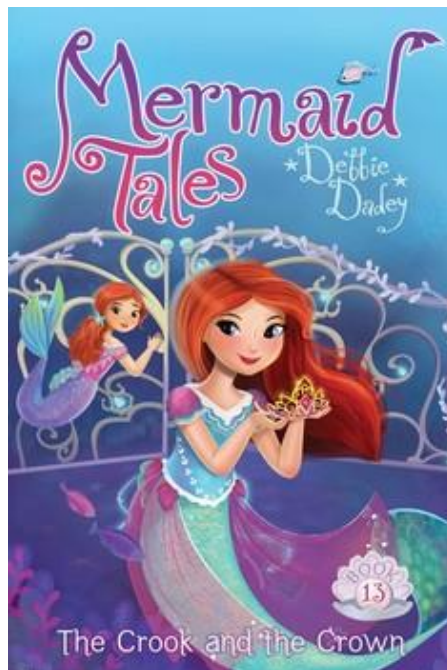


Mermaid Tales

A Teaching Unit

The Crook and the Crown



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www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey

Other books in the Mermaid Tales series from Simon and Schuster include (also available in hardback and digital):

Trouble at Trident Academy ISBN-13: 978-1442429802 - Paperback

Battle of the Best Friends ISBN-13: 978-1442429826 - Paperback

A Whale of a Tale ISBN-13: 978-1442429840 - Paperback

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea ISBN-13: 978-1442429864 - Paperback

The Lost Princess ISBN-13: 978-1442482579 - Paperback

The Secret Sea Horse ISBN-13: 978-1442482609 - Paperback

Dream of the Blue Turtle ISBN-13: 978-1442482630 - Paperback

Treasure in Trident City ISBN-13: 978-1442482661 - Paperback

A Tale of Two Sisters ISBN-13: 978-1481402576 - Paperback

The Polar Bear Express ISBN 978-1481402606 – Paperback

Wish Upon a Starfish 2015 ISBN ISBN-10: 1481402633; ISBN-13: 978-1481402637

The Crook and the Crown was first published in December 2015 • ISBN-10: 1481440756 ISBN-13: 978-1481440752

Illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Book Summary:

Shelly is nervous about meeting her royal relatives at Neptune's Castle, but Pearl assures her that everything will be wonderful. After all, there will be parties and beautiful gowns! It is all very exciting until something goes terribly wrong. Will the mergirls be able to solve the mystery before it's too late?

Meet the author:



Debbie Dadey is the author and co-author of 162 children's books, including The Mermaid Tales and The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids series. She loves visiting castles and thinks it would be awesome to stay in one for a vacation! A former librarian and teacher, Debbie and her husband, Eric, live in Tennessee. One of Debbie's other books is The Worst Name in Third Grade. Do you think someone should be teased about their last name? The girl in this story definitely thinks not! Find out more about Debbie and her stories at www.debbiedadey.com and [www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey](https://www.facebook.com/debbiedadey). You can also find Debbie on Twitter and Pinterest. She would love to visit or Skype with your classroom.

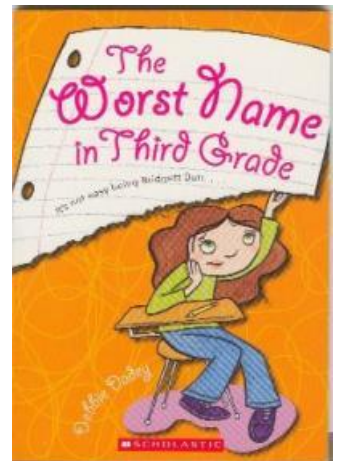
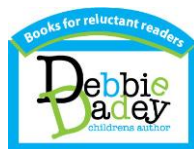


Photo credit to Portrait Innovations

www.debbiedadey.com



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The Crook and The Crown; published by Simon and Schuster, illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit www.debbiedadey.com

Santa Claus Doesn't Mop Floor

Wish Upon a Starfish

Shooting Star Annie Oakley the Legend (now as an ebook)

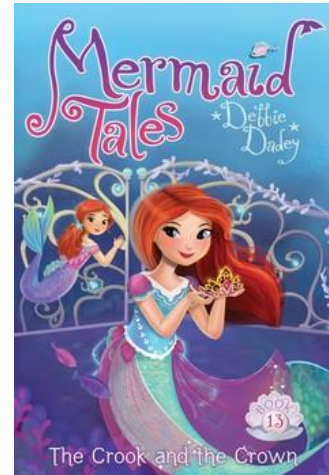
Dragons Don't Cook Pizza

Triplet Trouble and the Pizza Party

The Wrong of Magic

King of the Kooties (now as an ebook)

A Whale of a Tale



Pre-reading activities: Before reading **The Crook and the Crown** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills. The next two pages have pre-reading activities to try as well.

