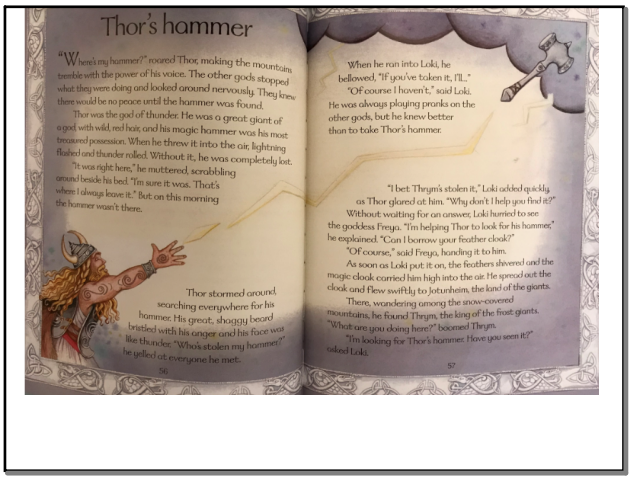
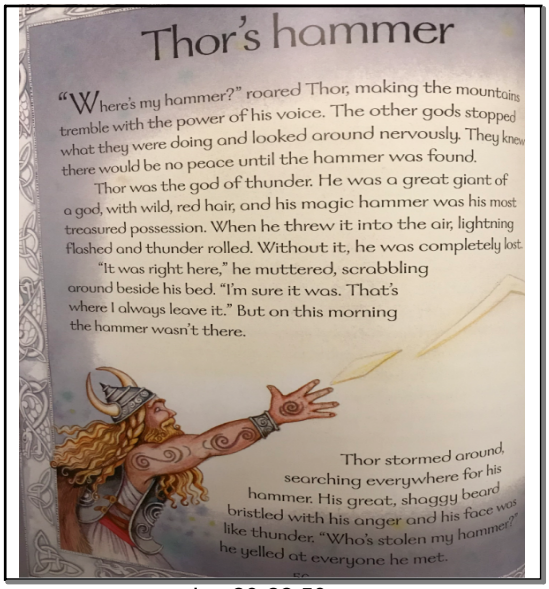
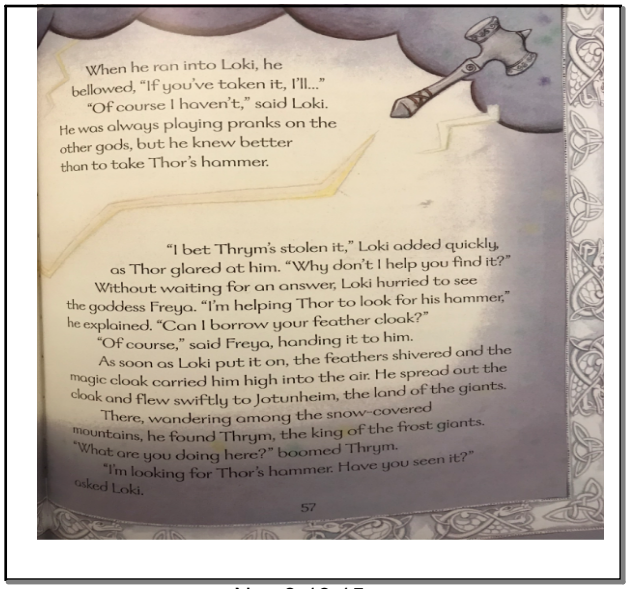


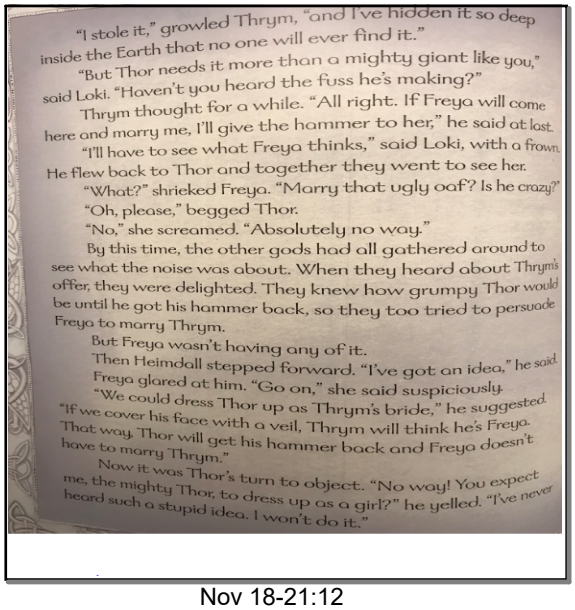
Jun 20-22:50



Jun 20-22:50



Nov 8-19:15



"I stole it," growled Thrym, "and I've hidden it so deep inside the Earth that no one will ever find it."

"But Thor needs it more than a mighty giant like you," said Loki. "Haven't you heard the fuss he's making?"

Thrym thought for a while. "All right. If Freya will come here and marry me, I'll give the hammer to her," he said at last.

