

THE ADVENTURES OF **PERSEUS**

by
ROBERT WINDSOR

Illustrated by
JEFFREY THOMPSON



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT



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 **L**ong ago, there was a king who lived on the Greek island of Argos. The king was very rich and powerful, but he was worried about the future. One day, he went to visit a fortune teller. The fortune teller gave him some **unfortunate** news that upset the king.

“One day,” the fortune teller said, “your grandson will hurt you.”

 Years later, the king’s beautiful daughter had a son named Perseus (PUR–see-us). Perseus was tiny, but he scared his grandfather, the king. “Perseus will hurt me one day,” the king thought. So the king ordered Perseus and his mother to be put in a wooden boat. Then he set them out on the sea.

 Powerful waves tossed the mother and her son. Soon, water began to leak into the boat, and it began to sink. Suddenly, there was a shout. A fisherman had spotted the drifting boat, and he soon rescued little Perseus and his mother. He took them home to live with him in his home.


 Life with the fisherman was pleasant. As the years passed, Perseus grew into a strong young man. His mother grew even more beautiful.




One day, an evil king rode past the fisherman's home on his powerful horse. When he saw Perseus's mother, he **beamed** with joy. He had never seen a woman so beautiful. "I will make you my wife," he **declared**.

Perseus's mother refused to become the king's wife. Again and again, the king tried to **coerce** her into marrying him, but each time, Perseus guarded his mother. The king knew he could not succeed as long as Perseus was there to protect his mother, so he **devised** a plan to get rid of Perseus.




 The king held a great banquet. At the banquet, he announced that each young man would have to give him a horse.


Perseus did not have a horse to give. “Name any other gift you want, and I will bring it to you,” Perseus **boasted**. That was the moment the king had been waiting for.

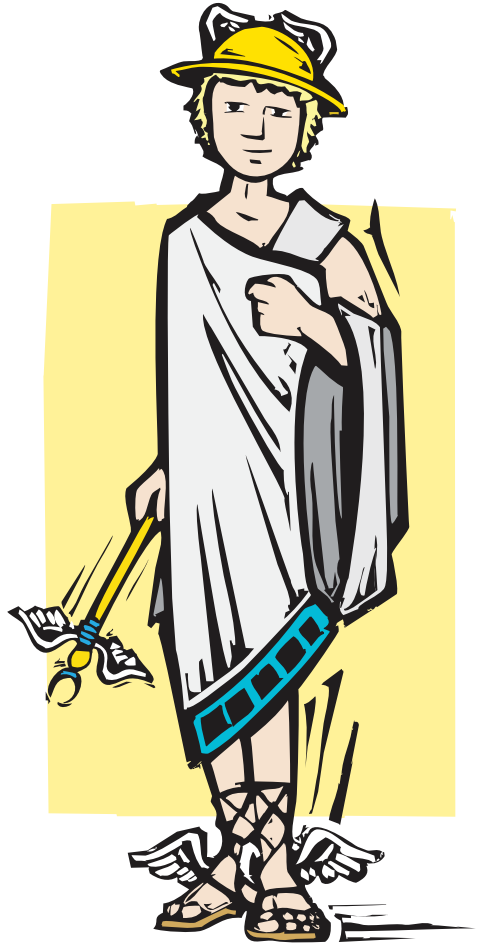
 The king **glared** at Perseus. “Bring me the head of Medusa (muh-DOO-suh),” the king said with a sneer.