1. The Crook and The Crown is the perfect opportunity to introduce a study of medieval times or mythology or both! Show students pictures of various castles from around the world. Use the diagram on the following page to point out parts of castles. Ask students what each area might have been used for in that time period. More helpful diagrams can be found on this website:
<http://masterman535.hubpages.com/hub/Labeled-Diagram-of-a-Castle#slide701723>
2. Let students make their own 3-D castles in groups or on their own, using recycled materials.
3. Take students to the library to select a book of mythology from the 292 section of the library. This would be a great time to discuss the arrangement of most school libraries (the Dewey Decimal system) starting with the page that follows.

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

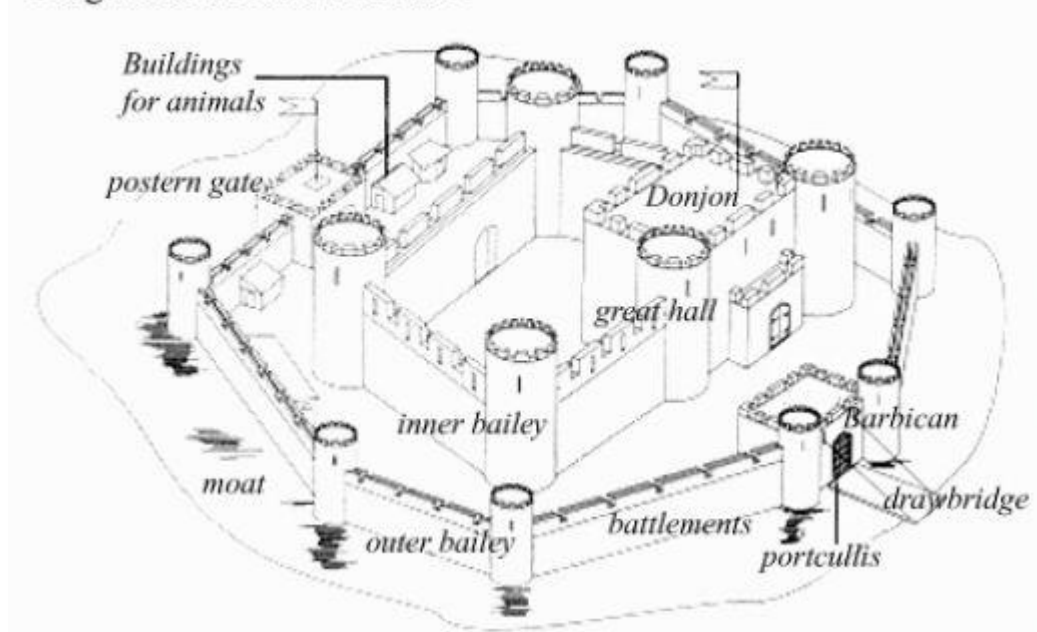
Pre-reading activity/research

Name:

Date:



Diagram of a medieval castle



<http://masterman535.hubpages.com/hub/Labeled-Diagram-of-a-Castle#slide701723>

Use the diagram above to answer the questions below. Design your own castle on the back, labeling at least four parts. Color the outer bailey above your favorite color. Color the inner bailey above blue.

1. What did everyone have to cross to get into this type of castle? _____

2. Why do you think a moat and a drawbridge were needed? _____

[CCSS.Math.Practice.MP3](#) [CCSS.Math.Practice.MP5](#)

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Pre-reading activity/research

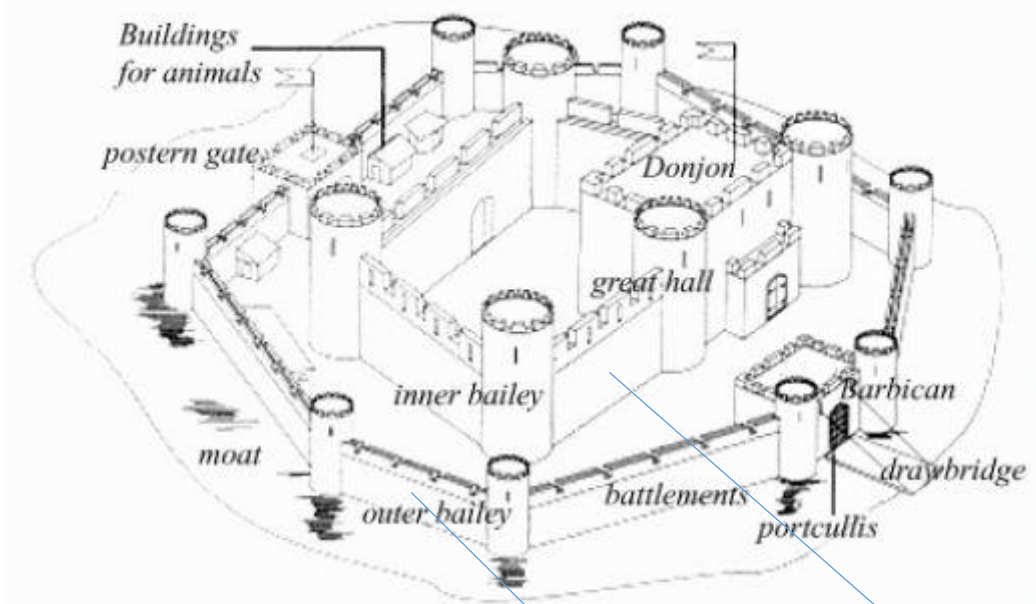
Name:

answers

Date:



