

Myths and Legends

KS1 RESOURCES

The Story of St. George

This is a story of a man who showed great bravery.

Once upon a time there was a brave knight called George. George had lots of adventures as he travelled by horse across many lands.

One day he came to a small village and met a man who lived in a cave next to the village.

The hermit told the knight about the awful things that were happening there. A terrible dragon had come to live in the lake and attacked the village every day.

The villagers didn't know what to do. First, they gave the dragon all their food, but the dragon just took the food and still attacked the village.

So then the villagers gave the dragon all the animals from their farms. The dragon took all the animals, but continued to attack the villagers.

So then they gave the dragon all their gold and jewels. The dragon took all their money, but still was not satisfied.

The king sent his army to try and capture the dragon, but the dragon was too strong and the knights of the army were too scared and they ran away.

With nothing left to give, the king could only think of one thing to help protect his people. He sent his only daughter, the princess, to the lake to wait for the dragon.

When George heard this he rode as fast as he could to the lake. Just then the dragon jumped out from the lake and was going to eat the princess.

George attacked the dragon. He fought very bravely, won the fight and killed the dragon. George and the princess returned to the village and everyone was very pleased that they would have no more problems with the dragon.

Today, the story of George's bravery is remembered and George is known as the patron saint of many countries, including England. Can you find the flag of St. George at the edge of the mosaic panel? We celebrate St. George's Day on April 23rd.

What makes some people brave? Can everyone be brave?

Do you think army children have to be brave? Why?

Who is the bravest person you know?

Can you think of a brave character from a book or a film?

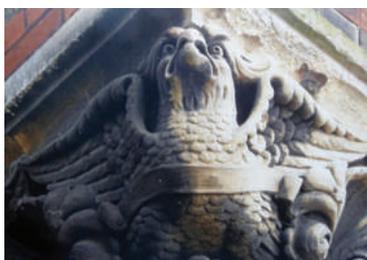
Real and Imaginary Creatures



Griffin

Imaginary creature with the body, tail, and back legs of a lion; the head and wings of an eagle; and an eagle's talons as its front feet. The lion is the king of the

beasts and the eagle the king of birds, so the griffin is very powerful and majestic. Griffins guard treasure.



Eagle

A real bird – used as a symbol of power, action, speed and perception. It has sharp vision and people say it can see hidden truths. For the ancient Greeks it

represented Zeus, the king of the gods. Eagles can fly to the tops of mountains and down into valleys, so they are a sign of freedom. The Eagle represents the Sun God who symbolizes light and power, fire and water as its elements. It is courageous because it does not fear thunder or lightning.

If you see a picture of an eagle with a snake, this stands for war. The eagle is a symbol of leadership, emperors and warriors. The Viking god, Odin had the eagle as his symbol, because of its wisdom and light. It is a common symbol of both the modern and ancient Iranian state (whose name used to be Persia). Mexicans saw the eagle symbol as the god of vegetation. Native Americans represented the eagle with the thunderbird and believed that its feathers could carry prayers to the sun.



Lion

The lion is a symbol of courage, strength, fearlessness, bravery and royalty. The majestic sphinx statues of ancient Egypt have lion bodies. Egyptians used the lion to represent wealth.

Lions are carved on statues which guard palaces, bridges, temples and tombs.

The lord of the land, it is a favourite symbol of leaders, warriors and emperors. It is not only seen as a leader on earth but also in heavenly worlds. Lions can knock their enemy or prey off-balance. They are fast, alert and powerful, and Kings and emperors put them on their coats of arms to show supreme strength.



Peacock

A real bird –the Ancient Greeks believed that peacocks lived forever. Many early Christian paintings and mosaics show the peacock. A peacock drinking from a vase represents a Christian believer drinking from the

waters of eternal life. The “eyes” in the peacock’s tail feathers symbolise the all-seeing God. It is a symbol of the resurrection of Christ because it sheds its old feathers every year and grows newer, brighter ones. Persians and Babylonians linked the peacock with Heaven and the Tree of Life. A peacock’s tail feather representing immortality is one of the symbols of Saint Barbara, the patron saint of the Royal Artillery.

It is the national bird of India. When it fans out its tail feathers, it is a sign that it’s about to rain.

In Hinduism, the image of the god of thunder, rains and war, Indra, is shown in the form of a peacock. In south India, Lord Muruga is shown travelling on a peacock. The figure of peacock is painted in various Islamic religious buildings.



