THE MIDAS TOUCH

A GREEK MYTH

King Midas was sitting in the courtyard of his castle, enjoying the sunshine with his young daughter, when a loud **ruckus** erupted outside the gates. Midas sent a servant to see what the **hullabaloo** was all about. Soon the servant returned, followed by some peasants carrying the limp form of an old man, who moaned and groaned as they **jostled** him.

"What is this!" demanded Midas. "Who is this person? Why do you bring him here?"

"Sire," answered the servant, "this is an old man. He says his name is Silenus. He is unwell. He is in need of a place to rest and **recover**."

"Very well," said Midas. "Find him a bed and a nurse. We will do all we can for him."

Gradually, Silenus recovered. Midas treated him with kindness and shared all the hospitality the castle had to offer. After a week had passed, a knock came at the castle gate. Bacchus, the god of the vineyards, **strode** into the courtyard.

"Greetings," stammered Midas in surprise. "How may I serve you?"

Bacchus laughed and answered, "You have it all wrong, Midas. I have come to serve you!"

"But why?" asked Midas in surprise. "Why should a god serve a **mere** king?"

"Because you have done me a great kindness," answered Bacchus. "You see, Silenus is my old schoolmaster. I am very fond of him. I am grateful for all you have done for him, and I wish to repay you. Come, Midas, name your reward. Make any wish you like, and I shall fulfill it."

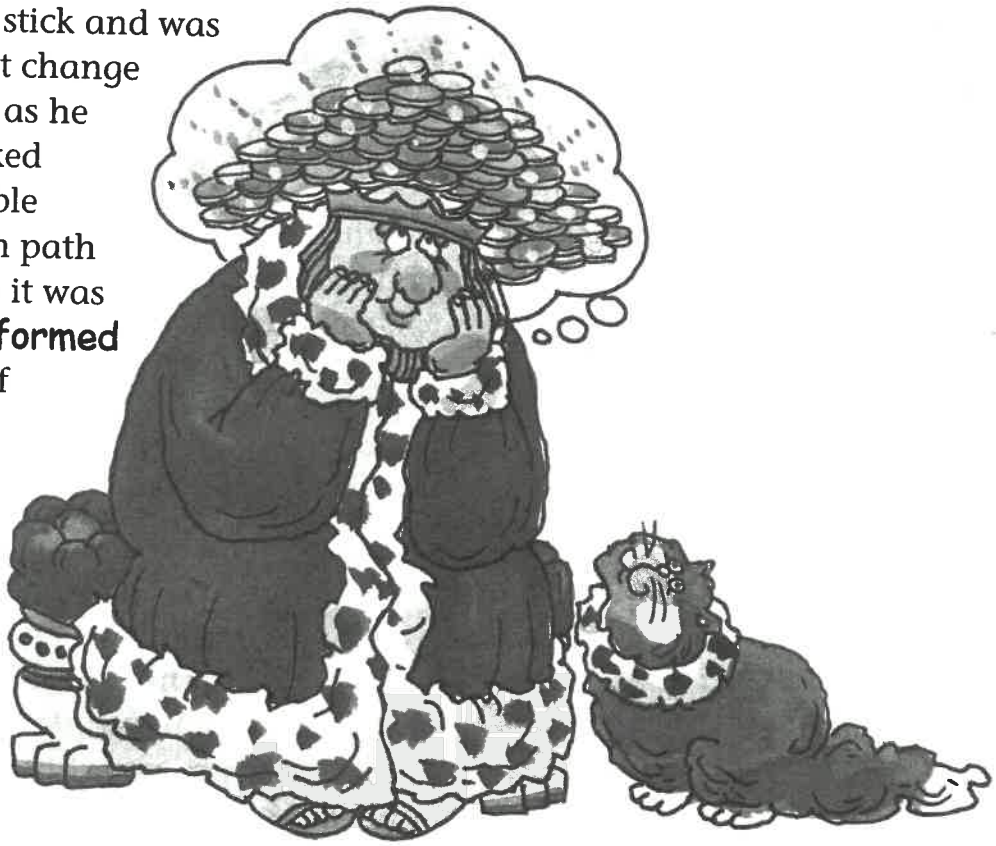
Now Midas, though a kind man, was overly fond of wealth, and the **opportunity** that lay before him seemed too good to be true. With his heart thumping in his throat, Midas made his wish. "I wish that whatever I touch shall turn into gold, from this moment forward!"

Bacchus looked thoughtful. "Are you sure that is wise, Midas?" he asked. "Are you certain that is what you want?"

"Oh, yes," breathed Midas. "I can imagine no greater gift."

