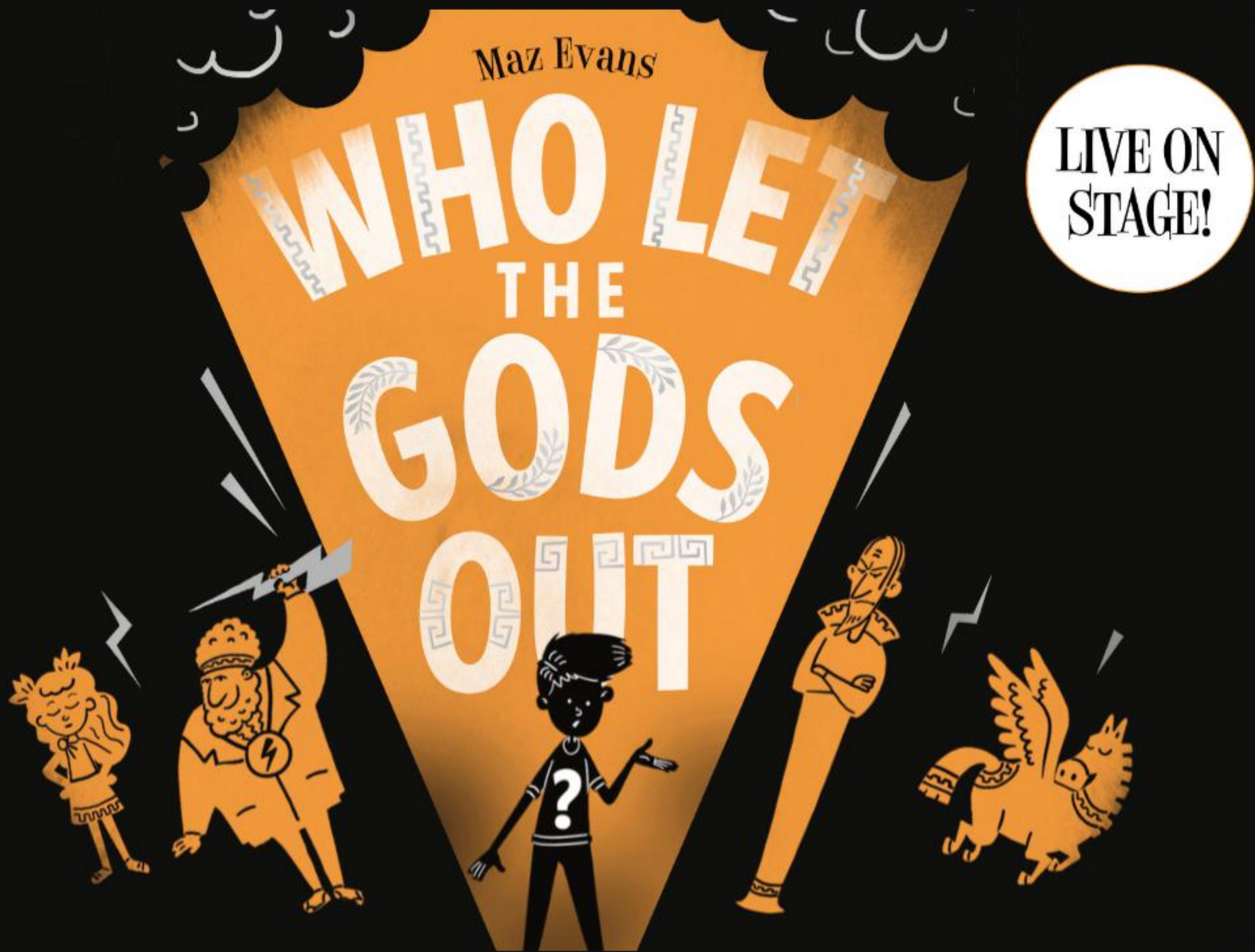


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**KS2 Drama Lesson**

# Lesson Objectives

- To learn the story of Theseus and the Minotaur.
- To explore key moments, characters and locations within the story.
- To create a short roleplay based on Theseus and the Minotaur and set in the modern day.





# Theseus and the Minotaur

# Theseus and the Minotaur

The characters in **Who Let the Gods Out** have their origins in Greek Myths.

