

The Legend of St. George and the Dragon

Pre-read: Underline or highlight the words you don't understand and see if you can work out what they mean. You could use a dictionary to help you.

St. George travelled for many months by land and sea. He landed in Libya and he met a poor man who told him about the scary dragon.

"Every day," said the old man, "he demands the sacrifice of a young girl. Now he wants the king's daughter. The king of Egypt will give his daughter in marriage to the champion who kills this terrible monster."

When St. George heard this story, he was determined to try and save the princess so he rested that night in the poor man's hut, and at daybreak set out to the valley where the dragon lived. When he was near he saw the princess being led by her slaves to the place of death. St. George comforted them with brave words and persuaded the princess to return to the palace so that he could fight the dragon.

As soon as the dragon saw him it rushed from its cave, roaring with a sound louder than thunder. Its head was immense and its 20 metres long. But St. George was not afraid. He struck the monster with his spear, hoping he would wound it.

The dragon's scales were so hard that the spear broke into a thousand pieces and St. George fell from his horse.

Fortunately, he rolled under an enchanted orange tree, where the Dragon could not go near, so the dragon was unable to hurt him. Within a few minutes, George had recovered his strength and was able to fight again.

St. George stabbed the Dragon under the wing where there were no scales, so that it fell dead at his feet.

Other Activity - Comprehension Questions:

- 1) Who told St. George about the Dragon?
 - a) His friend
 - b) A poor man
 - c) A young girl

- 2) What did the King offer the champion if the daughter is saved?
 - a) His daughter in marriage
 - b) All his gold

- 3) Why do you think St. George wanted to save the princess?
 - a) because he wanted to marry the princess
 - b) because he wanted to save the people of Libya.
 - c) because he enjoyed fighting Dragons.

- 4) What does the word 'enchanted' mean?

- 5) How did St. George defeat the Dragon?

- 6) Tick the statements that are TRUE
 - St. George was a King.
 - The Dragon had a tail that was fifty feet long.
 - The Princess was called Sabra.
 - St George was saved by an enchanted orange tree.
 - The Dragon died after being stabbed in the tail.