



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: CENTAUR

1. Write a paragraph explaining how legends of centaurs may have started.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. If you made a creature that was half horse, what would the other half be? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How was Chiron different from the other centaurs?
  - A. He was meaner than other centaurs.
  - B. He was bigger than other centaurs.
  - C. He was helpful and wise.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How would naming a constellation after Chiron honor him?
  - A. People would forget all about him.
  - B. People would remember him when they studied the sky.
  - C. The constellation would keep him from ever dying.



5. What does **sprint** mean in the *Centaur* book?

*The centaurs **sprint** down the hill. They scream and cheer as they run.*

- A. to run quickly
- B. to move slowly
- C. to speak quietly

6. What does **behave** mean in the *Centaur* book?

*In Greek myths, centaurs often **behave** badly. They start wild fights.*

- A. to not do something
- B. to eat lots of food
- C. to act in a certain way



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: CENTAUR**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. C



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: CHUPACABRA

1. Write a paragraph describing the main ideas of Chapter 2.
2. Why do you think some stories spread quickly over the internet? Do those stories have anything in common?
3. What animal is the chupacabra likely based on?
  - A. chicken
  - B. coyote
  - C. kangaroo
4. How would the internet help a legend such as the chupacabra spread?
  - A. People will think anything they read online is not true.
  - B. People can stop trying to see the creature in real life.
  - C. People can read about the creature even if no one where they live has seen it.

5. What does **terrifying** mean in the *Chupacabra* book?

*The farmer sees a **terrifying** beast. It has sharp fangs and patchy fur.*

- A. very scary
- B. very beautiful
- C. cute and cuddly

6. What does **affect** mean in the *Chupacabra* book?

*Mites that cause mange can also **affect** humans. They give humans a rash called scabies.*

- A. make something louder
- B. make something happen to
- C. light something on fire



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: CHUPACABRA**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: KRAKEN

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 2.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Why do you think people tell so many legends that involve the ocean? Do those stories have anything in common?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. According to legends, what does the kraken eat?
  - A. squid
  - B. fish
  - C. whirlpools
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why do people think the giant squid inspired stories of the kraken?
  - A. Both creatures are real animals.
  - B. Both creatures live near Antarctica.
  - C. Both creatures live in the Atlantic Ocean.



5. What does **described** mean in the *Kraken* book?

*A Scandinavian writer **described** the kraken in 1755. He gathered tales about the beast.*

- A. told what something was like
- B. saw something in real life
- C. took a long trip

6. What does **surface** mean in the *Kraken* book?

*Sailors said the beast lived deep underwater. But sometimes it came up to the **surface**.*

- A. the bottom of the ocean
- B. the top of the water
- C. the floor of a building





## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: KRAKEN**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: PEGASUS

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 3.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would you want to ride on Pegasus? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Who tried to ride Pegasus to Mount Olympus?
  - A. Bellerophon
  - B. Perseus
  - C. Medusa
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why would owning a horse be a sign of status?
  - A. Buying a horse did not cost much.
  - B. Buying a horse was not possible in Greece.
  - C. Buying a horse showed a person had lots of money.



5. What does **tamed** mean in the *Pegasus* book?

*At first, Pegasus was wild and free. Later, a hero **tamed** it.*

- A. trained an animal to be less wild
- B. fought against an animal
- C. made an animal more wild

6. What does **soar** mean in the *Pegasus* book?

*The hero and the horse **soar** through the sky. They fly off to fight the monster.*

- A. to hold very still
- B. to stay on the ground
- C. to fly high in the air



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: PEGASUS**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. C
5. A
6. C



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: PHOENIX

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you want to live forever like a phoenix? Why or why not?
3. What large bird's fossils may have been the basis for legends of the phoenix?
  - A. eagle
  - B. heron
  - C. peacock
4. How could writing a legend down help it spread?
  - A. People had no way to spread the legend before.
  - B. People could change what the legend said.
  - C. People in other times and places could learn about the legend.



5. What does **ash** mean in the *Phoenix* book?

*Finally, the fire dies down. Only a pile of **ash** is left.*

- A. a type of food
- B. leaves on a tree
- C. small bits of burned wood

6. What does **rarely** mean in the *Phoenix* book?

*People **rarely** see it. But when they do, it's a sign of peace and good luck.*

- A. not very often
- B. all the time
- C. never



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: PHOENIX**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. A



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: SEA SERPENT

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 4.
2. Would you want to visit places where legends said sea serpents lived? Why or why not?
3. Which stories tell of sea serpents that pull people off docks and into the water?
  - A. Inuit folklore
  - B. Japanese folklore
  - C. Scandinavian folklore
4. Why might people who saw oarfish think the animals were sea serpents?
  - A. Oarfish have long, snake-like bodies.
  - B. Oarfish have big mouths and sharp teeth.
  - C. Oarfish often attack and sink ships.



5. What does **beasts** mean in the *Sea Serpent* book?

*Sailors told of terrifying monsters. They said the **beasts** sank ships.*

- A. small birds
- B. safe places
- C. dangerous animals

6. What does **gust** mean in the *Sea Serpent* book?

*A **gust** of wind blows. It fills the sails.*

- A. a time of no light
- B. a very soft sound
- C. a strong rush of air



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: SEA SERPENT**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. A
5. C
6. C



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: SPHINX

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 4.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would you like to try answering a sphinx's riddle? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Where did legends of the sphinx begin?
  - A. Egypt
  - B. Persia
  - C. Greece
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why would the ideas of a powerful country be likely to spread?
  - A. The country would take over or trade with many areas around it.
  - B. The country would keep all other people out.
  - C. The country would try not to share its ideas.



5. What does **tough** mean in the *Sphinx* book?

*The riddle is **tough**. No one has solved it before.*

- A. hard to bend
- B. easy to solve
- C. hard to do or understand

6. What does **buried** mean in the *Sphinx* book?

*A prince named Thutmose dreamed of a **buried** sphinx. The dream told him to dig it out of the sand.*

- A. out in the open
- B. high in the air
- C. covered in dirt or sand



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: SPHINX**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. A
4. A
5. C
6. C



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

## LEGENDARY BEASTS: YETI

1. Write a few sentences explaining the main ideas of Chapter 3.
2. Would you want to try climbing the Himalayas? Why or why not?
3. Which creatures that live in the Himalayas may have inspired legends of yetis?
  - A. apes
  - B. bears
  - C. livestock
4. How might the folktales about yetis help children stay safe?
  - A. The tales might get children to spend more time alone outside.
  - B. The tales might help children go closer to wild animals.
  - C. The tales might get children to stay away from dangerous places.

5. What does **popular** mean in the *Yeti* book?

*By the 1900s, mountain climbing had become a **popular** sport. Many people came to climb the Himalayas.*

- A. not liked by any people
- B. not done by any people
- C. liked or done by many people

6. What does **combined** mean in the *Yeti* book?

*When bears walk, their back paws sometimes step on part of their front-paw prints. The **combined** prints look similar to an ape's.*

- A. kept apart
- B. blended together
- C. not possible to see



## **ANSWER KEY FOR LEGENDARY BEASTS: YETI**

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. B