Name: _____ Date: _____

Arachne Weaves

Reading level 6 · 168 words

The Greeks told of Arachne. She was a girl who could weave. Her cloth was soft and bright. People came to see her weave. "Did the goddess Athena teach you?" they asked.

"No one taught me," said Arachne. "I can weave as well as Athena! Let her come and see."

Athena heard this. She came to the door of Arachne's little house. "Let us weave," she said.

Two looms stood side by side. The two weavers wove all day long. The town came to look.

Athena wove a hill and a tall green tree. It was lovely to see. Her thread shone like gold.

Arachne wove the gods being silly. Her cloth was so good it looked real. But it was not kind.

Athena looked. Not one bit was wrong. It made fun of the gods, so she was cross.

Athena touched Arachne. Arachne grew small and round. She was a little brown spider!

"Weave on," said Athena. The spider spun a silver thread. She is weaving still.

Questions

1. What could Arachne do very well?

A. Run
B. Weave
C. Sing

2. What did Arachne say about Athena?

A. That Athena taught her
B. That Athena was her aunt
C. That she weaved better than Athena

3. How did Athena and Arachne find out who was better?

A. They wove on two looms
B. They had a race
C. They sang songs

4. Why was Athena cross about the cloth?

A. It had a hole in it
B. It was too small
C. It was not kind to the gods

5. What did Arachne become?

A. A bird
B. A spider
C. A tree

6. In this story, what does "weave" mean?

A. Make cloth from thread
B. Dig a hole
C. Draw on a wall

Words to know

weave: make cloth from thread
loom: a weaving frame
goddess: a woman god
spider: a creature with eight legs

Answer key: Arachne Weaves

1. B. Weave
2. C. That she weaved better than Athena
3. A. They wove on two looms
4. C. It was not kind to the gods
5. B. A spider
6. A. Make cloth from thread