Diagram of a medieval castle



<http://masterman535.hubpages.com/hub/Labeled-Diagram-of-a-Castle#slide701723>

Use the diagram above to answer the questions below. Design your own castle on the back, labeling at least four parts. Color the outer bailey your favorite color **will vary**. Color the inner **bailey blue**.

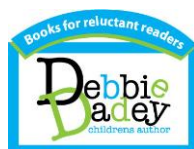
1. What did everyone have to cross to get into this type of castle? _____

_____ **the drawbridge and the moat (either or both are acceptable)** _____

2. Why do you think a moat and a drawbridge were needed? **protection** _____

[CCSS.Math.Practice.MP3](#) [CCSS.Math.Practice.MP5](#)

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The Crook and The Crown; published by Simon and Schuster, illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN Pre-reading activity/library skills

Name:	Date:	
-------	-------	---

In The Crook and the Crown, the mergirls visit Neptune's Castle, named after a mythological character named King Neptune. You can find out more about characters from mythology at your library in the 200 section. Use your library to go on the quest below.

Library Quest!

1. Find a book in your library about a character from mythology besides King Neptune. What is the name of the book? _____
2. There is a whole section of the library for animals. What is the call number? _____
3. Sports have their own section of the library too. What is it? _____
4. Where in the library would a book about the Greek goddess, Diana, be? _____
5. What is the call number of your favorite section of the library? _____
6. What is the call number of your teacher's favorite section? _____
7. If you wanted a book about the history of your state, what would be the call number of it? _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.9](#)

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN Pre-reading activity/library skills

Name:

answers

Date:

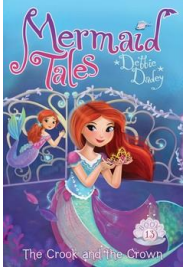


In The Crook and the Crown, the mergirls visit Neptune's Castle, named after a mythological character named King Neptune. You can find out more about characters from mythology at your library in the 200 section. Use your library to go on the quest below.

Library Quest!

8. Find a book in your library about a character from mythology besides King Neptune. What is the name of it? __answers will vary
9. There is a whole section of the library for animals. What is the call number?
_____in the 500s
10. Sports have their own section of the library too. What is it? __700s
11. Where in the library would a book about the Greek goddess, Diana, be? __200s
(292 to be specific)
12. What is the call number of your favorite section of the library? Will vary
13. What is the call number of your teacher's favorite section? Will vary
14. If you wanted a book about the history of your state, what would be the call number of it? __will vary, but will be in the 900s.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.9](#)



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Pre-reading activity/vocabulary

Chapter 1

orca	servant	royalty
carriage	reflection	vacation

Chapter 2 and 3

screached	curtsy	gigantic
enormous	curtsied	bronze

Chapter 4 and 5

circular	jousting	tiara
emeralds	saddle	whirlpools

Chapter 6 and 7

investigating	furiously	summoned
accuse	assistants	penguin

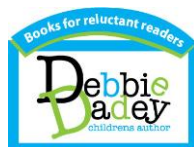
Chapter 8 – 11

definitely	palace	enormous	announcing	introduction
guilty	fencing	reflection	proclaimed	treading
potatoes	resume	portrait	ambassadors	orchestra

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

E/LA Common Core Standards for Reading Grade 3 RL.3.4

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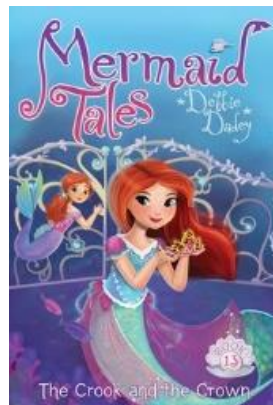
The Crook and The Crown; published by Simon and Schuster, illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