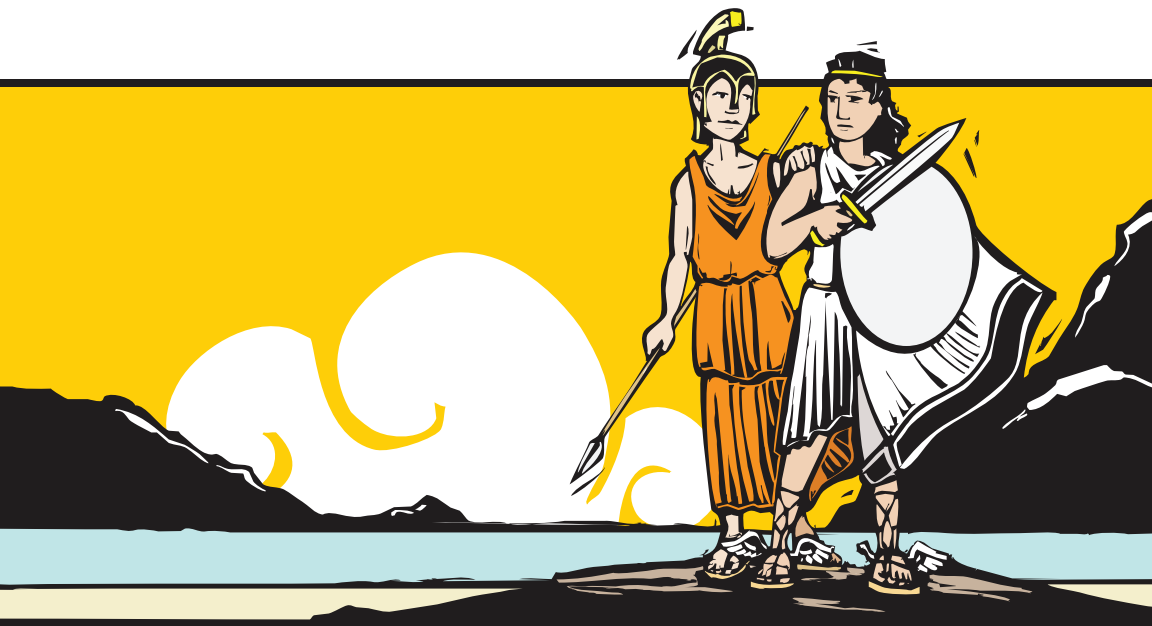
Medusa was a hideous monster. She had snakes for hair, and was so scary that she turned anyone who looked at her into stone.



 Perseus now faced a deadly challenge. He had to kill Medusa. But to kill Medusa, he would have to look at her and be turned to stone. Perseus had always been brave and **resourceful**, but he could think of no way to save himself. If Perseus died, there would be no one to protect his mother.

 On the way to Medusa's cave, Perseus spied Hermes (HUR-meez). Hermes was the speedy messenger of the gods. Perseus met him by the side of the road. Hermes carried a wand with wings of gold at the tip. He wore a winged hat. Even his sandals had wings. The wings gave Hermes the ability to fly at great speeds.





🔊 “If you are going to fight Medusa, you must **acquire** better weapons,” Hermes said. “Medusa has hard scales that will shatter your sword. I have brought you a special sword that can cut through her tough scales.”

Hermes gave Perseus the sword, which was hard as diamonds. He also let Perseus borrow his winged shoes, which made it possible for Perseus to fly.

🔊 After Hermes left, another god appeared. Her name was Athena (a-THÉE-na). She was the goddess of war. She, too, wanted to help Perseus. She gave the young hero a silver shield to protect him from Medusa.



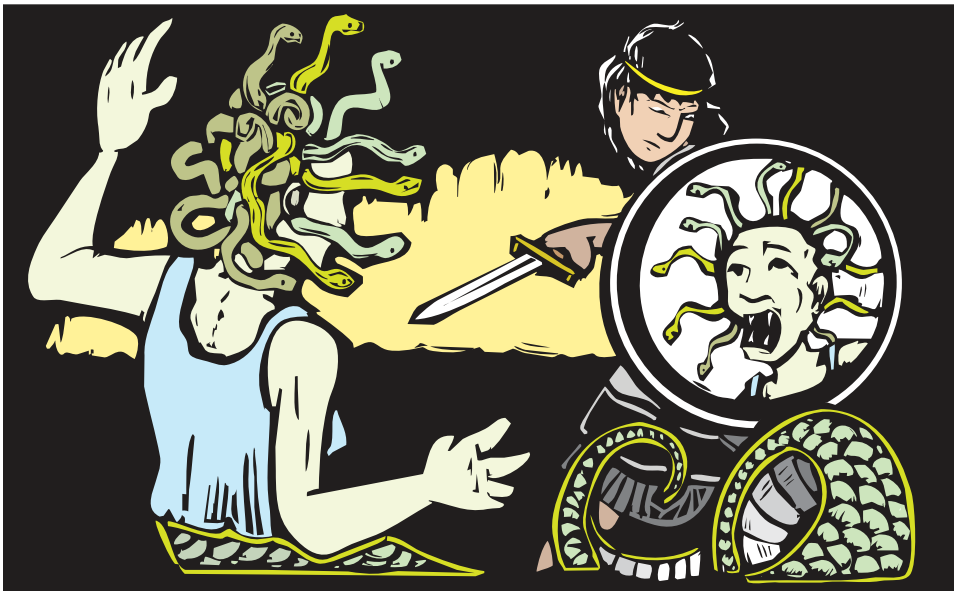
🔊 All around Medusa's cave lay humans and fierce beasts that had been turned to stone by Medusa's hideous looks. From outside the cave, Perseus could hear the evil laughter of Medusa. He heard the snakes she wore on her head hissing like water on hot coals.


