

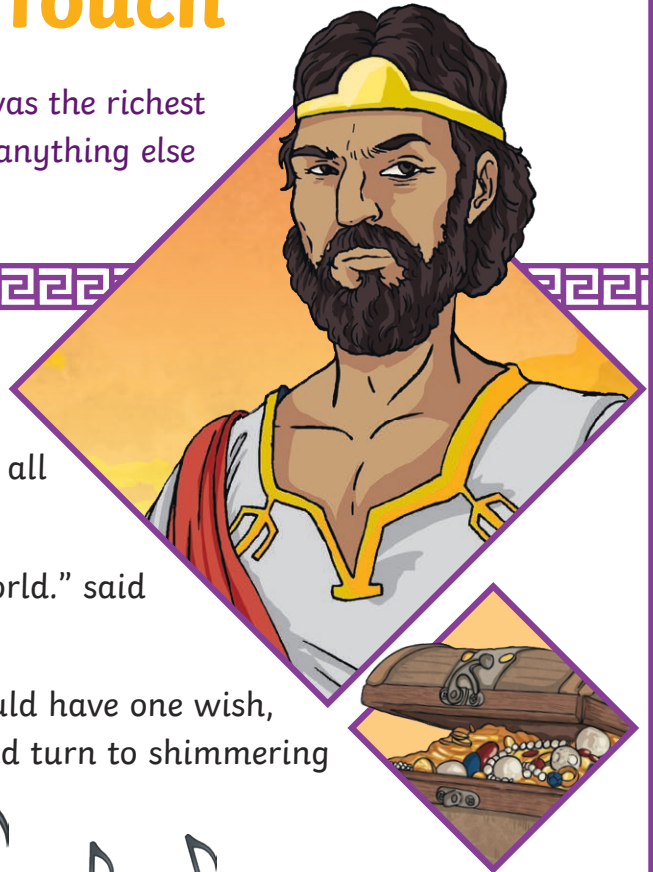
King Midas and the Golden Touch

There once lived a king named Midas who was the richest king in the world. He loved gold more than anything else on earth – including his daughter Marigold.

One day, a beautiful fairy boy appeared before Midas. The boy's face shone with a dazzling light and his cap, feet and wand all had wings.

"Midas, you are the richest man in the world." said the fairy.

"That may be," said the King, "but if I could have one wish, I would ask that everything I touch should turn to shimmering gold."



"Your wish shall be granted," said the fairy.
"From sunrise tomorrow, your slightest touch will turn anything into gold but your gift will not make you happy."

Midas woke early next morning, reached out and lightly touched his bed. It turned instantly to gold. Delighted, the King went to eat breakfast. However, when he tried to drink a glass of water, it too became solid gold. The bread and butter turned to gold in his hand and the soft, tender meat became hard, yellow and shiny. Not a thing could pass his lips. All was gold, gold, gold.





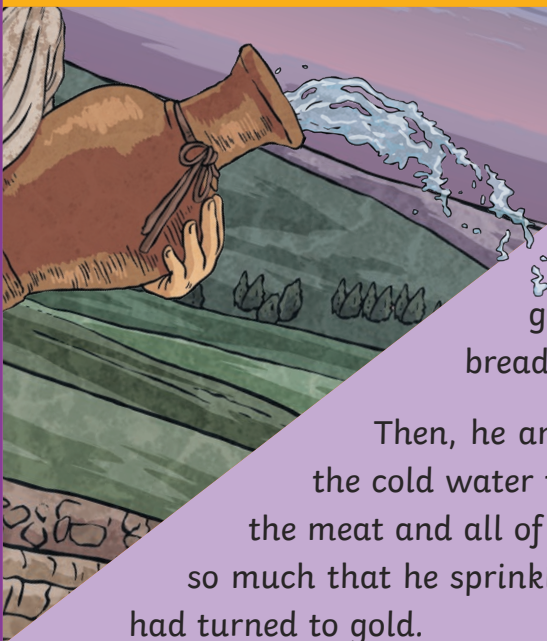
His daughter came running in from the garden. Without thinking, he gently kissed her cheek. At once, the little girl was turned into a golden statue. In his grief, he called upon the fairy for help.

"O fairy," he begged, "take away this horrible golden gift! Take all my gold, only give me back my darling daughter."



The beautiful fairy appeared and, convinced the King had learnt his lesson, told him how to fix what had happened.

"Take this pitcher to the spring in the garden and fill it with water. Sprinkle the things you have touched with the water to restore them."