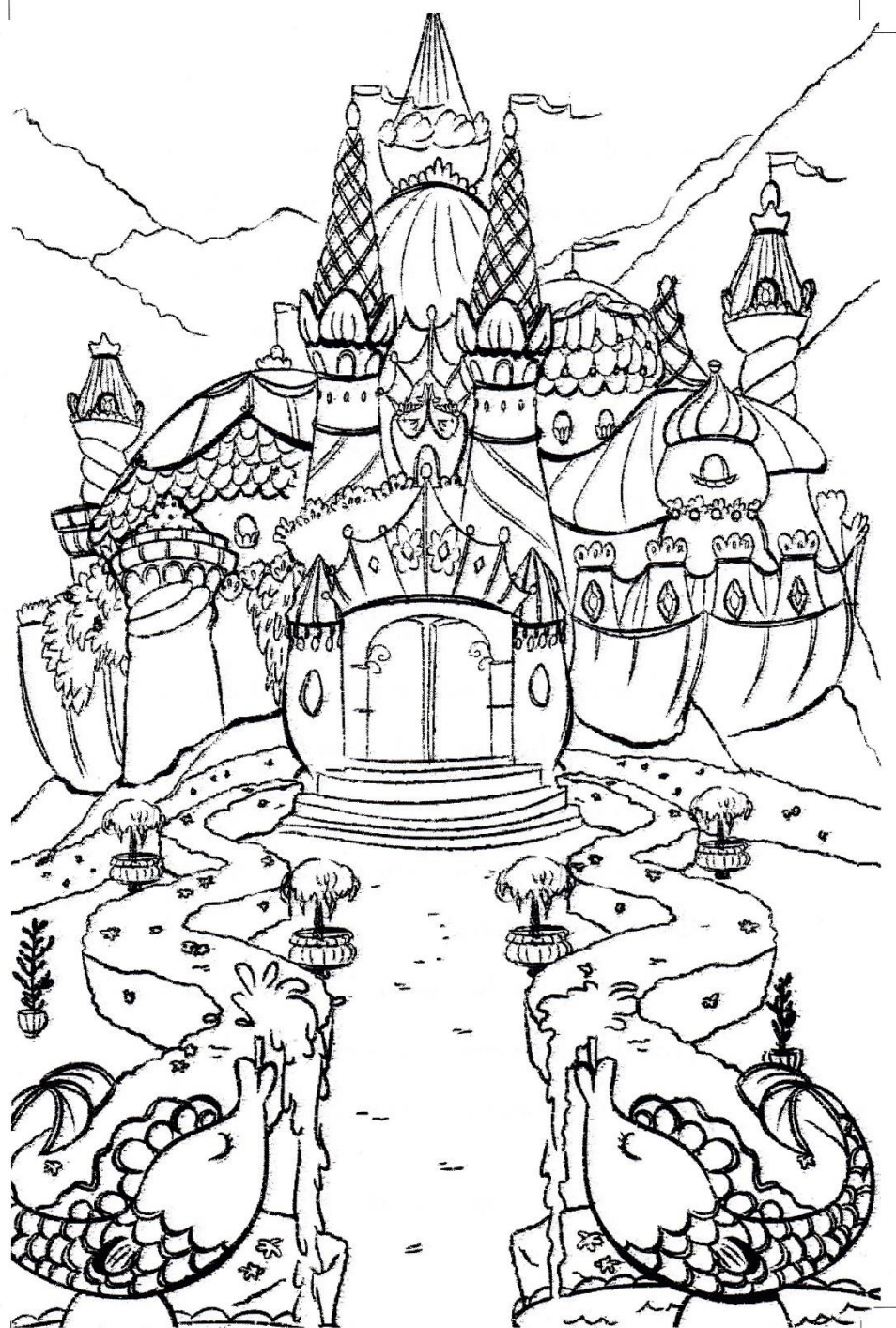
FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS

FOR THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

- Let students decorate their own castles, by using the following handout or designing their own. They must hide all the vocabulary words they are given somewhere in the picture. Put students in pairs. Can they find each other's words? Have students write the words they've hidden in the space below the castle. Their partner can circle the words (the words at the bottom) after they've found it in the picture.
- Let students pick a word and make it into a castle!
- Let students go on a word search for one minute in *The Crook and the Crown* to fill up the bookmark on the following page. Let them share their words and fill up the graph.
- Let students make a crown with their favorite word on it, or one you assign. Let them wear the crown all day and teach other students their word.
- Play word bingo using the following card.



[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)



1P HC MT13 INT.indd 13

7/1/15 11:02 AM

Mermaid Tales

Name _____

Interesting words I found in



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

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NAME _____

Five

Ten

fifteen

twenty

thirty



Word 8

Word 7

Word 6

Word 5

Word 4

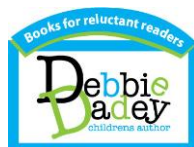
Word 3

Word 2

Word 1

How many kids chose my words?

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Mermaid Tales

Write vocabulary words in the blank spaces. Listen carefully as your teacher calls off each word. Put a marker on the word. If you get five in a row in any direction, you win. Call out Bingo!