🔊 Perseus crept carefully into the cave. He knew that one look from Medusa would turn him to stone, but he had an idea that might save his life.

 Perseus had almost reached Medusa when she heard the sound of his footsteps.


“Who dares to enter my cave?” she hissed.

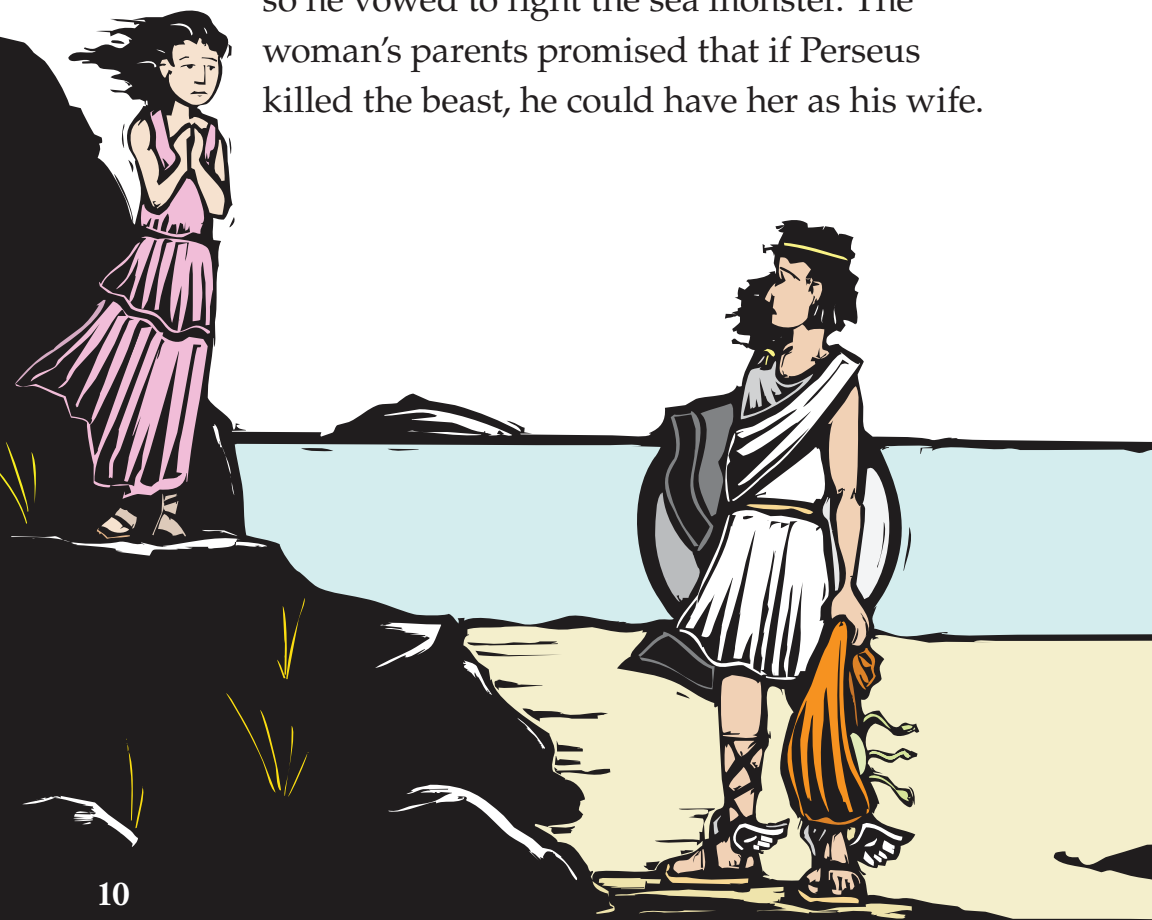
When Medusa turned her hideous head toward him, Perseus raised his shield. In the shield’s reflection, he could see Medusa. But since he was not looking at her, he was not turned to stone. With a great stroke of his sword, he cut off Medusa’s head. He put the head inside a bag so he could not look at it. Then, using his winged sandals, he flew back toward home.