The King did as the fairy said. He first sprinkled the head of his dear little girl. Instantly, she became his darling Marigold and he gave her a kiss. The King sprinkled the golden food and, to his joy, it turned back to real bread and real butter.

Then, he and his daughter sat down to breakfast. How good the cold water tasted! The hungry King ate the bread and butter, the meat and all of the good food. King Midas hated his golden touch so much that he sprinkled water over everything else that the fairy's gift had turned to gold.

Questions

1. What did King Midas love more than anything else on earth? Tick one.

- ☐ Marigold
- ☐ gold
- ☐ his castle
- ☐ money

2. Number the events from **1-4** to show the order they happen in the text.

- ☐ The fairy gave Midas a gift.
- ☐ King Midas loved gold more than anything in the world.
- ☐ Midas and Marigold sat down to breakfast.
- ☐ Marigold turned to gold.

3. What was the first thing Midas turned to gold? Tick one.

- ☐ some bread
- ☐ some water
- ☐ his bed
- ☐ Marigold

4. Where was Marigold when the King first went to breakfast? Tick one.

- ☐ her bedroom
- ☐ the kitchen
- ☐ the garden
- ☐ with the King

5. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'jug'.

6. Fill in the missing words.

"Fill this pitcher with _____ water from the garden. Sprinkle the water on the things you have touched to change them back."

7. Why do you think Midas asked the fairy to take the gift back? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Answers

1. What did King Midas love more than anything else on earth? Tick one.

- ☐ Marigold
- ☒ **gold**
- ☐ his castle
- ☐ money

2. Number the events from **1-4** to show the order they happen in the text.

- 2** The fairy gave Midas a gift.
- 1** King Midas loved gold more than anything in the world.
- 4** Midas and Marigold sat down to breakfast.
- 3** Marigold turned to gold.

3. What was the first thing Midas turned to gold? Tick one.

- ☐ some bread
- ☐ some water
- ☒ **his bed**
- ☐ Marigold

4. Where was Marigold when the King first went to breakfast? Tick one.

- ☐ her bedroom
- ☐ the kitchen
- ☒ **the garden**
- ☐ with the king

5. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'jug'.

pitcher

6. Fill in the missing words.

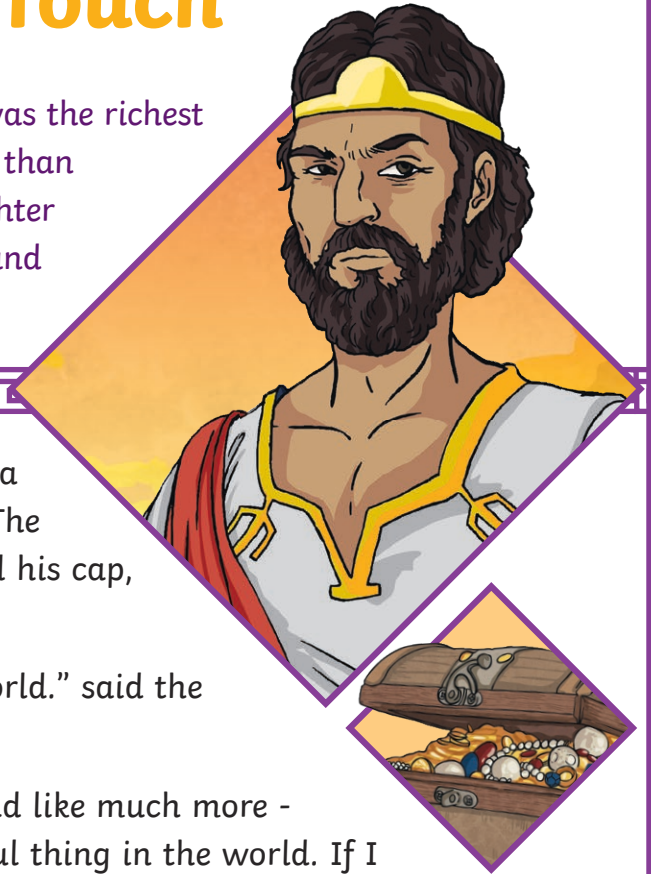
"Fill this pitcher with **spring** water from the garden. Sprinkle the water on the things you have touched to change them back."

7. Why do you think Midas asked the fairy to take the gift back? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Midas asked for the fairy to take the gift back because he realised his daughter was more important than gold when he thought he had lost her.