B	I	N	G	O
		Free Space		

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 1/mythology

NAME:

DATE:

In chapter one of Mermaid Tales #13, Shelly and her merfriends are going to the castle of King Neptune. Answer the questions about other mythological characters below using your library or online resources.

In ancient Rome, Neptune was the god of what?

In ancient Greece, Neptune had another name. What was it? _____

In ancient Greece, Neptune had two brothers. Who were they and where did live?

Can you name one thing that is named after a mythological character? _____

Diana was the Roman goddess of hunting. She had a twin brother. Who was he?

In Greek mythology, simply looking into Medusa's eyes would turn you to stone. Which one was she?

1

2

3

4



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 1/mythology

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

In chapter one of Mermaid Tales #13, Shelly and her merfriends are going to the castle of King Neptune. Answer the questions about other mythological characters below using your library or online resources.

In ancient Rome, Neptune was the god of what?

_____ **The sea**

In ancient Greece, Neptune had another name. What was it? _____ **Poseidon**

In ancient Greece, Neptune had two brothers. Who were they and where did live?

_____ **Zeus-the earth**

_____ **Hades-the underworld**

Can you name one thing that is named after a mythological character? **Will vary**

Diana was the Roman goddess of hunting. She had a twin brother. Who was he?

_____ **Apollo**

In Greek mythology, simply looking into Medusa's eyes would turn you to stone. Which one was she?

_____ **1** _____ (#2 is author Debbie Dadey and #4 is Zeus) _____

1

2

3

4



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 2/mammals research

NAME:

DATE:

In The Crook and the Crown, Shelly speaks with a killer whale (orca). The killer whale is a dolphin, a mammal. Draw other mammals below. On the back write three characteristics of mammals. Use your library or reliable Internet sources to help you.

Draw and label the largest land mammal alive today.

Draw and label the largest ocean mammal.

Draw and label your favorite land mammal.

Draw and label your favorite sea mammal.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.7](https://www.coreknowledge.org/standards/CCSS/ELA-Literacy/CCRA/W/7/)

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 2/mammals research

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

In The Crook and the Crown, Shelly speaks with a killer whale (orca). The killer whale is a dolphin, a mammal. Draw other mammals below. On the back write three characteristics of mammals. Use your library or reliable Internet sources to help you.

Draw and label the largest land mammal alive today.

_African elephant

Draw and label the largest ocean mammal.

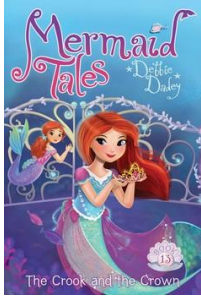
Blue whale-actually the largest animal to EVER live on the earth.

Draw and label your favorite land mammal.

answers will vary

Draw and label your favorite ocean mammal.

answers will vary



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN Chapter 3/comprehension/research/history/geography

NAME:

DATE:

In **The Crook and the Crown**, Shelly and her merfriends visit a castle. One real-life castle that is quite beautiful is in Germany. Neuschwanstein was built by the mad German king, Ludwig II. He became king when he was only nineteen. His favorite castle was built high up the area of Germany known as Bavaria. The castle is so striking, it inspired Walt Disney's Cinderella castle. Answer the questions below.



King Ludwig had three castles. What country were they in? _____

What is the name of King Ludwig's favorite castle? _____

Why do you think Walt Disney chose Neuschwanstein as the model for Cinderella's castle?

Now it is time for you to go on a **CASTLE HUNT!** Find another old castle and tell about them below. Draw it on the back of this page.

Castle #1: Name _____

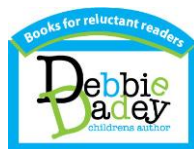
Country _____

Who built it? _____

Why I chose it _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1

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Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN Chapter 3/comprehension/research/history/geography

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

In **The Crook and the Crown**, Shelly and her merfriends visit a castle. One real-life castle that is quite beautiful is in Germany. Neuschwanstein was built by the mad king, Ludwig II. He became king when he was only nineteen. His favorite castle was built high up the area of Germany known as Bavaria. The castle is so striking, it inspired Walt Disney's Cinderella castle. Answer the questions below.



King Ludwig had three castles. What country were they in? _____ **Germany** _____

What is the name of King Ludwig's favorite castle? ___ **Neuschwanstein** _____

Why do you think Walt Disney chose Neuschwanstein as the model for Cinderella's castle? **Answers will vary**

Now it is time for you to go on a **CASTLE HUNT!** Find another old castle and tell about them below. Draw it on the back of this page. **Answers will vary**

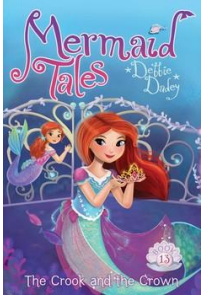
Castle #1: Name _____

Country _____

Who built it? _____

Why I chose it _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 4/life skills/history

NAME:

DATE:

In chapter four of The Crook and The Crown, the royal tailor measures the mergirls for beautiful gowns. Sewing is a skill that everyone should know, beginning with sewing on a button. Invite a local tailor into your classroom to show you how to sew. Another fun project for your classroom is to make a classroom quilt. In the early days of the United States, families sewed pieces of fabric together to make a quilt to stay warm. Sometimes the fabric was put into a pattern to make a beautiful picture, or sometimes the design was stitched onto the fabric. Use the space below to make your own quilt design. You can cut out your design and put your piece together with the rest of your class to make a classroom paper quilt. Leave the frame empty. Visit www.debbiedadey.com to see quilts made by Debbie's family.