 As Perseus soared through the skies, he passed over a large, rocky island. There he saw a beautiful maiden on the beach. Her name was Andromeda (an-DRAHM-uh-duh). Perseus flew down to greet the beautiful young woman.


“A terrible monster is coming to attack our island,” Andromeda said. “If you do not help, the monster will surely devour me.”

 Perseus knew he must save Andromeda, so he vowed to fight the sea monster. The woman’s parents promised that if Perseus killed the beast, he could have her as his wife.



 As Perseus waited for the beast to approach, he took out his weapons. He held his sword in his hand.

With a great roar, the sea beast rose from the sea and struck at Perseus. Perseus's winged shoes carried him swiftly through the sky. He stabbed the monster again and again. At last, he chopped off its head.

 With Andromeda safe, the wedding feast began. Then suddenly, an evil warrior arrived with his army. The warrior vowed to kill Perseus and take Andromeda for his own bride. Perseus and his men fought bravely, but they were outnumbered. Then Perseus had an idea. He told his men to shield their eyes. Then he raised up the head of Medusa. The evil warrior and his army turned to stone.





With Andromeda at his side, Perseus returned home to find his mother. He discovered that she had run away to escape the evil king. Perseus knew he must once again defend his mother, so he hurried to the king's castle.

"I have returned from my challenge," Perseus declared as he walked into the king's hall. "I have brought you the head of Medusa."

The evil king and his men laughed at Perseus. "You are a liar," they shouted, "and a fool as well!" They knew that no man could look at Medusa and live.

🔊 “I am not a liar,” said Perseus. “And now, you will pay for the way you treated my family.”

Closing his eyes, the hero reached into the bag and pulled out the head of Medusa. The king and his men tried to look away, but it was too late. In an instant, they turned to stone!

🔊 Now that the evil king was dead, Perseus’s mother came out of hiding. She returned to Argos with Perseus and Andromeda. There, the king still lived.



Perseus had forgiven his grandfather for sending him and his mother away long ago. Now at last, the king **ceased** worrying that his grandson Perseus would hurt him.

Then one day, Perseus took part in a competition to throw the discus. Perseus threw the discus farther than anyone, but when the discus landed, it accidentally hit the king. The old man died.

Perseus had hurt his grandfather after all, but not on purpose. The Greek gods agreed not to punish Perseus. Perseus and Andromeda went on to live a long and happy life.



Responding



TARGET SKILL Story Structure You just read a myth. Who is the myth about? Where does it take place? What is the character's problem and how is it solved? Copy and complete the chart below to tell about the characters, setting, and plot.

Characters <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perseus• the evil king	Setting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ?• ?
Plot <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ?• ?	



Write About It

Text to Text The story you just read is a myth about the adventures of a hero named Perseus. Think about another myth you have read. What does the hero do in that myth? Write a paragraph to tell about the adventures of that hero. Describe the hero's adventures with words that will help a reader to see what the hero does.



TARGET VOCABULARY

acquire

beamed

boasted

ceased

coerce

declared

devised

glared

resourceful

unfortunate



TARGET SKILL

Story Structure Examine details about characters, setting, and plot.



TARGET STRATEGY

Question Ask questions before you read, as you read, and after you read.



GENRE A **myth** is a story that tells what a group of people believes about the world.

