

# THE CLARK

## IN YOUR CLASSROOM

# FORMS OF FANTASY

- ✓ Best for Grades 4 and up
- 🔗 Links to Visual Art

## INTRODUCTION

The Clark's collection features many magical beasts, including dragons, centaurs, and sea monsters. How does an artist create something that exists only in the imagination? Find out by creating your own unique creature **sculpture**! A **sculpture** is an artwork that is not flat like a painting. You can walk all the way around it to see all sides of it. It is three-dimensional, or 3-D!

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- “Beastly Body Parts” templates (see pages 4-6!)
- Normal-sized printer paper (8 ½ x 11 inches), but heavier paper, like cardstock, is best
- Scissors
- Any type of drawing **medium**, the material used to make art, which could include crayons, colored pencils, markers, and anything else to make your creatures colorful

*To skip the printer, study the templates and try drawing your own creature parts instead.*

## COLLECTION CONNECTIONS



Lions with eagle heads, dragons with fish scales, and horses with horns or feathery wings! **Mythology**, a collection of stories called myths, is full of mixed-up creatures. Artists—including some in the Clark's collection—have been bringing these storied species to life for thousands of years.

The artist Giuseppe Cesari, known as the Knight (*Cavaliere*) of Arpino, shows two **mythical** creatures in this scene taken from Greek **mythology**: a startled sea monster and the winged horse, Pegasus.

WHO IS THE HERO AND WHO IS THE VILLAIN OF THIS BATTLE?  
HOW DOES THE ARTIST TELL US WHO TO ROOT FOR?

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## COLLECTION CONNECTIONS



This is an **engraving** inspired by the story of St. George and the Dragon. The artist, Albrecht Dürer, chooses to show the ending of a famous fight—with a victory for the knight and a less-than-happy ending for the defeated beast!

WHICH REAL ANIMALS MIGHT HAVE INSPIRED THIS DRAGON?  
HOW IS IT DIFFERENT THAN OTHER DRAGONS YOU'VE SEEN BEFORE?

### ENGRAVING

an artistic technique that involves making cuts into a metal plate, and then using ink and paper

### CARVING

a sculpture technique that involves using tools to scrape away parts of a material, like wood or stone

Albrecht Dürer, detail of *St. George on Foot*, 1504–05.  
Engraving on paper. Acquired by the Clark, 1968, 1968.64.

Some artists give imaginary beasts three-dimensional forms. **Sculpting**, casting, or **carving** mythical creatures can make them seem even more realistic.

If you crouched down next to this musical instrument, a pianoforte, you would be able to sit face-to-face with the **carved**, winged lions that guard its legs.



HOW WOULD YOUR EXPERIENCE BE DIFFERENT  
IF THE LIONS WERE PAINTED INSTEAD OF CARVED OUT OF WOOD?

The front of the pianoforte features a painting of **wandering minstrels**, a type of medieval musician, on an area of the instrument called the fallboard, which is just above the keys. What songs might these minstrels sing about the mythical winged lions?



Designed by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, *Model D Pianoforte and Stools*, 1884–87. Fallboard painted by Sir Edward John Poynter. Oak, cherry, ebony, boxwood, satinwood, cedar, holly, ivy, coral, mother-of-pearl, abalone, copper, brass, silver, parchment, and modern upholstery. Acquired by the Clark, 1997, 1997.8.

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## HOW TO MAKE YOUR CREATURE SCULPTURE

- 1** Load your printer with paper. Heavier paper, like cardstock, is best. Print out all three pages of the “Beastly Body Parts” template: Bodies, Legs and Feet, and Ears, Wings, Horns, Tails, and More. (To make a **menagerie**, which is a collection of animals, like in a zoo, print out a few extra copies of each page.) No cardstock? No problem. Try gluing your finished body parts onto thin recycled cardboard.
- 2** Let your imagination run wild as you decorate the creature pieces using the **medium** of your choice. Design your own scales, fur, feathers, and patterns for each beast.
- 3** Cut out each part by following the outlines. If you see a straight black line, cut it to create a slit. If you see a dashed line, fold that part in half along the line.
- 4** Bring your creatures to life by picking your favorite pieces and putting them together. Once you have a band of beasts assembled, make things interesting by swapping a horn here or some hooves there. These **mythical** creatures are made for mixing and matching!

## OTHER WAYS TO CREATE

Feel free to draw your own unique animal add-ons, like a dragon’s tail, some tentacles, butterfly wings, bear claws, or any part of your favorite creature!

Consider giving each beast you create its very own myth. Where does it live? Is it part of a herd, or a solitary animal? What stories would people tell after they saw this creature for the first time?