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

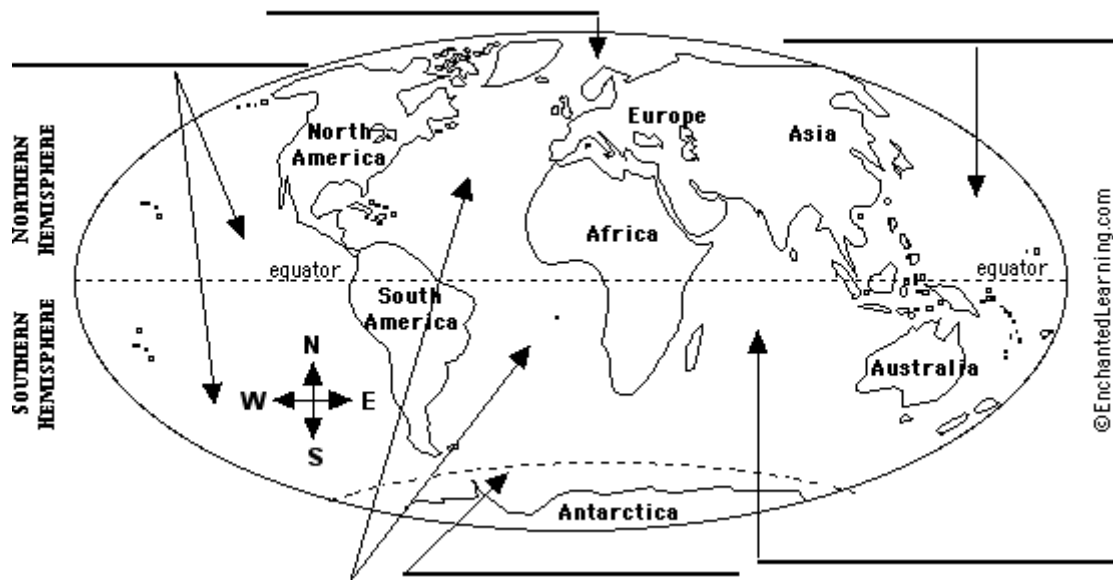
Chapter 5/geography/comprehension

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

The world's ocean is broken up into five large bodies of water. The Arctic Ocean is the smallest and touches the North Pole and North America. The Atlantic Ocean is on one side of the United States, but it also borders western Europe. The Indian Ocean surrounds western Australia. The Pacific Ocean is the largest and borders western North and South America and eastern Asia. The Southern Ocean was recently recognized as the fifth ocean and borders Antarctica.

Use the information above to label the map below and answer the questions. Dive in!



1. What is the 'newest' ocean? _____ Color it red.
2. What is the largest ocean? _____ Color it blue.
3. What are the three oceans that border North America?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

