



Investigate mythical creatures in literature and create your own mythical creature!

What you'll need:

Coloured pencils



Staedtler fibre tip pens



Staedtler scissors



Staedtler glue stick or craft glue



A4 paper



Cardboard and paper



Cardboard and paper of various colours and textures, collected natural objects such as sticks and seeds, and other discarded sculptural and recycled items

Method:

STEP 1: Investigate and discuss the concept of mythical creatures. Mythical creatures can be a mixture of humans and animals or a mixture of different animals. Can you name some mythical creatures from your favourite books? One example might be the centaurs from J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series or the faun, Mr Tumnus from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis. How about Cressida Cowell's How to Train Your Dragon series or Tolkien's The Hobbit or Lord of the Rings trilogy? What mythical creatures can you identify?

STEP 2: Search for images of mythical creatures. Do they look like humans, animals or something completely unique? Do they seem terrifying or friendly? List some of the different features of your favourite mythical creatures.

STEP 3: Create your own mythical creature and make a collage showing what it looks like. Before you start, do some quick sketches. What unique features will your mythical creature have?

STEP 4: Start your collage. Draw your creature then layer different pictures and textured materials over the top. Add lots of colour!

STEP 5: Display your creatures on the classroom walls. Where will your mythical creatures live? You could decorate one corner of the classroom as a mythical cave for your creatures to inhabit.



Extension Opportunities

Extension students and fast finishers could:

- Create a brief one or two person performance starring your mythical creatures. Improvise and use imaginative play to shape your performance. Experiment with unique sounds, gestures and movements to showcase your amazing creatures.

Inspiration

The Chronicles of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum, The Abominables by Eva Ibbotsen, A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle.

Learning Intentions

Students will:

- Investigate and discuss the concept of a mythical creature and explore mythical creatures in literature
- Devise unique mythical creatures
- Create and display collages of their mythical creatures

Curriculum Links

Visual Arts

- Use materials, techniques and processes to explore visual conventions when making artworks (ACAVAM111)
- Present artworks and describe how they have used visual conventions to represent their ideas (ACAVAM112)

English

- Discuss texts in which characters, events and settings are portrayed in different ways, and speculate on the authors' reasons (ACELT1594)
- Discuss literary experiences with others, sharing responses and expressing a point of view (ACELT1603)

Drama

- Explore ideas and narrative structures through roles and situations and use empathy in their own improvisations and devised drama (ACADRM031)
- Use voice, body, movement and language to sustain role and relationships and create dramatic action with a sense of time and place (ACADRM032)