**Theseus and the Minotaur**

**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQuAUBX5xBw**

Once upon a time, a long time ago there lived a king named Minos. He was very powerful and evil, too. Minos had built a giant maze – a labyrinth and at the centre of the maze he kept a terrifying creature – the Minotaur. Now, this was no ordinary animal. It was a monster. Half man and half bull.

Minos took pleasure in attacking Athens, a tiny village across the sea. The king of Athens did not the recourses to fight Minos and his kingdom suffered a great deal whenever Minos´ navy attacked them. King Minos offered them a deal. He asked the king of Athens to send seven boys and seven girls every year to be eaten by the Minotaur. The king of Athens did not have any other option othen than to except the deal. From that year seven boys and seven girls were sent to the dreaded island of Crete where the Minotaurus was kept. King Minos kept his word and he did not attack Athens any more.

Princ Theseus, the son of the king, was very sad to see the small children leave the island every year. He knew this was a wrong thing to do. So, he came up with an idea. He was going to kill the monster. His father begged him not to go but th prince took his place as the seventh Athenian boy. Along with the other Athenian boys and girls Theseus saild toward Crete. As the ship docked in Crete king Minos himself came down to inspect the prisoners from Athens. He enjoyed the chance to the Athenians and to humiliate them even further. Standing behind the king listening was his daughter Ariadne. From the moment she set eyes on Theseus Ariadne fell in love with him. As she listened to her father goading and taunting the young prince she decided that she would help him.

Later that night she wrote a letter and slipped it under the bedroom door of Theseus. When Theseus read the letter he slipped out of the palace and met Ariadne. She was holding a sword and a ball of string. Ariadne told the prince to use the sword to kill the Minotaur then she told him to tie the string to the door and unroll it as he moved throught the maze. Theseus thanked the princess for her kindness.

„Don´t forget now,“ she caution Theseus, „you must take me with you to Athens.

Princ Theseus promised to taee her with him.

The guards take the Athenin children the next morning and shut them into the maze. Then they locked the door from the outside. Theseus followed the Ariadne´s advice to the word. He tied one end of the string to the door and the other children held onto it making sure it stay tight. Theseus searched through the maze and found the Minotaur. What followed was a great fight. Princ Theseus fought bravely and he finally managed to kill the Minotaur using the sword that Ariadne gave him. The princ then followed the string to get out of the maze. And when he arrived at the door he saw princess Ariadne smiling and waiting for him. She opened the door with her keyes and along with other children they ran to the ship.

„I can not believe how my life has changed,“ said Ariadne as they sailed across the calm seas.

„I am free of my cruel father and I will soon marry you.“

But in the truth Theseus did not find Ariadne attractive and he wanted to get rid of her somehow. They stopped at an island on the way to get provisions. Ariadne too got out of the ship and she strolled along the beach. Soon she got bored and fell asleep. All the people gathered to admire the sleeping princess. Theseus sailed quietly away with the children of Athens and left her there sleeping