King Midas and the Golden Touch

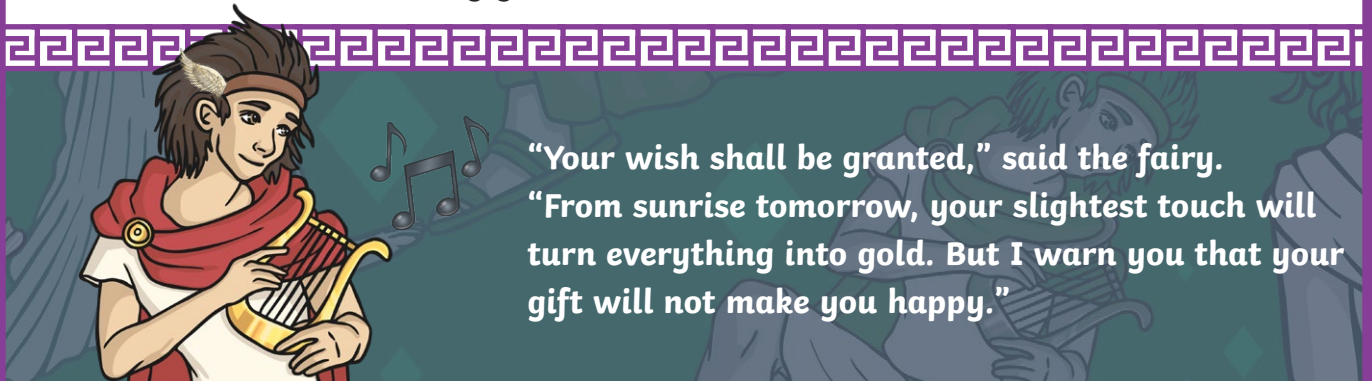
There once lived a king named Midas who was the richest king in the world. The King loved gold more than anything else on earth – including his daughter Marigold. His one great wish was for more and more gold.



One day, he was admiring his gold when a beautiful fairy boy appeared before him. The boy's face shone with a dazzling light and his cap, feet and wand all had wings.

"Midas, you are the richest man in the world." said the fairy.

"That may be," said the King. "but I should like much more - for gold is the best and the most wonderful thing in the world. If I could have one wish," said the King, "I would ask that everything I touch should turn to shimmering gold."



"Your wish shall be granted," said the fairy. "From sunrise tomorrow, your slightest touch will turn everything into gold. But I warn you that your gift will not make you happy."

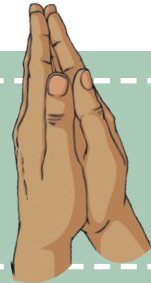
The next day, Midas woke early and as soon as he saw the rising sun, he reached out and lightly touched his bed. Instantly, it turned to gold. Delighted, the King went to eat breakfast. However, when he raised a glass of clear water to drink, it too became solid gold. The bread and butter turned to gold in his hand and the soft, tender meat became hard, yellow and shiny. Not a thing could pass his lips. All was gold, gold, gold.





His daughter came running in from the garden. Without thinking, he gently kissed her cheek. At once, the little girl was turned into a golden statue. In his grief, he called upon the fairy for help.

"O fairy," he begged, "take away this horrible golden gift! Take all my gold, only give me back my darling daughter."



The beautiful fairy appeared and, convinced the King had learnt his lesson, told him how to fix what had happened.

Take this pitcher to the spring in the garden and fill it with water. Sprinkle the things you have touched with the water to restore them.



The King did as the fairy said. He first sprinkled the head of his dear little girl. Instantly, she became his darling Marigold and he gave her a kiss. The King sprinkled the golden food and, to his joy, it turned back to real bread and real butter.

Then, he and his daughter sat down to breakfast. How good the cold water tasted! The hungry King ate the bread and butter, the meat and all of the good food. King Midas hated his golden touch so much that he sprinkled water over everything else that the fairy's gift had turned to gold.

Questions

1. What was Midas doing the first time the fairy appeared? Tick one.

- ☐ crying
☐ admiring his gold
☐ eating breakfast
☐ shouting

2. How did the fairy warn Midas about his gift?

3. Draw **three** lines and to match each character with the adjective that best describes them.

King Midas

powerful

Marigold

innocent

The Fairy

greedy

4. Fill in the missing words.

The next day, Midas _____ early and as soon as he saw the _____ sun, he reached out and lightly touched his bed.

5. Tick below to say whether the sentences are **true** or **false**.

	true	false
The gift would work from sunset the next day.		
King Midas changed his daughter back first.		
The first thing Midas changed to gold was some bread.		
The fairy told Midas how to change everything back.		

