Talk for Writing Home-school booklet

The Magical Teaching Box

by Emma Caulfield

Hello! I'm a magical teaching box and I'm going to tell you a story.
Dear Brookburners!

This booklet is designed for a child in Year 2 to work both independently and with a bit of support. All activities can be done alone, however there are some that will be more enjoyable for your child if you or someone else at home can join in. We have put where adult input might be needed. If you don’t have time for that please leave it out, remember to do whatever you can 😊

The activities in this booklet are based on a myth from Ancient Greece called Pandora’s Box. As well as reading the story, there are opportunities to draw, create, play with words and read and write poetry. We will send more work out based on this next week aswell.

The activities in this booklet for this week are:

★ Read Pandora’s Box
  ★ Do some activities during the story* - Day 1
  ★ Sketch and label Zeus – Day 2
  ★ Answer questions about the story – Day 3

★ Explore alphabetical order with Apollo – Day 4

★ Match words to their meanings and write sentences- Day 5

The uninterrupted Pandora’s Box myth can be found at the end of this booklet. You can listen to a recording of the Pandora’s Box myth here: https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/pandora

Miss Garvey has read it to you in the video link below as well. https://youtu.be/ZYG953DYeRQ

Miss B and Miss G xx
Hello! Let’s start by reading a story together.

The Myth of Pandora’s Box

Are you nosy? Do you like secrets? Have you ever done something that you’ve been warned not to, just to find out a secret? All through time there have been stories about people being told not to open doors, cupboards, gates and all sorts of other things, and in many of the stories the people just didn’t listen. One person who did not listen is Pandora. Her story is from Ancient Greece, where her nosiness changed the world forever!
Not hundreds but thousands of years ago, in ancient Greece, there lived two brothers called Epimetheus and Prometheus. Although they lived in a world where the gods were in charge, they liked nothing more than to annoy the gods. One day, Zeus, a particularly powerful god, decided to teach them a lesson.

Zeus ordered the gods to create a beautiful woman. Her name was Pandora and she was to marry Epimetheus. As a wedding present, Zeus gave Pandora a beautiful box but there was one special condition, she was never to open it!

All day Pandora’s husband Epimetheus was out working. All day all she could think about was what was in the box. Pandora could not understand why Zeus would give her a box that she could not open. It made no sense to her. Pandora was bored and lonely and her curiosity became unbearable.

Day 1

★ Let’s stop here and do an activity ...
★ What do you think the box looked like? Draw it here:
One day, when she was sure that Epimetheus was out annoying the gods, Pandora searched for the key to open the box. “I know it’s here somewhere,” she muttered to herself as she opened cupboards and drawers. There it was, high on a shelf in their bedroom! With shaking hands, Pandora slid the key into the lock and turned it.

Let’s stop reading for a moment and think about what could be in the box. Draw or write your ideas below.

The story continues here ...

She took a deep breath, closed her eyes and slowly, with trembling hands, opened the lid of the box, imagining what could be inside: rubies as red as the blazing sunset, jewel encrusted gowns, piles of gold coins. But there were no coins or jewellery, no gowns or gems, for all at once every evil and spite, every sadness and misery flew out. Like a swarm of insects, they fled the house and infested the earth with heartache and sorrow.

Pandora slammed the lid shut and turned the key. “What have I done?” she sobbed, holding her head in her hands. Sometime later, Pandora noticed a fluttering sound coming from the box, as if
something was trapped inside. Terrified, she pressed her ear to the box. “Let me out,” a small voice pleaded gently, “I mean you no harm.”

Once again, with shaking hands, Pandora unlocked the box and opened the lid. A beautiful butterfly of hope fluttered out of the box, for although Pandora had released pain and suffering into the world, she had also allowed hope to follow them.

Day 1

Now draw the evil that came out of the box. Your magical teaching box has already drawn one idea for you:

Day 1

Finally, share the story with someone at home. Talk and then write:
Did you like this story? Why?

Day 2

Read this first, then sketch Zeus and label the features listed – a stick drawing will be fine!

Zeus was a sky god who controlled thunder and lightning. He was a strong, striking man with a muscular body and long, curly hair. He had a short beard and carried his trusty thunderbolt at all times. He was also king of the gods and would sit on his golden throne at the top of Mount Olympus.
Can you answer these questions about the story in complete sentences? (Don’t forget to read the story again to help you.)

• How did Pandora change the world forever?

• When is the story set?

• Who was in charge of the Ancient Greeks?

• What kind of character was Pandora?

• Who was Prometheus?

• What is the evil that comes out of the box compared to?

• Why do you think hope is a butterfly in the story?

• Do you like the ending of the story? Explain your answer.
Apollo was the Greek god of knowledge. He has found these words in the story and wants to know if you can sort them out.

First put these words into alphabetical order:

- powerful
- condition
- curiosity
- unbearable
- trembling
- rubies
- gown
- spite
- fled
- sobbed
- pleaded
- released
- hope
- infested

Day 4 – We have attached the alphabet for you if you need this for help.

condition

curiosity
Day 4

Now match the word to its meaning in the story – the first one has been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>powerful</td>
<td>shaking slightly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>condition</td>
<td>dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>curiosity</td>
<td>something that must happen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unbearable</td>
<td>large numbers causing damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trembling</td>
<td>cruelty, upsetting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rubies</td>
<td>strong and confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gown</td>
<td>cried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spite</td>
<td>asked in a begging way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fled</td>
<td>unpleasant, painful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infested</td>
<td>set free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sobbed</td>
<td>escaped from, ran away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pleaded</td>
<td>a feeling that things will go well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>released</td>
<td>wanting to know about something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hope</td>
<td>red precious stones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Well done! Now that you have matched the words to their meanings. Take each word and put it into a new sentence. (Don’t forget to start with a capital letter and finish with a full stop.

Example:
Pandora’s curiosity became unbearable.

Miss Garvey’s curiosity got her into trouble.

Pandora’s curiosity became unbearable.

Miss Garvey’s thoughts of what was in the beautiful box became unbearable.

Slowly, with trembling hands, she opened the box.

Like a swarm of insects they fled the house.

“What have I done?” she sobbed.

“Let me out,” a small voice pleaded.