

Read the story in class with Miss Marina. Then read it again. Then watch the video.

The Story of Medusa and Athena



Once upon a time, there was a beautiful girl named Medusa. Medusa lived in the city of Athens. She was the most beautiful girl in the city.

She was very proud of her beauty. Each day she told everyone how pretty she was.

Medusa said that her skin was more beautiful than fresh snow.

She said that her hair was brighter than the sun.

She also said that her eyes were greener than the Aegean Sea.

She said that her lips were redder than the reddest rose.

And she went on, and on and on.

When she didn't talk about her beauty, Medusa looked at her reflection in the mirror, or in the dark window.

She stopped to admire herself in the well each afternoon when he looked for water for the horses.



A WELL

One day she visited the Parthenon with her friends, the biggest temple of Athena. Athena was the goddess of wisdom.

It was decorated with amazing sculptures and paintings. Athena watched over the city of Athens.

But Medusa criticized everything,

When Medusa reached the altar she said, " This is a beautiful temple. It is a shame it is for Athena because I am so much prettier than she is - perhaps some day people will build a temple for me"

The people in the temple went away because they said that if Athena heard what Medusa said, she was going to be angry.

Medusa was alone. She was looking at her reflexion in the large bronze doors.



BRILLIANT BRONZE DOOR

Suddenly she saw the face of Athena .



"You foolish girl," Athena said angrily, "You think you are prettier than I am! Jajajaj. Others work and play and learn. You only admire yourself."

Medusa said that she was an inspiration to others. She made other people feel better.

"No," said Athena "Beauty is not forever. It does not cure the sick, teach the people or feed the hungry. And by my powers, I'll take away your loveliness. You will help others remember to control their pride."

And with those words Medusa's face changed to that of a horrible monster. Her hair turned into horrible snakes.



"Medusa, Your face is now so terrible that anyone that sees you, will turn into a stone," and if you look at your reflection, you will turn into rock the instant you see your face."

And with that, Athena sent Medusa to live with the blind monsters -- the gorgon sisters -- at the ends of the earth,