6. How did Midas turn Marigold into a statue? Tick one.

- ☐ he hugged her
☐ he kissed her
☐ he held her hand
☐ she hugged him

7. Imagine you are the fairy. Would you have granted Midas' wish? Give reasons for your answer.

8. When do you think Midas' attitude towards gold changed in the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Answers

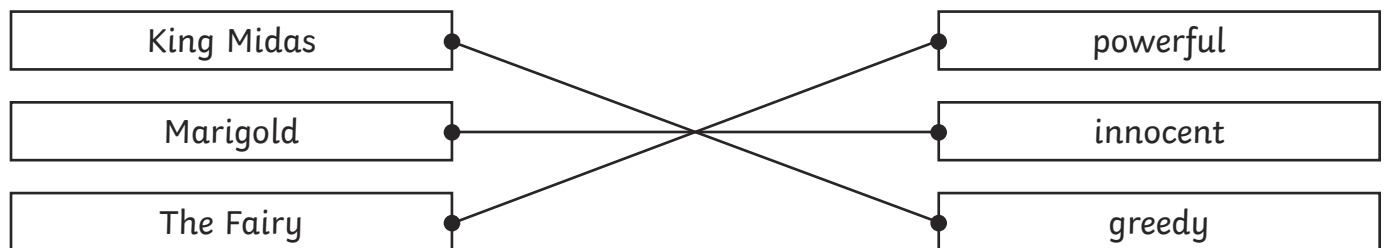
1. What was Midas doing the first time the fairy appeared? Tick one.

- ☐ crying
☒ **admiring his gold**
☐ eating breakfast
☐ shouting

2. How did the fairy warn Midas about his gift?

The fairy warned Midas that the gift wouldn't make the King happy.

3. Draw **three** lines and to match each character with the adjective that best describes them.



4. Fill in the missing words.

The next day, Midas **woke** early and as soon as he saw the **rising** sun, he reached out and lightly touched his bed.

5. Tick below to say whether the sentences are **true** or **false**.

	true	false
The gift would work from sunset the next day.		✓
King Midas changed his daughter back first.	✓	
The first thing Midas changed to gold was some bread.		✓
The fairy told Midas how to change everything back.	✓	

6. How did Midas turn Marigold into a statue? Tick one.

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7. Imagine you are the fairy. Would you have granted Midas' wish? Give reasons for your answer.

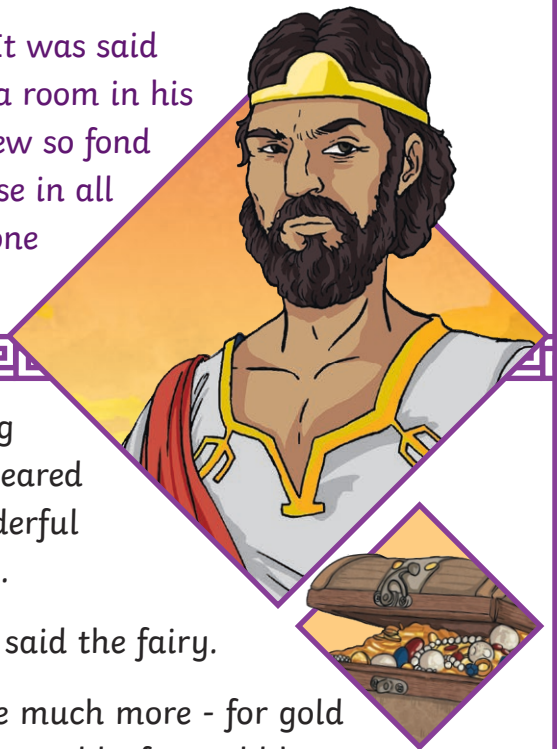
Pupils' own responses, such as: If I was the fairy, I would have still granted Midas' wish so that he could learn that there are more important things than gold.

8. When do you think Midas' attitude towards gold changed in the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses that refer to either Midas being unable to eat, or Midas losing Marigold, such as: I think Midas' attitude towards gold changed when he turned Marigold into gold and thought he had lost her because immediately after this, he begs the fairy to take the gift away.

King Midas and the Golden Touch

Many years ago, there lived a king named Midas. It was said that he was the richest king in the world. He had a room in his great castle filled with gold treasures. The King grew so fond of his gold, that he loved it more than anything else in all the world – including his daughter Marigold. His one great wish was for more and more gold.



One day, the King was in his treasury admiring his lovely gold, when a beautiful fairy boy appeared before him. The boy's face dazzled with a wonderful light and his cap, feet and wand all had wings.

"Midas, you are the richest man in the world." said the fairy.

"That may be," said the King. "but I should like much more - for gold is the best and the most wonderful thing in the world. If I could have one wish," said the King, "I would ask that everything I touch should turn to beautiful gold."