"Very well," said Bacchus, in a **doubtful** tone. "It is done. Now, let my servants fetch Silenus, and we shall be away."

As soon as Bacchus had swept out the gate, King Midas rushed to test his new powers. He reached for his walking stick and was amazed to see it change to shining gold as he lifted it. He picked up a small pebble from the garden path and watched as it was instantly **transformed** into a **nugget** of purest gold. He plucked a flower from a nearby bush. In his hand, it became a stem of **precious** metal.



Excited, he ran into the castle, calling for his servants. "We must celebrate!" he exclaimed. "Fetch my family and all the nobles of the town. Set the table for a great feast. I am the wealthiest man in the world!"

Laughing softly to himself, King Midas strode up and down the paths in his courtyard while the servants rushed about to do his bidding. Soon, all was ready for the festivities. King Midas welcomed family and friends to his home and **ushered** them all to the table in the great hall. Everyone sat down and began to eat with pleasure.

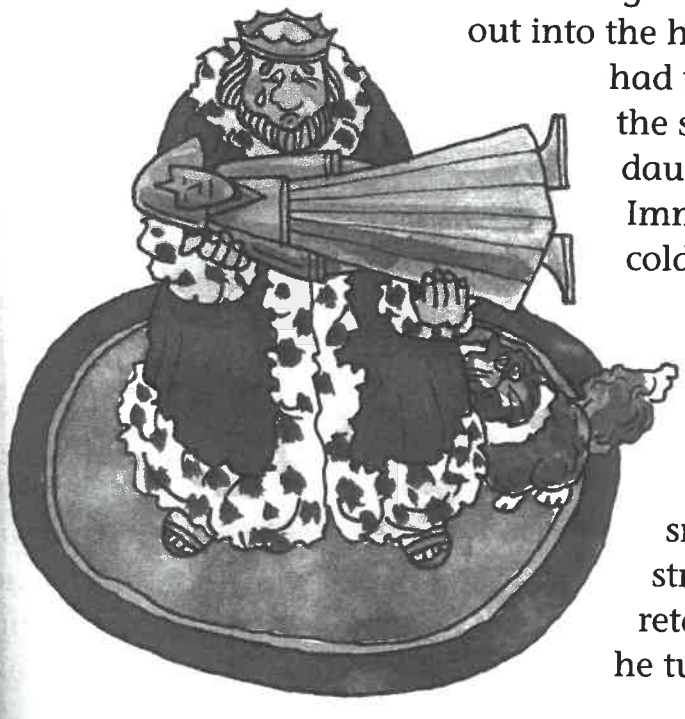
King Midas watched for a moment, filled with joy. Then he picked up a roll and hungrily took a bite.

"What's this?" yelped Midas, as his teeth met the hard surface and bounced off. Naturally, he could not eat the bread, for it had turned to gold. He lifted his goblet to take a sip of wine, but the goblet and the liquid it held had turned to **solid** gold.

All the people gathered at the table looked at him in amazement. They began to buzz excitedly among themselves. Never had they seen such miraculous events. But Midas now realized that he had been very foolish indeed. He dropped his head upon the table and began to weep. His little daughter, taking pity, ran to his side. In his grief, Midas embraced her, whereupon she immediately froze into a perfect golden **replica** of a little girl. Midas drew back in horror at the sight of his dear daughter standing like a **brilliant** statue.

"What have I done?" he wailed. "Oh, curse my selfishness! Bacchus, please take away this **cruel** gift," he begged. "I regret my greed and my folly. Please have **mercy** on me, and take away this hateful gift."

Suddenly, Midas heard the voice of Bacchus echoing down the long hall. "Very well," said the voice. "Go now and bathe yourself in the river Pactolus. Go forth to the very place where this river springs from the Earth and wash yourself in its waters. Take your daughter and bathe her, too."



Midas grabbed up his daughter and rushed out into the hills. He did exactly as Bacchus had told him. He bathed himself in the spring, then **plunged** his daughter into the waters. Immediately, she was restored from cold metal to rosy flesh. At the same moment, the waters of the river became as golden as a field of ripe grain.

Laughing with joy, Midas grabbed the nearest object, a small buttercup growing near the stream. It did not turn to gold, but retained its soft and lovely petals as he tucked it into his daughter's curls.

"Hooray!" shouted Midas. "I have never been so happy in my life."

Midas took his daughter's hand, and together they walked back across the hills and meadows to the castle.

To this day, those who walk beside the Pactolus River will see a golden river flowing over golden sandy banks, a reminder of King Midas and his terrible golden touch.