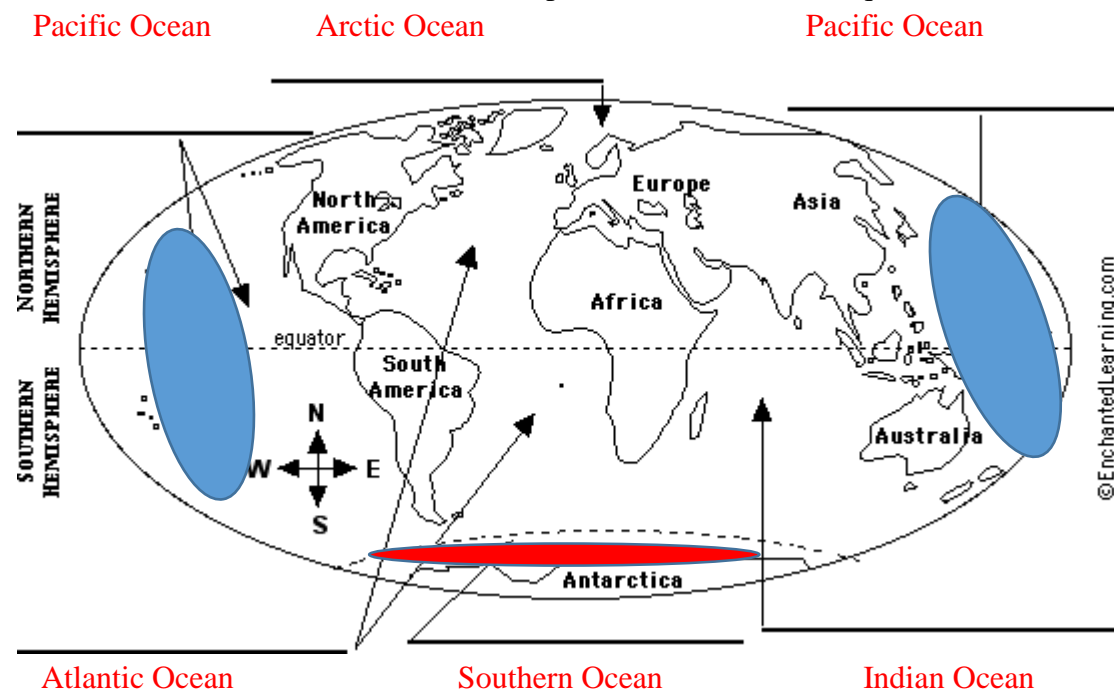
Chapter 5/geography/comprehension

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

The world's ocean is broken up into five large bodies of water. The Arctic Ocean is the smallest and touches the North Pole and North America. The Atlantic Ocean is on one side of the United States, but it also borders western Europe. The Indian Ocean surrounds western Australia and borders eastern Africa. The Pacific Ocean is the largest and borders western North and South America and eastern Asia. The Southern Ocean was recently recognized as the fifth ocean and borders Antarctica.

Use the information above to label the map below and answer the questions. Dive in!



1. What is the 'newest' ocean? _____ **Southern** _____ Color it red.
2. What is the largest ocean? _____ **Pacific** _____ Color it blue.
3. What are the three oceans that border North America?
4. _____ **Pacific** _____ 2. _____ **Atlantic** _____ 3. _____ **Arctic** _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 6/predicting and grammar

NAME:

DATE:

Shelly gets the shock of her life when her tiara is missing. Can you predict what happened to it? Why do you think so? [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2.c](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1](#)

Fix the punctuation in these sentences from chapter six.

1. who would do such a thing kiki asked
2. pearl clapped her hands
3. shelly nodded yes i m sure
4. i ve read a lot of mystery books she told them
5. okay shelly agreed
6. we have to be sneaky pearl warned them
7. where were you this afternoon pearl blurted

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 6/predicting and grammar

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

Shelly gets the shock of her life when her tiara is missing. Can you predict what happened to it? Why do you think so? [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2.c](#) [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1](#)

Answers will vary

Fix the punctuation in these sentences from chapter six.

1. **“Who** would do such a thing,” **Kiki** asked.
2. **Pearl** clapped her hands.
3. **Shelly** nodded. **“Yes, I’m** sure.”
4. **“I’ve** read a lot of mystery books,” she told them.
5. **“Okay,” Shelly** agreed.
6. **“We** have to be sneaky,” **Pearl** warned them.
7. **“Where** were you this afternoon?” **Pearl** blurted.

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 7

NAME:

DATE:

Predicting and Describing-it's up to you! Who took the tiara? **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1**

What do I know? Story Evidence or clues:



What the story evidence led me to believe-prediction:

Conclusion-after you've finished the story-were you right?

Use the back of this paper to write your own mystery. Be sure to leave clues to try to throw your reader off track. *Answers will vary.*

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 8/history and geography

NAME:

DATE:

In this story, the characters visit a famous castle. Below are famous places in Greece and Italy. Can you match the name with the place?



Put the correct number in the box with the picture above. Use books about Greece and Rome to help you. Hint: only one is from Greece.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Colosseum | 3. The Parthenon | 5. Leaning Tower of Piza |
| 2. The Pantheon | 4. St Peter's Basilica | 6. Grand Canal in Venice |

Famous places photos are from www.freepik.com

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 8/history and geography

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

In this story, the characters visit a famous castle. Below are famous places in Greece and Italy. Can you match the name with the place?



3



1



2



6



5

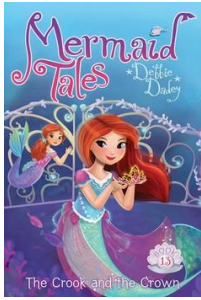


4

Put the correct number in the box with the picture above. Use books about Greece and Rome to help you. Hint: only one is from Greece.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Colosseum | 3. The Parthenon | 5. Leaning Tower of Piza |
| 2. The Pantheon | 4. St Peter's Basilica | 6. Grand Canal in Venice |

Famous places photos are from www.freepik.com



Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 9

NAME:

DATE:

In this story the characters have their portraits painted. Here are two famous portraits. Circle the one you like better.



