

Retelling a Norse Myth

Starter

Our starter activities this term are going to be looking at improving our vocabulary by learning a new word every day.

There will be an overview slide with the 5 different words for this week and then on the next slide is the word for the day and 4 small activities.

This task should take no longer than 10 minutes.

Monday is **Nounsday**

empathy

Tuesday is **Adjectiveday**

loyal

Wednesday is **Adverbday**

repeatedly

Thursday is **Verbsday**

appreciate

Friday is **Long-Word-Friday**

unpretentious

Dictionary Definition

Look up the definition in the dictionary and write a sentence using the word.

Writing Corner

Write about a time you showed empathy or someone showed empathy towards you.
Make your writing as engaging as possible.

empathy

To have an understanding of somebody's feelings.

Super Subordinate

Write a sentence using this word. Make sure it contains a subordinate clause. Remember to use a subordinating conjunction, e.g. if, although, as, until.

Shrink Rap

Say the word over and over taking off the first letter each time.



Tuesday, 05 January 2021

Learning Question:


How do I use story telling to retell a Norse Myth?

Success Criteria:

- I can read and understand a Norse myth.
- I can discuss the features myths have in common.
- I can create a story map to help me retell a Norse myth.
- I can rewrite the myth using my story map to help me.
- I can use key features of Y4 writing to make my story effective.

Vocabulary:

- Story telling
- Story mapping
- Norse Myth



What makes a
good story teller?

Why did the
Vikings tell stories?

Why do people
tell stories ?

So what is a Norse Myth?

- What do you think we will notice when reading a Norse myth?

Norse Myths are stories told and passed on by Vikings.

They feature stories involving Odin, Thor and other Norse Gods.

Features of a myth

- A fictional explanation for natural occurrences e.g.. How the world was created.
- Can pass on cultural religious or spiritual beliefs and traditions.
- Set in the past.
- Presented as something that actually happened.
- Fast moving narration of action.
- Little dialogue
- Symbolic meanings
- A plot based on a long and dangerous journey, a quest or a series of trials for a hero.
- Included incredible or miraculous events where characters behave in superhuman ways, using unusual powers or with the help of superhuman beliefs.
- Rich vocabulary.
- Similes.
- Vivid description of settings.
- Detailed description of characters.

Task : Read the Norse Myth and find these features:

Hard		Harder		Hardest		Herculean	
Introduction		Introduction		Introduction		Introduction	
Setting descriptions		Plot based on a quest or a trial		Plot based on a quest or a trial		Plot based on a quest or a trial	
Gods, giants, creatures or monsters		Gods, giants, creatures or monsters		Gods, giants, creatures or monsters		Gods, giants, creatures or monsters	
Character description		Character description		Character description		Character description	
<p>We will go through this together when we meet online, so just do your best.</p>		The problem		The problem		The problem	
		The resolution		The resolution		The resolution	
		Setting descriptions		Setting descriptions		Setting descriptions	
				Rich vocabulary		Rich vocabulary	
				A fictional explanation for natural occurrences (how the Earth was made)		A fictional explanation for natural occurrences (how the Earth was made)	
						Traditional, religious, cultural or spiritual beliefs	
						Presented as something that has actually happened	
						Little dialogue (speech)	

How Loki Wrought Mischief in Asgard

All who dwelt in Asgard, the Æsir, who were the Gods and the Goddesses, and the Vanir, who were the friends of the Gods and the Goddesses, were wroth with Loki. It was no wonder they were wroth with him, for he had let the Giant Thiassi carry off Iduna and her golden apples. Still, it must be told that the show they made of their wrath made Loki ready to do more mischief in Asgard.

One day he saw a chance to do mischief that made his heart rejoice. Sif, the wife of Thor, was lying asleep outside her house. Her beautiful golden hair flowed all round her. Loki knew how much Thor loved that shining hair, and how greatly Sif prized it because of Thor's love. Here was his chance to do a great mischief. Smilingly, he took out his shears and he cut off the shining hair, every strand and every tress. She did not waken while her treasure was being taken from her. But Loki left Sif's head cropped and bare.

Thor was away from Asgard. Coming back to the City of the Gods, he went into his house. Sif, his wife, was not there to welcome him. He called to Sif, but no glad answer came from her. To the palaces of all the Gods and Goddesses Thor went, but in none of them did he find Sif, his golden-haired wife.

When he was coming back to his house he heard his name whispered. He stopped, and then a figure stole out from behind a stone. A veil covered her head, and Thor scarce knew that this was Sif, his wife. As he went to her she sobbed and sobbed. "O Thor, my husband," she said, "do not look upon me. I am ashamed that you should see me. I shall go from Asgard and, from the company of the Gods and Goddesses, and I shall go down to Svartheim and live amongst the Dwarfs. I cannot bear that any of the Dwellers in Asgard should look upon me now."

"O Sif," cried Thor, "what has happened to change you?"

"I have lost the hair of my head," said Sif, "I have lost the beautiful golden hair that you, Thor, loved. You will not love me anymore, and so I must go away, down to Svartheim and to the company of the

Dwarfs. They are as ugly as I am now."

Then she took the veil off her head and Thor saw that all her beautiful hair was gone. She stood before him, shamed and sorrowful, and he grew into a mighty rage. "Who was it did this to you, Sif?" he said. "I am Thor, the strongest of all the Dwellers in Asgard, and I shall see to it that all the powers the Gods possess will be used to get your fairness back. Come with me, Sif." And taking his wife's hand in his, Thor went off to the Council House where the Gods and the Goddesses were.

