

The Legend of Basel's Basilisk



Group 1:

Read the story and retell your class colleagues the legend!

The legend of Basel's Basilisk

In 1474 in Basel a cockerel laid an egg. Normally, cockerels do not lay eggs. But this one did and the people of Basel were shocked because of that. They believed that an egg, laid by a cockerel, must contain a Basilisk, a creation half cockerel and half snake. But this only happens if the cockerel is in the age of seven and the egg has been hatched in muck by a snake, called Coluber. This cockerel, back then was seven years old and his eggs had been hatched in muck by a snake, called Coluber.

Therefore, the cockerel had to be killed. An executioner cut the cockerel open before he burnt it to death. While he was cutting the cockerel open, he found three more eggs. At this time, many people from Basel City and people from the countryside came to see him doing this.

Vocabulary:



cockerel



snake (Coluber)

Images:

Cockerel = http://www.poultry.allotment.org.uk/Chicken_a/assets/cockerel.jpg

Snake = <http://a1.ec-images.myspacecdn.com/images01/49/8f996e66b7262d7370971b4ed778c7e8/1.jpg>

Group 2:

Read about the danger of a Basilisk and how to kill it and tell your class colleagues about it!

The Danger of a Basilisk and how to kill it

Even though a Basilisk is not longer than a couple of handspans, a Basilisk is more terrific and more horrible than the biggest lindworm or the biggest dragon, for it can kill with a glance of an eye.

The Basilisk's glance can even destroy the hardest stone. However, the Basilisk is only able to do these awful things in sunlight.

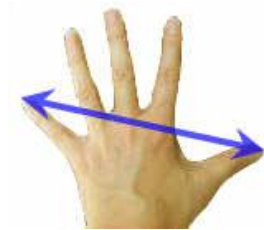
Therefore, people who sometimes had such creatures in the basements, kept them trapped there, hidden from the rays of the sun.

Grass and shrubs that were touched by the Basilisk's steps were immediately dried up.

The Basilisk does not creep, but it walks upstanding. In the beast there is poison. The poison is so dreadful that if a knight on horseback tries to kill it with a lance, the poison would immediately flash through the lance into the knight's body and the body of the horse and both would be dead right away.

There is only one way to kill a basilisk. You have to make him look into a mirror. If a Basilisk looks at himself, he dies at once.

Vocabulary:



handspan lindworm (wingless dragon) (proper) dragon
glance of an dragon's eye shrubs & destroyed shrubs
knight on horseback mirror

Images:

Handspan = <http://www.mathsisfun.com/definitions/images/handspan.jpg>

Lindworm = <http://www.angelfire.com/sk3/dragoonmasterc/Dragons.html>

Dragon= http://www.deviantart.com/download/307541068/fire_dragon_by_bsingh11-d533o7g.jpg

Shrubs = <http://thebullitimes.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/c-vandalism-of-coastal-wattle-at-waniora-headland-6th-may-2012.jpg>

Dragon's eye = <http://www.spore.com/view/myspore/BlueDragonic>

Knight = <http://img.ehowcdn.com/article-new/ehow/images/a05/ma/eh/knight-dragon-birthday-party-ideas-1.1-800x800.jpg>

Mirror = <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/->

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