

King Midas and the golden touch

A long time ago, in Ancient Greece, there was a king named Midas.

He lived in an enormous palace with his wife and his daughter. King Midas was very, very rich. He had more gold than any other king in the world. His palace was full of gold statues, gold jewellery and gold coins, but Midas was greedy and he always wanted more.

One day, the king was walking in the garden of his palace with his daughter. She was picking yellow flowers for her room. "Those yellow flowers are very beautiful", king Midas said, "but gold flowers are more beautiful."

The king's daughter ran back into the palace with her flowers and the king walked alone. Then Midas made a wish. He wished that everything he touched became gold. Soon he touched a flower. It became gold. He touched a tree and it became gold. He touched a plant and it too was gold.

"My wish has come true!" he shouted.

The king touched many things in his garden and in his palace. He touched pictures and vases, plates, and they all became gold. Soon Midas was hungry and thirsty. But, when he put some bread in his mouth, it turned to gold. And when he put some water to his lips, it also turned to gold.

The king sat in his garden. "I have all the gold in the world." he thought, "but I cannot eat and I cannot drink. What shall I do?"

At last, the king's daughter saw her father in the garden. She ran to him because he looked so sad. She touched his hand and suddenly she became gold, too. King Midas made another wish. He wished that he could have his daughter back and he wished to not have any more gold. Suddenly, all the gold was gone and his daughter was playing in the garden. King Midas had learnt his lesson and he never asked for more gold again.

Match the questions to the answers

1. Where did the king live?	a) his daughter
2. What did he have?	b) yellow
3. What did his daughter do in the garden?	c) Greece
4. What colour were her flowers?	d) a golden touch
5. What was the king's wish?	e) picked flowers
6. Who became a statue?	f) Gold

Read and choose True False

1. King Midas lived in Spain..	True False
2. King Midas was the richest person in the world..	True False
3. He had two wives..	True False
4. He had a big swimming pool..	True False
5. He wished that everything he touched became gold..	True False
6. He was a very greedy king.	True False
7. The king could eat gold food. .	True False
8. His daughter became a golden statue..	True False
9. King Midas was happy to have the golden touch. .	True False

Complete the sentences with the word from the box

greedy statue flowers enormous gold jewellery

1. The king lived in an _____ palace.
2. His daughter was picking _____ in the garden.
3. Midas wished that everything he touched became _____.
4. Suddenly his daughter became a golden _____.
5. His palace was full of gold _____.
6. The king was a _____ man.

Match words with pictures

plant touch garden make a wish greedy
pick flowers gold jewellery Greece plates



Complete the sentences with the word

pick flowers Greece garden make a wish plates
touch gold jewellery plant greedy

1. She keeps her _____ in the safe.
2. You must wash all these dirty _____.
3. We often _____ in the garden.
4. Blow out the candles and _____.
5. Don't _____ my sandwich.
6. I water the flowers in the _____ every day.
7. _____ people always want more money.
8. _____ is a very expensive metal.
9. Our neighbors have been to _____ three times.
10. Spring is the time to _____ trees.

Put sentences in the correct order

- a) He was greedy.
- b) His daughter became a statue.
- c) The king wished that he could have his daughter back and he wished to not have any more gold.
- d) King Midas lived in a big palace.
- e) The king made a wish.
- f) He had more gold than other kings .
- g) The king had a golden touch.
- h) He had a beautiful garden.