

Perseus and Medusa

Ancient Greek

Perseus was put in a chest in the sea when he was a baby. A fisherman saved him. The fisherman was King Polydectes brother.

Polydectes made Perseus promise to kill Medusa and bring him her head. Medusa had hair made of snakes. People who looked at her turned to stone.

Athena gave Perseus a helmet, a sword, a shield, a silver bag and some winged boots.

The helmet made Perseus invisible, so Medusa couldn't see him when he cut her head off with the sword. He held the shield in front of his eyes so he didn't turn to stone.

Perseus put the head in his silver bag and flew back using his winged boots.

As soon as he showed King Polydectes Medusa's head, the King turned to stone.

1. What did the fisherman find on the seashore and what did he do as a result?

2. Why didn't Medusa attack Perseus?

3. What do you think Perseus was careful to do when he came back to see the King?