Over the next few slides, YOU will be telling the famous myth: 'Theseus and the Minotaur'.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

To tell your story, get into a group of 4 or 5.

Read each slide carefully.

Then, in your group, use your bodies to make a frozen image (like a photo!) of the events described.

Ready? Let's get started...



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Two kingdoms - Crete, led by King Minos, and Athens, led by King Aegeus - waged war against one other.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Crete won the war, but King Minos  
was still angry.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

King Minos, with the help of Daedalus the inventor, built a massive labyrinth. Inside it he hid a half-bull half-human monster called the Minotaur.



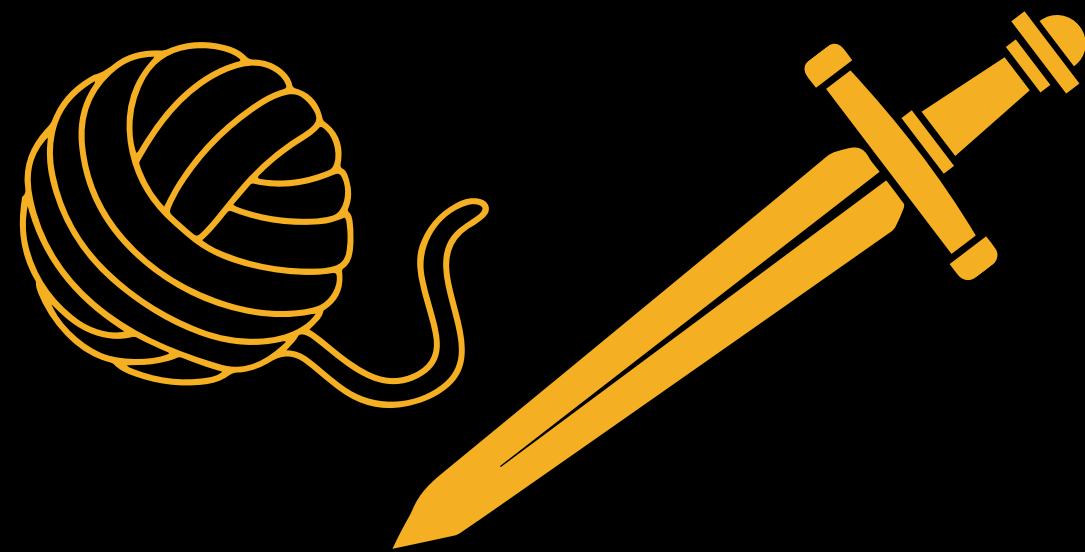
# Theseus and the Minotaur

King Minos demanded that, every 9 years, 7 Athenian boys and 7 Athenian girls were taken to Crete and sacrificed to the Minotaur in the Labyrinth.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

One year, King Aegeus' son, Theseus, volunteered to go as a tribute. He hid a sword and a ball of string in his tunic.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Theseus tied one end of the string to a tree outside the labyrinth. As he made his way through the maze, he unravelled the string.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Theseus came across the Minotaur. He drew his sword and slayed the monster.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Following the string, Theseus led the Athenians back out of the labyrinth.



# Theseus and the Minotaur

Now that you've created your frozen images, let's try putting them all together to complete the story!

Perform your frozen images, one after the other. Your teacher will read out the lines on the slides to help you.





**Follow Theseus**

# Follow Theseus

Most people who entered the labyrinth couldn't find their way back out. Inside, it was dark and dank, with paths that twisted and turned all over the place.

We're going to have a go at imagining what it was like for the Athenians as they tried to find their way through the labyrinth.

You will need a long piece of string for this activity.



# Follow Theseus

Start by standing in a line, facing the person in front of you. If your class is large, you may want to make two lines.

Pass a length of string down the line, so everyone is holding onto it with their right hand.

The person at the front is Theseus. It's your job to lead the rest of your class through the labyrinth. Walk around the room, imagining the tunnels. You can turn corners, crouch down, tiptoe, step over or duck under obstacles.

As you go, describe what you can see, feel or hear to the rest of your class so they can imagine it, too! There are some sentence starters to help you on the next page.

Take it in turns at the front, so everyone can try being Theseus.

# Follow Theseus

Up ahead I can see...

Around the corner, there is...

