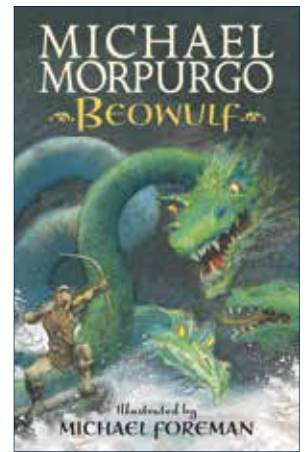


michael morpurgo



Beowulf



Beowulf – A Home of Monsters

'Sensing danger all about them now Beowulf and his warriors went ahead to scout the land. They came then to a cheerless cluster of ash trees by a rushing stream that tumbled beneath a rocky crag, and beyond that they found a dark, deep lake, stained with blood. And all knew at once whose blood it was. Worse evidence was to come, for they saw left there on the edge of the cliff the most grievous sight, Ashmere's head. Stirred to new fury they let out an eager battle cry, sounded the war-horn loud and long so that the whole world could hear their anger.

Roused and enraged by the challenge of the battle-horn a giant sea-serpent slithered to the surface. They saw now that the lake was teeming with them, and with countless strangely writhing water-snakes too. This place was truly a home of monsters.'

(Beowulf, Chapter 2, Pages 76-77)

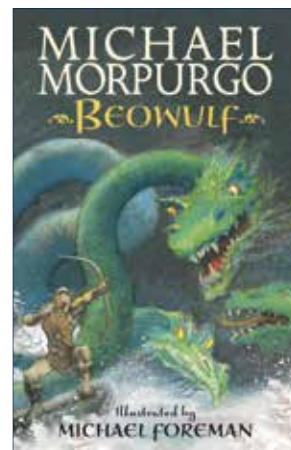
Invent your own monster from the world of monsters. Make it as gruesome as you can!

Draw a picture of it and then write a paragraph describing your monster's strengths and weaknesses.

michael morpurgo



Beowulf



Beowulf – Wiglaf

'I have defended my kingdom these fifty years as best I could, served my people as wisely as I could. For that I thank my God, the King of all Glory. And to Him also I give thanks for these treasures I see before my dying eyes, for the opportunity to acquire them for my people on my death-day, to sustain them in all their needs in the future when I am gone.'

(Beowulf, Chapter 3, Page 137)

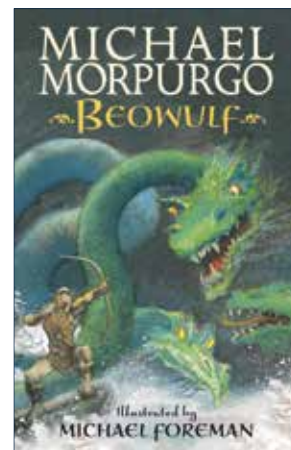
Imagine that Beowulf has appointed Wiglaf as the new King.

Write an adventure story about Wiglaf and the monsters and demons who try to invade his kingdom.

michael morpurgo



Beowulf



Beowulf – The Safety of the Kingdom

'So Beowulf went to his bed, and his men too, but in truth they slept only fitfully, for there was not one of them, not Beowulf himself even, who could be certain how the night would end, whether any of them would ever see the light of dawn.'

(Beowulf, Chapter 1, Page 43)



Imagine that you are Beowulf.

You have been charged with the safety of the kingdom. You are lying in your bed, waiting for the monster of the night to appear.

Write a poem describing your thoughts and feelings, the darkness and the noises as you lie in your bed – waiting!
