Name: _____ Date: _____

Midas and the Gold

Reading level 6 · 170 words

King Midas loved gold. He had gold cups and gold coins. But he always wanted more.

A kind god came. "I will give you a wish," he said. Midas did not wait.

"Make all I touch turn to gold!" he said. "Is that what you want?" asked the god. "Yes!" said Midas.

Midas picked up a stick. It was gold! A rock was gold, too.

He ran home and touched a red rose. It shone like the sun. "I am so rich!" he said.

Then Midas got hungry. He took a bite of bread. It turned to gold in his mouth!

He lifted a cup of cool water. It turned to gold, too. He could not eat or drink.

He held the gold rose to his nose. It had no smell at all. Midas felt sad.

"Take back your gift!" he said to the god. "Go and wash in the river," said the god.

Midas jumped in the river. The gold washed off. At last he could eat his bread!

Questions

1. What did Midas love most?

A. Music
B. Gold
C. Bread

2. What did the god give Midas?

A. A new house
B. A pet
C. A wish

3. What happened to the bread?

A. It turned to gold
B. It got cold
C. It flew away

4. Why was Midas sad?

A. He lost his crown
B. He had no rock
C. He could not eat or drink

5. How did Midas get rid of the gold touch?

A. He gave away his hat
B. He washed in a river
C. He went to sleep

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

A. Something you hope for
B. A kind of bread
C. A cold river

Words to know

gold: a shiny metal
wish: a thing you hope for
rose: a sweet flower
river: moving water

Answer key: Midas and the Gold

1. B. Gold
2. C. A wish
3. A. It turned to gold
4. C. He could not eat or drink
5. B. He washed in a river
6. A. Something you hope for