We have to step over...

We have to duck under...

I can smell...

If you reach out, you can touch...

Be careful of...

Watch out for...

I can hear...

In the distance...

Above our heads...

Under our feet...

# Follow Theseus

Now, freeze in your line.

With your body and face, show how you are feeling as you journey through the labyrinth.

Your teacher will walk around the room and tap a few people on the shoulder.

If you are tapped on the shoulder, say something your Athenian character is thinking out loud. For example, 'I'm scared of the Minotaur!'





# The Mighty Minotaur

# The Mighty Minotaur

The Minotaur is a huge, terrifying creature with the features of both a bull and a man.

In groups of 4 or 5, you are going to become the Minotaur.

Using your bodies, your whole group is going to become one Minotaur. One of you might be the horns, while another might be one leg!

You only have 2 minutes! Go!



# The Mighty Minotaur

Now that you have created your Minotaurs, it's time to show them off.

One group at a time, show your Minotaur to the rest of the class. Why not try adding a sound?

When you are not presenting, imagine bumping into the Minotaur in front of you on the school playground. How would you feel? Try to show that feeling on your face.





# A Modern Minotaur

# A Modern Minotaur

In **Who Let the Gods Out**, characters from Greek Myths exist in the modern world.

You're going to have a go at creating a short play, imagining what might happen if a Minotaur appeared in your school!



# A Modern Minotaur

**It was a normal day at school when, out of nowhere, a Minotaur appeared, trapping the Year 1s in their classroom!**

**In groups of 4 or 5, create a 2-minute roleplay showing how you would rescue the Year 1s!**





# Performance Time!

Perform your roleplay to the rest of your class.  
How many different rescue plans did your class come up with?

# Extension: Dear Diary

We hope you all managed to save the Year 1s!

Why don't you record your experience by writing a diary entry, describing your daring rescue. There are some sentence starters on the next slide to help you out.



# Extension - Dear Diary

When I woke up this morning...

Something scary happened today...

I couldn't believe my eyes when...

I saw...

I could hear...

I could smell...

I could see...

All of a sudden...

The best part was...

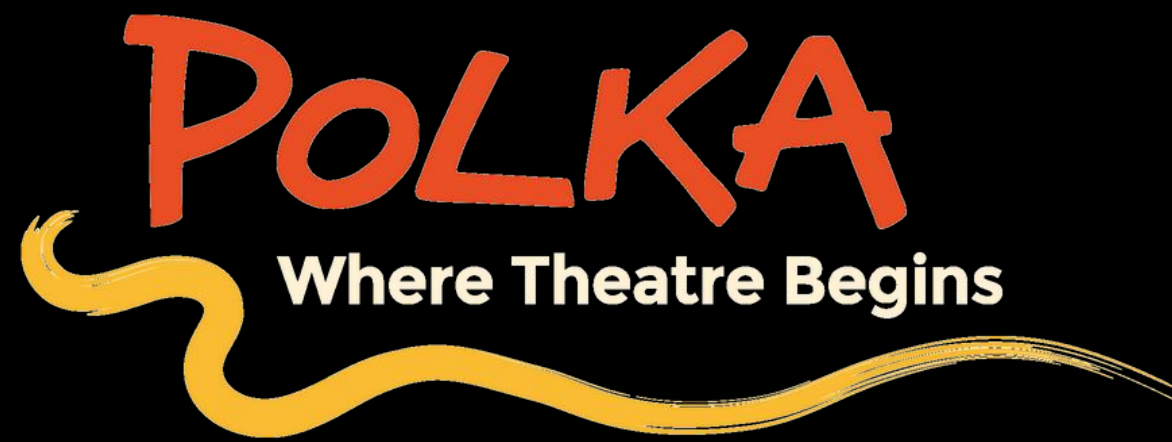
The worst part was...

Fortunately...

Unfortunately...

I never expected...

I felt so...



We hope these activities have helped to bring a little bit of Polka Magic back to your classroom!

For more information on Polka Schools programmes, including workshops, teaching resources and funded opportunities, head to:

[polkatheatre.com/schools](https://polkatheatre.com/schools)

Or contact Lizzie, Polka's Schools Manager:

[lizzie@polkatheatre.com](mailto:lizzie@polkatheatre.com)