Questions About THE MIDAS TOUCH

Fill in the circle that best answers each question.

1. Why did the peasants bring the old man to King Midas?
   - Ⓐ The old man was sick and needed help.
   - Ⓑ The old man and King Midas were friends.
   - Ⓒ The old man wanted to borrow some money.
   - Ⓓ The old man wanted to sell King Midas a pair of shoes.

2. Why did Bacchus want to give Midas a gift?
   - Ⓐ He felt sorry for Midas.
   - Ⓑ Midas was in the hospital.
   - Ⓒ He wanted Midas to be his friend.
   - Ⓓ He was grateful to Midas for his kindness to the old schoolmaster.

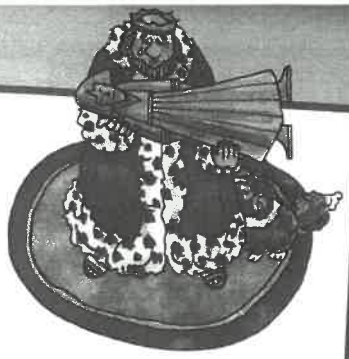
3. Why did Midas plan a celebration?
   - Ⓐ It was his birthday.
   - Ⓑ It was his daughter's birthday.
   - Ⓒ He was excited about his newfound wealth.
   - Ⓓ He was happy that Silenus had recovered his health.

4. Why did Midas start to cry during the feast?
   - Ⓐ He realized that the golden touch was really a curse.
   - Ⓑ He had a headache.
   - Ⓒ He was very happy.
   - Ⓓ He felt lonely.

5. When Midas realized what he had done, he felt ashamed of his _____.
   - Ⓐ wealth
   - Ⓑ greed
   - Ⓒ cruelty
   - Ⓓ unkindness

6. What do you think this story is saying?
   - Ⓐ Think before you ask for something.
   - Ⓑ Don't accept a reward for helping people.
   - Ⓒ Flowers are more precious than gold.
   - Ⓓ Riches alone will not make you happy.

Put It in Order



In the story, Midas experiences several different emotions. Number them in the order in which they take place in the story.

_____ Midas felt **relieved** and **happy** when he washed away his golden touch.

_____ Midas felt **annoyed** when Silenus was brought into the courtyard.

_____ Midas felt **joyful** as he prepared for the feast.

_____ Midas felt **confused** when Bacchus came to visit him.

_____ Midas felt **excited** when Bacchus offered him a reward.

_____ Midas felt **miserable** when he turned his daughter into gold.

_____ Midas felt **surprised** when he tried to bite into a piece of bread.

Choose one of the emotions mentioned above. Write about a time when you have experienced this emotion.

Choose the Right Meaning

Find these highlighted words in the story. Read the sentence in which each word is found. Choose the correct meaning.

1. The word **jostled** means _____.
   - Ⓐ played a game
   - Ⓑ tripped and fell
   - Ⓒ sat straight and tall
   - Ⓓ bumped and pushed

2. The word **nugget** means _____.
   - Ⓐ a small lump
   - Ⓑ a plank
   - Ⓒ a book
   - Ⓓ a frog

3. The word **recover** means _____.
   - Ⓐ to get smaller
   - Ⓑ to get bigger
   - Ⓒ to get better
   - Ⓓ to be sad

4. The word **replica** means _____.
   - Ⓐ a beautiful flower
   - Ⓑ an exact copy
   - Ⓒ a wool coat
   - Ⓓ an old book

5. The word **plunged** means _____.
   - Ⓐ leaped or flew over
   - Ⓑ jumped or dived in
   - Ⓒ read carefully
   - Ⓓ took a nap

6. The word **transformed** means _____.
   - Ⓐ explained
   - Ⓑ smashed
   - Ⓒ changed
   - Ⓓ painted

7. The word **doubtful** means _____.
   - Ⓐ uncertain
   - Ⓑ unkind
   - Ⓒ unhappy
   - Ⓓ unfeeling

8. The word **mercy** means _____.
   - Ⓐ cruel laughter
   - Ⓑ revenge and anger
   - Ⓒ misery and sadness
   - Ⓓ kindness and pity

9. The word **ruckus** means _____.
   - Ⓐ celebration
   - Ⓑ commotion
   - Ⓒ backpack
   - Ⓓ ball game

10. The word **opportunity** means _____.
    - Ⓐ chance
    - Ⓑ job
    - Ⓒ time
    - Ⓓ permission

Which Word Fits?

