

Bookfolio for **The Gorgon's Head: The Story of Perseus**

Author: [Ian Serraillier](#)

Illustrator: William Stobbs

First Publication Date: 1962

Publisher:

ISBN:

Recommended for: [Grades 5-8](#)

Classification: Fiction

Genre: [Mythology](#)

Story Summary: Upon hearing the oracle's prophecy that his grandson would kill him one day, Acrisius locked his beautiful daughter, Danae, and her infant son, Perseus, in a wooden chest and cast it into the sea. Miraculously, the mother and child safely reached a distant shore where they were taken in by a kindly fisherman and his wife. Perseus, son of the powerful god, Zeus, grew strong and protected his mother from the unwanted affections of the evil king, Polydectes. One day, Perseus boldly promised to retrieve the head of Medusa, one of the terrible Gorgon sisters who lived at the end of the world. Aided by Athene and Hermes, Perseus killed Gorgon, won fair Andromeda for his bride, and slayed his enemies using the power of the Gorgon's head to turn them to stone.

Read-aloud Recommendation: Chapter 4 and 5, pages 15-27.

The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:

R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing

The Gorgon's Head: The Story of Perseus - Independent Activities	Skills
1. A Matter of Style (Comparing different versions of a myth)	R , W
2. Perseus's Travels (Drawing a map)	D , R
3. Myths and Art (Giving an oral presentation)	R , S
4. The Stories Behind the Words (Defining words from the myths)	S , W
5. The Modern Olympics (Writing a report)	R , S , W
6. In the Stars (Researching a topic)	D , R
The Gorgon's Head: The Story of Perseus - Group Activities	Skills
1. Heroes (Comparing story heroes)	R , S
2. The Three Grey Sisters (Dramatizing a story event)	D , S
3. Live Coverage (Presenting a skit)	S
4. The Family of Deities (Writing a report)	R , S , W
5. Turned to Stone (Drawing a map)	D
6. Let's Talk About... (Discussing the story)	L , S

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