Sif covered her head with her veil, for she would not have the Gods and Goddesses look upon her shorn head. But from the anger in Thor's eyes all saw that the wrong done to Sif was great indeed. Then Thor told of the cutting of her beautiful hair. A whisper went round the Council House. "It was Loki did this -- no one else in Asgard would have done a deed so shameful," one said to the other.

"Loki it was who did it," said Thor. "He has hidden himself, but I shall find him and I will slay him."

"Nay, not so, Thor," said Odin, the Father of the Gods. "Nay, no Dweller in Asgard may slay another. I shall summon Loki to come before us here. It is for you to make him (and remember that Loki is cunning and able to do many things) bring back to Sif the beauty of her golden hair."

Then the call of Odin, the call that all in Asgard have to harken to, went through the City of the Gods. Loki heard it, and he had to come from his hiding-place and enter the house where the Gods held their Council. And when he looked on Thor and saw the rage that was in his eyes, and when he looked on Odin and saw the sternness in the face of the Father of the Gods, he knew that he would have to make amends for the shameful wrong he had done to Sif. Said Odin, "There is a thing that you, Loki, have to do: Restore to Sif the beauty of her hair."

Loki looked at Odin, Loki looked at Thor, and he saw that what was said would have to be done. His quick mind searched to find a way of restoring to Sif the beauty of her golden hair.

"I shall do as you command, Odin All-Father," he said.

But before we tell you of what Loki did to restore the beauty of Sif's golden hair, we must tell you of the other beings besides the Gods and the Goddesses who were in the world at the time. First, there was the Vanir. When the Gods who were called the Æsir came to the mountain on which they built Asgard, they found other beings there. These were not wicked and ugly like the Giants; they were beautiful and friendly; the Vanir they were named.

Although they were beautiful and friendly the Vanir had no thought of making the world more beautiful or more happy. In that way they differed from the Æsir who had such a thought. The Æsir made peace with them, and they lived together in friendship, and the Vanir came to do things that helped the Æsir to make the world more beautiful and more happy. Freya, whom the Giant wanted to take away with the Sun and the Moon as a reward for the building of the wall round Asgard, was of the Vanir. The other beings of the Vanir were Frey, who was the brother of Freya, and Njörd, who was their father.

On the earth below there were other beings -- the dainty Elves, who danced and fluttered about, attending to the trees and flowers and grasses. The Vanir were permitted to rule over the Elves. Then below the earth, in caves and hollows, there was another race, the Dwarfs or Gnomes, little, twisted creatures, who were both wicked and ugly, but who were the best craftsmen in the world.

In the days when neither the Æsir nor the Vanir were friendly to him Loki used to go down to Svartheim, the Dwarfs' dwelling below the earth. And now that he was commanded to restore to Sif the beauty of her hair, Loki thought of help he might get from the Dwarfs.

Down, down, through the winding passages in the earth he went, and he came at last to where the Dwarfs who were friendliest to him were working in their forges. All the Dwarfs were master-smiths, and when he came upon his friends he found them working hammer and tongs, beating metals into many shapes. He watched them for a while and took note of the things they were making. One was a

spear, so well balanced and made that it would hit whatever mark it was thrown at no matter how bad the aim the thrower had. The other was a boat that could sail on any sea, but that could be folded up so that it would go into one's pocket. The spear was called Gungnir and the boat was called Skidbladnir.

Loki made himself very agreeable to the Dwarfs, praising their work and promising them things that only the Dwellers in Asgard could give, things that the Dwarfs longed to possess. He talked to them till the little, ugly folk thought that they would come to own Asgard and all that was in it.

At last Loki said to them, "Have you got a bar of fine gold that you can hammer into threads -- into threads so fine that they will be like the hair of Sif, Thor's wife? Only the Dwarfs could make a thing so wonderful. Ah, there is the bar of gold. Hammer it into those fine threads, and the Gods themselves will be jealous of your work."

Flattered by Loki's speeches, the Dwarfs who were in the forge took up the bar of fine gold and flung it into the fire. Then taking it out and putting it upon their anvil they worked on the bar with their tiny hammers until they beat it into threads that were as fine as the hairs of one's head. But that was not enough. They had to be as fine as the hairs on Sif's head, and these were finer than anything else. They worked on the threads, over and over again, until they were as fine as the hairs on Sif's head. The threads were as bright as sunlight, and when Loki took up the mass of worked gold it flowed from his raised hand down on the ground. It was so fine that it could be put into his palm, and it was so light that a bird might not feel its weight.

Then Loki praised the Dwarfs more and more, and he made more and more promises to them. He charmed them all, although they were an unfriendly and a suspicious folk. And before he left them he asked them for the spear and the boat he had seen them make, the spear Gungnir and the boat Skidbladnir. The Dwarfs gave him these things, though in a while after they wondered at themselves for giving them.

Back to Asgard Loki went. He walked into the Council House where the Dwellers in Asgard were gathered. He met the stern look in Odin's eyes and the rageful look in Thor's eyes with smiling good humour.

"Off with thy veil, O Sif," he said. And when poor Sif took off her veil he put upon her shorn head the wonderful mass of gold he held in his palm. Over her shoulders the gold fell, fine, soft, and shining as her own hair. And the Æsir and the Asyniur, the Gods and the Goddesses, and the Van and Vana, when they saw Sif's head covered again with the shining web, laughed and clapped their hands in gladness. And the shining web held to Sif's head as if indeed it had roots and was growing there.