

Extension Ideas #2

I would love to see your critical and creative thinking! Be sure to share your work with me on twitter @GlebeThinkers.

Jacob's Ladder

Listen to the book or short story below and choose ladder questions to engage in critical thinking about the text. Students can discuss these with a parent or sibling, or they can type or write their responses.

K-2 [Sylvester and the Magic Pebble](#)

3-5 The Myth of Heracles (story attached)

Become an Inventor

1. Watch and listen to the book [HOW TO BE AN INVENTOR](#)
2. Think of a problem around your house or your community.
3. Create an invention to solve the problem. You can draw your invention or build it.
4. Be sure to take pictures and record your work to share!

Wonderopolis

1. Visit the site [Wonderopolis](#)

Each day a new "wonder" is posted with follow up resources and guidance. Over 2000 questions from many disciplines to search. It is for learners of all ages; however, younger children may need reading support. There is also a search tab where students can type questions for things they are wondering about!

Transform (adapted from Kentucky Association for Gifted Education)

Transform a sheet of paper into a fan. How many different designs can you come up with? How else can you [transform paper](#)?

Measurement Tool (adapted from Kentucky Association for Gifted Education)

Create a tool that helps you measure 6 feet accurately. What makes measuring this distance challenging?

Art/Creativity

Visit this [blog](#) and get a lesson on designing your own mini-monochromatic self-portrait.

Math Games (that incorporate problem solving and logical thinking)

K-2 – [Greg Tang Math Games](#)

3-5 – [Beyond Sudoku: Kakuro and Futoshiki](#)

SYLVESTER AND THE MAGIC PEBBLE

Generalizations

B3

What generalizations can you make about the concept of time based on your examples and categories? How is time a central idea in the story?

Classifications

B2

How would you categorize these details?

Details

B1

What details does the author share about the passage of time from when Sylvester becomes a rock to when his parents discover him?

SYLVESTER AND THE MAGIC PEBBLE

C3
C2
C1

Theme/Concept

One theme of this book might be the power of love. Another might be to never trust magic. Select the theme you think is best and argue why. Remember to provide details from the story to support your ideas.

Inference

What inferences do you draw from the story? What does it teach us about life?

Literary Elements

The use of symbolism in a story allows an object to represent something other than what it is. Sylvester becomes a rock, for example, when he encounters the lion. What are all of the ways that being a rock characterizes Sylvester? What else might it represent in the story?

E3	<p style="text-align: center;">Using Emotion</p> <p>How does the author portray emotion in the book? What techniques does he use in the illustrations as well as the story line?</p>
E2	<p style="text-align: center;">Expressing Emotion</p> <p>Think of a time when you were lost and then found your way. What were your emotions? How did you feel under the circumstance? How is that experience similar to and different from the story of Sylvester? Complete a table to show your comparisons.</p>
E1	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding Emotion</p> <p>What feelings do you have about Sylvester? How do they change as the story evolves? How would you describe Sylvester's parents' feelings?</p>

SYLVESTER AND THE MAGIC PEBBLE



The Myth of Heracles (Hercules)

Heracles (known as Hercules to the Romans) was the son of the god Zeus. When he was a baby, the goddess Hera was jealous of the attention he was given; she sent two serpents to his crib to kill him. Shortly after the serpents were sent, Heracles was found babbling happily with a strangled serpent in each hand. This event was the first clue of Heracles' superhuman strength.

As he grew older, Heracles became a champion marksman and wrestler. Unfortunately, he was driven mad by Hera and in a frenzy of anger killed his own children. To atone for this terrible deed, Heracles was charged with completing 12 tasks, or labors, for his cousin, King Eurystheus. The 12 labors were thought to be impossible; everyone believed Heracles would die trying to accomplish them.

The first labor Heracles was given was to slay the lion Nemean. This lion was no ordinary lion. Arrows or spears could not penetrate his skin. Heracles defeated the lion by blocking the entrance to his den and killing him with his bare hands. When Heracles returned carrying the defeated Nemean, everyone, including Eurystheus, was in awe of his strength.

One of the more exciting tasks for Heracles was to slay the much-feared Hydra. No one is entirely sure how many heads the Hydra had; some believe it was 8 or 9, while others claim the Hydra had 10,000 heads! There was agreement, though, about the Hydra's ability to regrow two heads for every one that was cut off. As if many heads were not frightening enough, the Hydra's breath was lethal to mere mortals. Fortunately for Heracles, he was not a mere mortal. With the help of his nephew, Ialous (who just happened to be waiting in the chariot), Heracles cut off each of the Hydra's

Name: _____ Date: _____

heads while Ialouos seared the wound, making it impossible for another head to grow.

Heracles' final task was to bring back Cerberus from the Underworld, the land of the dead. His first obstacle was getting across the River Styx, the most famous river of the Underworld where all of the dead souls congregated. Heracles could not pay the bribe to Charon the Boatman, nor was he dead; both of these were prerequisites for entering the Underworld. Heracles had to use his superhuman strength to frighten Charon into taking him across the River Styx. Once in the Underworld, Heracles was confronted with Cerberus and his razor-sharp teeth and venomous snake tail. Luckily, Heracles was wearing the armor he made from the lion Nemean that he had slain during the first labor. The lion's skin was impenetrable to the Cerberus' teeth or tail. Heracles eventually succeeded at this labor as well.

Many years later after many more adventures, Heracles died from wearing a tunic tainted by poison, much to the dismay of his beloved wife Deianara.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A3	<p>Consequences and Implications</p> <p>Why was Heracles' manner of death ironic? Explain.</p>	THE MYTH OF HERACLES (HERCULES)
A2	<p>Cause and Effect</p> <p>What caused Heracles to be tasked with the 12 labors? What effects did the assignment have on his life?</p>	
A1	<p>Sequencing</p> <p>List the five most important events in the myth in order.</p>	

D3	<p>Creative Synthesis</p> <p>Create a myth that has a crime and punishment theme like the Heracles myth.</p>	THE MYTH OF HERACLES (HERCULES)
D2	<p>Summarizing</p> <p>In three sentences or less, summarize the main idea of the myth.</p>	
D1	<p>Paraphrasing</p> <p>In your own words, rewrite one of the labors described in the myth.</p>	