"Your wish shall be granted," said the fairy. "From sunrise tomorrow, your slightest touch will turn everything into gold. But I warn you that your gift will not make you happy."



He played his lyre to help ease the pain and the music that emanated from his instrument was so haunting that it moved men, gods and even the plants and trees to tears.

The next day, King Midas woke early as he was eager to see if the fairy's promise had been kept. As soon as he saw the rising sun, he reached out and lightly touched his bed with his finger. Instantly, it turned to smooth, shimmering gold. Delighted, the King laughed and went to eat his breakfast.

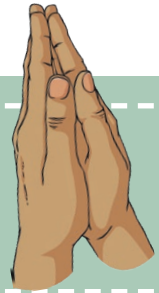
However, when he raised a glass of clear water to drink, it too became solid gold. The bread and butter turned to gold in his hand and the soft, tender meat became hard, yellow and cold. Not a thing could pass his lips. All was gold, gold, gold.





His daughter came running in from the garden. Without thinking, he gently kissed her cheek. At once, the little girl was turned into a golden statue. Fear crept into the King's heart, sweeping all the joy out of his life. In his grief, he called upon the fairy for help.

"O fairy," he begged, "take away this horrible golden gift! Take all my gold. Take everything, only give me back my darling daughter."



In a moment, the beautiful fairy was standing before him.

"Do you still think that gold is the greatest thing in the world?" asked the fairy.

"No! No!" cried the King. "I hate the very sight of it! I have learned my lesson."



"Very well," said the fairy, "take this pitcher to the spring in the garden and fill it with water. Sprinkle the things you have touched with the water to restore them."



The King did as the fairy instructed. He first sprinkled the head of his dear little girl. Instantly, she became his darling Marigold and he gave her a kiss. The King sprinkled the golden food and, to his joy, it turned back to real bread and real butter.

Then, he and his daughter sat down to breakfast. How good the cold water tasted! How eagerly the hungry King ate the bread and butter, the meat and all of the good food! The King hated his golden touch so much that he sprinkled even the chairs and the tables and everything else that the fairy's gift had turned to gold.

Questions

1. What do you think is the moral of this story? Explain your answer fully.

2. Fill in the missing words.

Fear crept into the King's heart, _____ all the joy out of his life. In his _____, he called upon the fairy for help.

3. Where was Midas when the fairy first appeared?

4. Number the following from **1-5** to show the order they are turned to gold in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ Marigold
- ☐ water
- ☐ meat
- ☐ bed
- ☐ bread

5. Where were the fairy's wings? Tick **three**.

- ☐ his wand
- ☐ his back
- ☐ his cap
- ☐ his feet

6. Read the paragraph that begins '**The next day...**'

What do you notice about the way the author uses adjectives to describe the gold?
Why do you think have they done this?

7. Do you think the fairy is a good fairy? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

8. What was the first thing the King did when he had turned Marigold back?

Answers

1. What do you think is the moral of this story? Explain your answer fully.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the moral of the story is that family is more important than money or gold. I think this because King Midas thought that gold was the most important thing, until he turned his daughter into a gold statue and then he realised how precious his daughter was.

2. Fill in the missing words.

Fear crept into the King's heart, **sweeping** all the joy out of his life. In his **grief**, he called upon the fairy for help.

3. Where was Midas when the fairy first appeared?

Midas was in his treasury admiring his gold when the fairy first appeared.

4. Number the following from **1-5** to show the order they are turned to gold in the text. The first one has been done for you.

5 Marigold

2 water

4 meat

1 bed

3 bread

5. Where were the fairy's wings? Tick **three**.

☒ **his wand**

☐ his back

☒ **his cap**

☒ **his feet**

6. Read the paragraph that begins 'The next day...'

What do you notice about the way the author uses adjectives to describe the gold?
Why do you think have they done this?

Pupils' own responses, that recognise the adjectives change from positive to negative, such as: In the beginning of the paragraph, the author uses positive adjectives like 'smooth' and 'shimmering' to describe the gold. At the end of the paragraph, the author uses more negative adjectives, such as 'cold' and 'hard'. I think the author did this to show how Midas started to change his mind about gold.

7. Do you think the fairy is a good fairy? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the fairy is a good fairy because he tried to warn Midas about the gift he gave him. He then helped Midas when he saw that he had learnt his lesson. He also helped Marigold, as her father learned to appreciate her.
8. What was the first thing the King did when he had turned Marigold back?
The first thing the King did after turning Marigold back was kiss her.