

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Myth of Pegasus and Bellerophon

### Short Answer Key

1. Pegasus was born from the blood of the decapitated Gorgon Medusa. It had wings and a majestic appearance.
2. The seer Polyeidon advised Bellerophon to sleep in the temple of Athena, where he received a divine golden bridle. This bridle allowed him to approach and capture Pegasus.
3. Bellerophon and Pegasus defeated the Chimera, a fearsome fire-breathing monster with the body of a lion, the head of a goat, and the tail of a serpent. Their victory earned them admiration and gratitude.
4. Bellerophon's ambition and pride led him to attempt to ride Pegasus to Mount Olympus, the realm of the gods. Zeus sent a gadfly to sting Pegasus, causing it to throw off Bellerophon, who became crippled and blind.
5. Pegasus became a constellation, symbolizing inspiration and heroism, while Bellerophon's fate was one of physical and metaphorical descent.