Level: T

DRA: 44

Genre:

Myth

Strategy:

Question

Skill:

Story Structure

Word Count: 1,261

4.4.18

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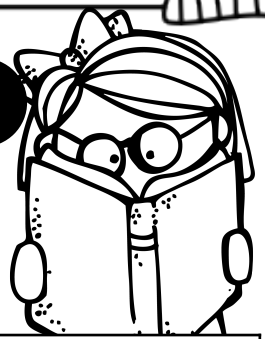
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READING MENU 21



After reading, choose 1 question and circle it. Questions 1-6 are best for fiction stories and questions 7-9 are best for nonfiction books. Record your answer to the question in complete sentences.

1. Retell the three events that you think are the most important events in the story.	2. If you have not finished the story, what do you predict will happen next?	3. Would you be friends with the main character? Why or why not?
4. Compare and contrast this story to another story that you have read.	5. Who are the secondary characters? Are they important to the story? Why or why not?	6. Why is the setting important to the story? Explain how the story would have changed if the setting was different.
7. What is the topic of your book? Why did you choose to read about this topic?	8. Share examples of the author's opinions. How do you know they are opinions and not facts?	9. Do some research on the author. Write a paragraph with important facts about the author.

SELF CHECK

- ☐ I answered the entire question that I chose.
- ☐ I wrote in complete sentences.
- ☐ I used evidence and examples from the text to support my answer.
- ☐ I edited my work to make sure that it makes sense.

Name: _____

Book Title: _____ Book Author: _____

[illegible]

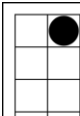
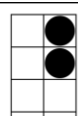
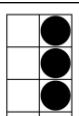
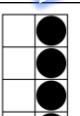
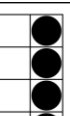





	0	1	2
Completion	Question is not answered.	Question is partially answered.	Answer is complete.
Sentences	Answer is not in complete sentences.	Answer is in complete sentences.	Answer is in complete sentences and part of the question is used in the answer.
Thoughtfulness	Answer shows little effort or thought.	Answer shows limited thought.	Answer is thoughtful.
Text Evidence	Answer does not include text evidence.	Answer has limited use of text evidence.	Answer is supported with significant text evidence.
Editing	Answer has many errors.	Answer has some errors.	Answer has very few errors.

Math Fact Flashcards

$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$		
$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$
		$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ + 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$

Addition facts 1-10

addition doubles, near
doubles, and ten
frames

1 + 1	2 + 2	3 + 3	4 + 4	5 + 5					
6 + 6	7 + 7	8 + 8	9 + 9	10 + 10					

Subtraction facts 0-10 and doubles

$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$			
$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ - 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ - 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ - 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ - 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ - 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ - 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ - 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ - 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ - 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ - 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ - 11 \\ \hline \end{array}$			



To prep these flashcards, I make about 4 sets of each, all different colors. They go in separate baggies. I use a door shoe rack to store them in.

I label each pocket with a dot sticker.

As the kids pass their quizzes, they move their clips and they can grab those baggies to practice during their "free" time throughout the day.

If a student is struggling with a certain fact set, I'll let them take it home to practice with their parents and bring back.

Included are the facts for addition 1-10, doubles, near doubles, ten frames, and subtraction 0-10

0

x 1

0

x 2

0

x 3

0

x 4

0

x 5

0

x 6

0

x 7

0

x 8

0

x 9

0

x 10

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2

x 1

2

x 2

2

x 3

2

x 4

2

x 5

2

x 6

2

x 7

2

x 8

2

x 9

2

x 10

3

x 1

3

x 2

3

x 3

3

x 4

3

x 5

3

x 6

3

x 7

3

x 8

3

x 9

3

x 10

4

x 1

4

x 2

4

x 3

4

x 4

4

x 5

4

x 6

4

x 7

4

x 8

4

x 9

4

x 10

5

x 1

5

x 2

5

x 3

5

x 4

5

x 5

5

x 6

5

x 7

5

x 8

5

x 9

5

x 10

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$

8

x 1

8

x 2

8

x 3

8

x 4

8

x 5

8

x 6

8

x 7

8

x 8

8

x 9

8

x 10

q

x 1

q

x 2

q

x 3

q

x 4

q

x 5

q

x 6

q

x 7

q

x 8

q

x q

q

x 10

$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

12

x 1

12

x 2

12

x 3

12

x 4

12

x 5

12

x 6

12

x 7

12

x 8

12

x 9

12

x 10

Multiplication Table

x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