Phoenix

A mythical bird – the phoenix looks like an eagle, with beautiful red and gold plumage. According to the myth, it lived in Arabia, and every 500 years, it would build a nest of frankincense, myrrh, and other sweet smelling woods. When it was time for it to die,

it would set its nest on fire (or the sun’s rays would ignite it) and the bird would be burned in the flames. Three days later, the phoenix would rise again from the ashes, young again and ready for another 500 years. In ancient Egypt, the phoenix represented the daily cycle of the Sun and the annual flooding of the Nile. The Romans used the phoenix symbol on their coins to represent rebirth and the belief that their empire could never be defeated.

Symbols

**Butterfly**

The butterfly, which comes out of its cocoon, and flies away, is a symbol of the Resurrection – when Jesus came back to life.

**Passionflower**

The numbers in the parts of this flower are seen as symbols of the last days of Jesus and his crucifixion.

**Daffodil**

A daffodil flower represents eternal life in Christianity. One reason for this is that daffodils are perennial flowers, so they come back year after year. In addition, daffodils are one of the first flowers to appear in spring, which is representative of rebirth, a process that some Christians believe happens during the afterlife. There is also a belief that daffodils bloomed once Christ rose from the tomb, so this flower serves as a reminder of the Resurrection.

**Oak**

The oak is a pagan symbol reinterpreted by Christians to represent Christ. It is also a symbol of endurance, especially in the face of adversity.

**Tree of Life/Vine**

A symbol of Christ, the True Vine. The vine is sometimes used to represent the relationship between God and His people. It may also refer to God's providence and heavenly care.

**Doves**

Symbol of the Holy Ghost and used to represent Jesus's Baptism and the Pentecost (when the Holy Spirit came down to the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension). In the story of Noah's Ark, the dove is a sign of hope.

**Turtledove**

Because of their reputation for taking only one mate to whom they are faithful for life, turtledoves are a symbol of Christian fidelity.

**Angels**

Angels are seen by Christians as God's messengers.

**Lamb of God**

Lamb of God is a title for Jesus that appears in the Gospel of John.

**Scallop shell**

The symbol of Baptism.

**Rose**

The Holy Faith, Our Lady, martyrdom, the secrecy of penance. Five roses grouped together symbolize the 5 Wounds of Christ. The dog rose was used in medieval European heraldry.



Can you find a red cross on a white background somewhere in the church? This is the flag of St. George, which is also the flag of England.

My Building

Can you draw a picture of a building where you would keep something very special?

Which symbols will you use? Can you use these shapes in your building?

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Triangles (on Star of David) |  Rectangles (the church itself) |
|  Semi-circle (altar area – ‘apse’) |  Squares |
|  Circle (pulpit) |  Cylinder (columns, sundial) |
|  5 point star |  Cuboid (altar table) |
|  6 point star | |



Star of David made from marble at St George's Garrison Church



Mythical Creature Challenge

Can you make up your own mythical animal to protect your treasure?

*My mythical creature
has the head of a:*

The body of a:

The wings of a:

The feet of a:



My Medal

Can you draw your own medal, to show your symbols of bravery? Who will receive your medal?



The Story of St. George

Can you fill in the gaps using the words below?

This is a story of a very b_____ knight called George.

He had lots of adventures as he rode on his h_____ across many lands.

One day he met a man who lived in a c_____ next to a village.

The man said that the dragon in the l_____ was attacking the village every day.

First, the villagers gave the dragon f_____, but the dragon just ate it and carried on attacking the village.

Then they gave the dragon animals from their f_____, but the dragon took all the animals and continued to attack the villagers.

After that, they gave the dragon all their g_____ and jewels, but the dragon was still not satisfied.

The king sent his army, but the dragon was too s_____ and the army ran away.

Finally, the king sent his only daughter, the p_____, to the lake to wait for the dragon.

George rode as f_____ as he could to the lake to save the princess.

George fought the dragon and k_____ it with his sword.

When George and the princess returned to the village, everyone was very h_____.

George is the patron saint of E_____.

We celebrate St. George's Day on A_____ 23rd.

April	food	horse	farms	fast
brave	happy	princess	lake	gold
England	killed	cave	strong	

Games Page

Can you find all the words in the wordsearch?



- APRIL
- DRAGON
- FOOD
- HAPPY
- KNIGHT
- BRAVE
- ENGLAND
- GEORGE
- HERO
- PRINCESS
- CAVE
- FLAG
- GOLD
- HORSE
- SAINT

H	U	T	D	E	E	D	S	A	H
Z	W	O	S	G	R	S	P	G	A
T	O	R	R	A	E	R	X	O	P
F	O	O	G	C	I	Z	E	L	P
H	E	O	N	L	M	F	O	D	Y
G	N	I	E	N	G	L	A	N	D
A	R	E	V	A	R	B	H	T	E
P	K	N	I	G	H	T	F	H	V
H	E	R	O	S	A	I	N	T	A
F	L	A	G	W	I	E	T	U	C

Can you help St. George to find his way to the dragon?