Complete each sentence using a word from the box. If you need help with the meaning of the words, look for them in the story and read the sentences in which they are found.

hullabaloo	mere	precious	ushered
strode	solid	cruel	brilliant

1. In the bitter cold weather, the river froze _____.

2. The _____ sunlight sparkled on the water.

3. The actor _____ to the center of the stage with great confidence.

4. Mr. Keenan _____ his clients into the conference room.

5. Jane thought that her mom was _____ because she would not let her have a kitten.

6. Bradley finished the difficult test in a _____ fifteen minutes.

7. A _____ erupted at the zoo when the gorillas escaped from their cages.

8. Grandmother's antique ring is set with _____ stones.

More and Most

Read these rules:

- We add the suffixes -er and -est to adjectives to compare size or amount.

  great greater = more great greatest = most great

- When a word ends in y, change the y to i and then add er or est.

  wealthy wealthier = more wealthy wealthiest = most wealthy

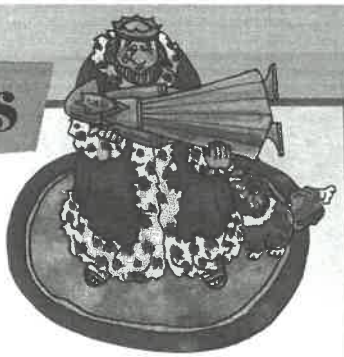
- When a word ends in e, drop the e and add er or est.

  little littler = more little littlest = most little

Add **er** and **est** to each word.

Adjective	More	Most
lovely		
shiny		
rich		
tiny		
greedy		
old		
kind		
rough		
bright		
simple		
gentle		
pure		

Understanding Similes



Similes compare two things using the words like or as.

The boy was as *strong as an ox.*
The calm lake was like *a mirror.*

These similes are found in "The Midas Touch":

Midas drew back in horror at the sight of his dear daughter standing like a statue.

At the same moment, the waters of the river became as golden as a field of ripe grain.

Complete each sentence with a simile of your own.

1. The sleeping baby was as quiet as _____.
2. Her eyes were shining like _____.
3. The frozen ground was as hard as _____.
4. Our puppy is as gentle as _____.
5. Jim is as tall as _____.
6. The full moon was like _____.
7. The rain was falling like _____.
8. My happy heart felt as light as _____.

Name _____

Daily Science
Big Idea 3
WEEK 1

Day 1

Weekly Question

Do we really drink the same water that dinosaurs did?

Earth is often called the Blue Planet. That's because almost three fourths of Earth's surface is covered by water. Most of that water is salt water found in the world's oceans. Salt water contains dissolved minerals and is not drinkable. Less than 3% of all the water on Earth is fresh water, the kind we drink.

Although you might think that most of the fresh water on Earth is found in lakes and rivers, in fact, only a small fraction can be found in these places. Most of the fresh water is frozen in polar ice caps and glaciers. The rest exists in the atmosphere as gas or clouds, or is located underground. Even though water is found in different places and in different forms, all of the water on Earth is constantly interacting. Water travels from oceans to air to land and back to sea in a continuous process called the **water cycle**.

Vocabulary

water cycle
WAH-ter SY-kul
the continuous movement of water on, above, and below Earth's surface

A. Fill in the two circles below to create pie charts, one showing the percentage of water on Earth, and one showing the percentages of salt water and fresh water.

Percentage of Earth's surface covered by water

Percentage of salt water vs. fresh water

B. Write *true* or *false*.

1. Fresh water can occur as a gas, liquid, or solid. _____
2. A small fraction of fresh water is frozen in polar ice caps. _____
3. Water from the ocean can end up in the air or on land. _____
4. Three quarters of Earth's water is salt water. _____

C. If all of Earth's water was represented by 100 milliliters, how many milliliters of fresh water would there be? _____

Name _____

Daily Science

Big Idea 3

WEEK 1

Day 2

Weekly Question

Do we really drink the same water that dinosaurs did?

The movement of water between the ocean, air, and land is powered by the sun. Energy from the sun heats liquid water and causes it to **evaporate**, or change into an invisible gas called **water vapor**. Water vapor enters the atmosphere, where it mixes with other gases. We describe the amount of water vapor in the air in terms of **humidity**. When there is more moisture in the air, the humidity is higher.

Most of the evaporation on Earth is from oceans close to the equator, where heating by the sun is greatest. Warm, humid air from the equator then moves long distances, traveling by wind and weather to anywhere in the world.

