



Jeremy and the Golden Fleece

Becky Citra

illustrated by Jessica Milne

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AR Quiz # 116035

About the Book

In *Jeremy and the Golden Fleece*, the third book in the series, Jeremy and Aristotle return to ancient Greece to solve the second riddle. Jeremy faces the challenge of becoming the captain of the ship the *Argo*, with its crew, the Argonauts. He sails into all kinds of danger, including the Clashing Rocks, the frightening birds called Harpies, an angry king, a fire-breathing bull and a serpent that never closes its eyes. Jeremy uses his wits and his backpack full of magic things to solve the riddle and capture the Golden Fleece.

About the Author

Becky Citra was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia. She was immersed in books as a young child and visited the public library at least twice a week. From an early age, Becky loved to write, and she spent many hours writing her own series, modeled after her favorite books, like the Hardy Boys and Trixie Beldon. Becky graduated from Simon Fraser University and embarked on a twenty-five-year teaching career. Becky has always loved sharing her books with children, and in 2007 she retired from teaching in order to write full-time and visit schools and libraries. When she is not writing, Becky leads an active life skiing, hiking, gardening and horseback riding.

About the Writing

As a primary school teacher for many years, Becky enjoyed seeing the excitement of her students when she read them myths from ancient cultures. The stories brimmed with exciting characters, hair-raising adventures and colorful settings. Her students' enthusiasm for these myths inspired her to write the Enchanted Theater series about a boy and a cat who travel back in time to ancient Greece. The research was fascinating. She read hundreds of versions of Greek myths and found it challenging to select the ones she would use in the books. She tried to stay as true as possible to the myths and, at the same time, allow Jeremy and the cat Aristotle to have a meaningful role in the adventures. The series is a wonderful springboard to bring mythology into the primary classroom.

Teaching Ideas—Curriculum Connections***Prereading Ideas***

Jeremy made the decision to board the *Argo*. Have you ever had to make difficult decisions? What things can help you when you have to make a decision?

Classroom Discussion Questions

1. Hester's magic ointment made the bull talk. What would your pet say to you if it could talk?
2. Jeremy thought Hester looked very wise. Do you think old people are wise? What things have you learned from your grandparents?
3. Have you ever been on a sailing ship? What other kinds of boats have you traveled on?
4. Jason forgave Jeremy for taking his ship. Do you think Jeremy deserved to be forgiven? Have you ever had to forgive anyone for something they did? How did it feel?

Suggested Activities

- Research Greek ships.
- Make a story map that shows the route that the *Argo* sailed with Jeremy as captain.
- Write your own version of a myth. Put yourself in it.
- Read about life in ancient Greece. Make a poster to show what you have learned.
- Read lots of versions of an ancient Greek myth. Make a chart comparing the versions.

Other Titles and Websites of Interest

Jason and the Golden Fleece by Francis Mosley (Random House)

Jason and the Golden Fleece by Leonard Everett Fisher (Holiday House)

Greek Myths for Young Children by Marcia Williams (Candlewick)

Usborne Greek Myths for Young Children by Heather Amery (Usborne Books)

The Orchard Book of Greek Myths by Geraldine McCaughrean (Orchard Books)

Other Books by the Author from Orca Book Publishers

Danger at the Landings

Dog Days

Ellie's New Home

The Freezing Moon

Jeremy and the Enchanted Theater

Jeremy and the Fantastic Flying Machine

Jeremy in the Underworld

Never To Be Told

Runaway

Strawberry Moon

Awards and Reviews

CCBC *Best Books for Kids and Teens* selection

“A fun read for those students who are beginning chapter books and who love to solve riddles...An entertaining read for those students who enjoy fantasy and adventure!”

—*Resource Links*

“An interesting introduction to Greek mythology.”

—*CM Magazine*

“Who could fail to love a series that time-travels into the Greek myths according to an ‘Enchanted Theater Rule Book’? It’s an inspired way to introduce primary school readers to classical mythology.”

—*Times Colonist*