The Mona Lisa

This is painted by the Italian artist, Leonardo da Vinci in the early 1500s. It is probably the world's most famous painting. It now hangs in the Louvre in Paris.

photo credit: www.freepik.com



The Blue Boy

This was painted by the English artist, Thomas Gainsborough in 1770. It is his most famous work. The original hangs in the Huntington Library in San Marino, California.

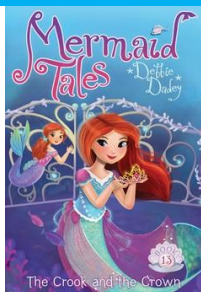
photo credit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Blue_Boy

Find out one more interesting thing about your favorite painting or its artist and write it here:

Now it is time for your own **portrait challenge!** Draw yourself or a classmate on the back of this page.
You can do the whole body or just the face. Here are some tips:

1. Draw an oval for the head.
2. On the bottom half of the head draw the eyes, nose, and mouth.
3. Add the hair and ears and eyebrows.

Look in your library or on this website for more tips: <http://everyoneandraw.net/Portraits%20mix%20and%20match%20sheets.html>



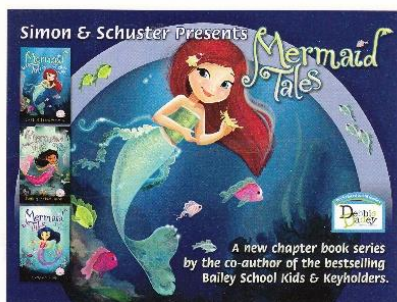
Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 10

NAME:

DATE:



In the back of this story, the characters send postcards to their families. You can send postcards too. Make postcards from index cards to send to your friends or family. Make sure to decorate one side with a fun picture! At the right are both sides to a postcard from author Debbie Dadey to you. Glue the form below to one side of an index card to send a postcard to author Debbie Dadey or write it yourself. Draw a picture of your favorite Debbie Dadey book on the other side. You can find a list of all her books on www.debbiedadey.com.

Greetings from Trident City!

Hope you'll enjoy
Trouble at Trident Academy
and Battle of the Best Friends
(Mermaid Tales #1 and #2),
two new adventures
from Debbie Dadey.
Find out more at
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Mermaid Tales

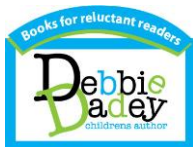
Dear Debbie,

To:

Debbie Dadey, author
Simon and Schuster
1230 Ave of the Americas
NY, NY 10020

Your friend,

www.debbiedadey.com



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The Crook and The Crown; published by Simon and Schuster, illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 11/food

NAME:

DATE:

In this story, the characters drink shipworm punch and eat rabbit fish steak with beluga sturgeon sauce. Can you guess what beluga sturgeon sauce is in the human world? _____ Humans use many things from the ocean. In fact, algae and kelp are used to make peanut butter, beer, frozen foods, salad dressing, dairy products, cakes, shampoo, and even medicine. Compounds made from coral reef plants help treat patients with cancer and arthritis. Even our animals need the ocean. Fishmeal is used to feed chickens and pigs.

1. Name one thing that you used this week that came from the ocean. _____
2. Name three foods that are often made from algae or kelp.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
3. Name three things that aren't food that are made from algae, kelp, or coral reef plants.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
4. What is the main point of the article above?

5. Give the article above a title, keeping the main point in mind.

6. Name one thing that isn't listed in the paragraph above that comes from the ocean and humans eat or use in some way.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1 Source: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/habitats/oceanscoasts/explore/five-reasons-we-are-all-connected-to-oceans.xml>

Mermaid Tales

THE CROOK AND THE CROWN

Chapter 11/food/ocean and the economy

NAME:

DATE:

In this story, the characters drink shipworm punch and eat rabbit fish steak with beluga sturgeon sauce. Can you guess what beluga sturgeon sauce is in the human world? guesses will vary-caviar is often beluga sturgeon eggs Humans use many things from the ocean. In fact, algae and kelp are used to make peanut butter, beer, frozen foods, salad dressing, dairy products, cakes, shampoo, and even medicine. Compounds made from coral reef plants help treat patients with cancer and arthritis. Even our animals need the ocean. Fishmeal is used to feed chickens and pigs.

1. Name one thing that you used this week that came from the ocean. answers will vary-but will probably come from above.
2. Name three foods that are often made from algae or kelp. answers will vary-but will probably come from above.
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
3. Name three things that aren't food that are made from algae, kelp, or coral reef plants. answers will vary-but will probably come from above.
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
4. What is the main point of the article above?

Humans use many things from the ocean (or something similar)

5. Give the article above a title, keeping about the main point in mind.

Answers will vary

6. Name one thing that isn't listed in the paragraph above that comes from the ocean and humans eat or use in some way. Answers will vary

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1 Source: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/habitats/oceanscoasts/explore/five-reasons-we-are-all-connected-to-oceans.xml>