Vocabulary

evaporate
ih-VAP-ur-AYT
to change from a liquid into a gas

humidity
hew-MID-ih-tee
the amount of moisture in the air

water vapor
WAH-ter VAY-per
the gaseous form of water

A. Number the steps below in the correct order to show how water evaporates in the water cycle.

____ Wind transports water vapor to other parts of the world.

____ Water evaporates and turns into water vapor.

____ Sun heats the water.

____ Water vapor mixes with other gases to become part of the atmosphere.

B. Use the vocabulary words to complete the sentences.

1. Heating by the sun causes water to _____.
2. The more _____ in the air, the higher the _____.

NAME _____

Check What You Learned

Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers

Multiply.

	a	b	c	d
1.	280 × 93	814 × 37	497 × 48	6492 × 82
2.	2158 × 32	8291 × 54	212 × 561	394 × 627
3.	4176 × 283	9192 × 562	7315 × 141	5639 × 374

Divide.

4.	$6\overline{)2142}$	$4\overline{)8676}$	$49\overline{)392}$	$34\overline{)2589}$
5.	$72\overline{)745}$	$45\overline{)213}$	$61\overline{)1708}$	$94\overline{)4649}$
6.	$52\overline{)9243}$	$68\overline{)3174}$	$16\overline{)4236}$	$81\overline{)2748}$

CHAPTER 1 POSTTEST

NAME _____

Check What You Learned

SHOW YOUR WORK

Multiplying and Dividing Whole Numbers

CHAPTER 1 POSTTEST

Solve each problem.

7. The park's sprinklers can spray 1,748 gallons of water on the grass in 38 minutes. How many gallons can they spray in one minute?

They can spray _____ gallons per minute.

7.

8. The auto factory will build 1,408 new trucks in the next 32 days. How many will it build in one day?

It will build _____ trucks each day.

8.

9. Pizza Depot will open 31 new restaurants next year. Each restaurant will need 27 employees. How many employees will Pizza Depot need to hire for the new restaurants?

Pizza Depot will need to hire _____ employees.

9.

10. The parking lot has 1,326 spaces to hold cars. The lot is divided into 26 equal rows. How many cars can be parked in each row?

_____ cars can park in each row.

10.

11. If a machine can make 761 pencils in a second, how many pencils can it make in 23 seconds?

It can make _____ pencils.

11.

12. In New York City, each mail truck has 1,023 pieces of junk mail. If there are 71 mail trucks, how much junk mail do they have total?

They have _____ pieces of junk mail.

12.

NAME _____

Lesson 3.12 Division Practice

To make the divisor into a whole number, move the decimal point in the divisor and the dividend the same number of places to the right.

$$1.5\overline{)40.5} = 15\overline{)405} \qquad 1.05\overline{)24.15} = 105\overline{)2415}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 27 \\ -\,30 \\ \hline 105 \\ -\,105 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 23 \\ -\,210 \\ \hline 315 \\ -\,315 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

Divide.

	a	b	c	d
1.	$0.03\overline{)45.6}$	$1.7\overline{)20.4}$	$3.8\overline{)16.72}$	$0.5\overline{)1.87}$
2.	$7.4\overline{)28.86}$	$1.07\overline{)67.41}$	$0.22\overline{)8.03}$	$0.15\overline{)0.99}$
3.	$0.08\overline{)2.52}$	$0.02\overline{)6.56}$	$1.5\overline{)8.4}$	$6.4\overline{)27.04}$
4.	$0.65\overline{)0.91}$	$0.08\overline{)0.17}$	$0.17\overline{)3.06}$	$2.1\overline{)3.36}$

NAME _____

Lesson 3.13 Problem Solving

SHOW YOUR WORK

Solve each problem.

1. Fred bought 7 games on clearance for $104.65. Each game was on sale for the same price. How much did each game cost?

Each game cost _____.

1.

2. Gas costs $1.64 a gallon. Elaine spent $23.78 at the gas station. How many gallons of gas did she buy?

Elaine bought _____ gallons of gas.

2.

3. There are 2.5 servings in a can of tuna fish. How many servings are there in 7 cans?

There are _____ servings in 7 cans.

3.

4. A grain distributor can process 14.6 tons of grain an hour. How much can the distributor process in 8.75 hours?

The distributor can process _____ tons of grain.

4.

5. Rhonda earned $324.65 delivering newspapers. She promised her sister 0.2 of her earnings for helping her. How much does Rhonda owe her sister?

Rhonda owes her sister _____.

5.

6. A car traveled 48.36 miles in one hour. What was its average speed per minute?

Its average speed was _____ miles per minute.

6.

7. There are 5.28 cups of pudding to be put into 6 dishes. How much pudding should be put into each dish to make them equal?

Each dish should get _____ cups of pudding.

7.