas's treasure room. The stranger still shone with a soft glow, and he smiled as he asked the king, "Well, King Midas, how do you like your Golden Touch?"

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"I am very unhappy," said King Midas.

*"Unhappy?" asked the stranger.
"But don't you have everything
your heart desired?"*

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"No," said King Midas. "Gold is not everything. And I have lost all that my heart really cared for."

What did King Midas's heart really care for?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Then the stranger asked King Midas, "Which of these two things do you think is worth the most: the Golden Touch or your own little Marygold?"

"Oh, my child, my dear child!" cried poor King Midas.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"I would not give one hair off her head even if you gave me the power to change this whole big earth into a solid lump of gold!"

Does King Midas still feel the same way about the Golden Touch as he did when he first asked the stranger for this power, or has he changed his mind?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"You are wiser than you were, King Midas," said the stranger.

Why does the stranger think King Midas is now wiser than he once was?

King Midas & the Golden Touch



"Go and plunge into the river that runs by your garden. The water will take away the Golden Touch. Then fill this pitcher with water, and sprinkle everything you have touched." King Midas bowed low, and when he lifted his head, the shining stranger was gone.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



Then the king ran as fast as he could and jumped into the river. He filled the pitcher and ran back to the palace. The first thing he did was to sprinkle handfuls of water over the golden figure of little Marygold.

King Midas & the Golden Touch



The rosy color came back into her cheeks. She looked in surprise at her father, who was still throwing water on her!

“Father, please stop!” she cried.
“See how you have soaked my dress!”

King Midas & the Golden Touch



King Midas took Marygold in his arms and kissed her. "Now I am truly happy," he said. "My dear child, you mean more to me than all the gold in the world!"

What lesson has King Midas learned?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Who are the three important characters in the story?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What did King Midas have a lot of but wanted more?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What wish did the stranger grant King Midas?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

Why did King Midas wish that everything he touched would turn to gold?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What were some of the things that King Midas turned to gold?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

At first, how did King Midas feel about the Golden Touch? Did his feelings change? Why?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

Do you think that King Midas made a wise or foolish choice in telling the stranger that he wanted the Golden Touch? Why?

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

Some parts of this story could really happen and other parts are pretend and fantasy. Tell me about some of the parts of the story that could be real. Now tell me what parts of the story are fantasy.

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

King Midas & the Golden Touch

In the read aloud you heard, "In this room, King Midas stored his **treasures**."

Say the word **treasures** with me.
Whisper treasures to the ceiling.
Whisper treasures to your neighbor.
Let's clap it out.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Treasures are anything that is worth a lot of money or is very special or valuable for another reason, such as having a special meaning for a person.

The watch and ring that were my grandfather's when he was a little boy are treasures to me now.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Tell me about some things that might be treasures to you or someone you know. Try to use the word treasures when you tell about it.

“Some things that my parents have that are treasures are...”

King Midas & the Golden Touch

*What's the word we have been talking
about?*

Let's clap it out.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

I am going to name some things that could be treasures to you. If the things are treasures to you, raise your hand to say, "_____ are treasures to me because..." or "_____ are not treasures to me because..." Things you think are treasures might not be treasures to other people. Different people treasure different things.

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The King's silver and gold

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The leaves on the ground

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The photo albums of your baby pictures

King Midas & the Golden Touch

Your baby sister or brother's very special
blanket and teddy bear that s/he must
have to fall asleep

King Midas & the Golden Touch

The garbage cans on the side of the road.