

How was this possible? I was cursed. No one was safe. I had to hide away from my family - from everyone. I was a threat to anyone who came too close. A life of solitude and sadness stretched out in front of me, unless...

If only I could discover how this happened, maybe I could find a way to return to normal. One moment, everything was typical, nothing out of the ordinary. Suddenly, everything I touched turned to stone: the Midas touch!

My mind whirred. Who was near me? What did I touch? I had to find the answer.

1. Which words, or phrases show that the narrator is confused?
2. Why might the narrator want to hide away from everyone?
3. What would you do if everything you touched turned to stone?
4. What do you think could have happened to give the narrator this '**power**'?
5. What is '**the Midas touch**'? Is this a blessing, or a curse?

Be a detective.



King Midas is an Ancient Greek myth. Research other myths and legends where people have magical powers. Medusa and the Gorgons could turn living creatures to stone – find out about their story. If you had a magical power what would you want it to be? How would you use it? Find out about how stalagmites and stalactites are formed. Who was Mother Shipton? What magical powers did she possess? Were there other people like her?



A Starter for 10