"I'll have to see what Freya thinks," said Loki, with a frown. He flew back to Thor and together they went to see her.

"What?" shrieked Freya. "Marry that ugly oaf? Is he crazy?"

"Oh, please," begged Thor.

"No," she screamed. "Absolutely no way."

By this time, the other gods had all gathered around to see what the noise was about. When they heard about Thrym's offer, they were delighted. They knew how grumpy Thor would be until he got his hammer back, so they too tried to persuade Freya to marry Thrym.

But Freya wasn't having any of it.

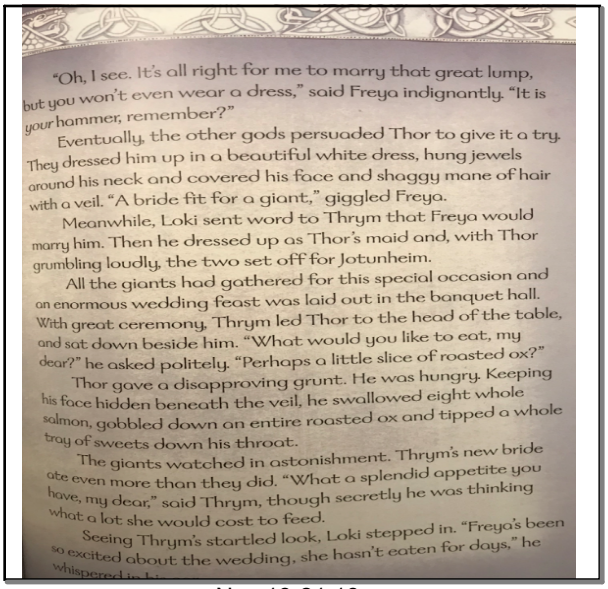
Then Heimdall stepped forward. "I've got an idea," he said.

Freya glared at him. "Go on," she said suspiciously.

"We could dress Thor up as Thrym's bride," he suggested. "If we cover his face with a veil, Thrym will think he's Freya. That way, Thor will get his hammer back and Freya doesn't have to marry Thrym."

Now it was Thor's turn to object. "No way! You expect me, the mighty Thor, to dress up as a girl?" he yelled. "I've never heard such a stupid idea. I won't do it."

Nov 18-21:12



"Oh, I see. It's all right for me to marry that great lump, but you won't even wear a dress," said Freya indignantly. "It is *your* hammer, remember?"

Eventually, the other gods persuaded Thor to give it a try. They dressed him up in a beautiful white dress, hung jewels around his neck and covered his face and shaggy mane of hair with a veil. "A bride fit for a giant," giggled Freya.

Meanwhile, Loki sent word to Thrym that Freya would marry him. Then he dressed up as Thor's maid and, with Thor grumbling loudly, the two set off for Jotunheim.

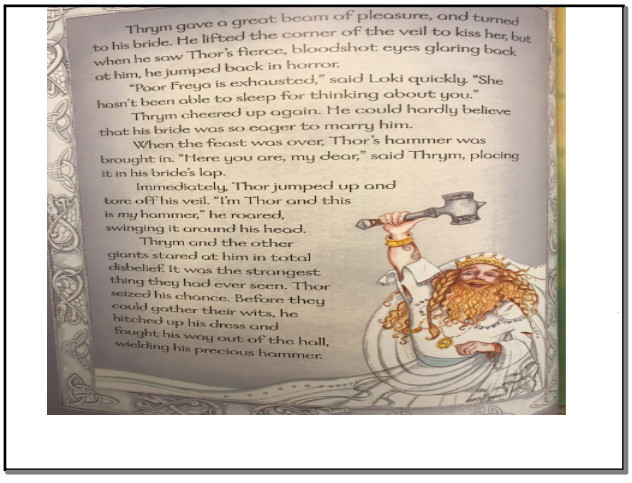
All the giants had gathered for this special occasion and an enormous wedding feast was laid out in the banquet hall. With great ceremony, Thrym led Thor to the head of the table, and sat down beside him. "What would you like to eat, my dear?" he asked politely. "Perhaps a little slice of roasted ox?"

Thor gave a disapproving grunt. He was hungry. Keeping his face hidden beneath the veil, he swallowed eight whole salmon, gobbled down an entire roasted ox and tipped a whole tray of sweets down his throat.

The giants watched in astonishment. Thrym's new bride ate even more than they did. "What a splendid appetite you have, my dear," said Thrym, though secretly he was thinking what a lot she would cost to feed.

Seeing Thrym's startled look, Loki stepped in. "Freya's been so excited about the wedding, she hasn't eaten for days," he whispered in

Nov 18-21:18



Thrym gave a great beam of pleasure, and turned to his bride. He lifted the corner of the veil to kiss her, but when he saw Thor's fierce, bloodshot eyes glaring back at him, he jumped back in horror.

"Poor Freya is exhausted," said Loki quickly. "She hasn't been able to sleep for thinking about you."

Thrym cheered up again. He could hardly believe that his bride was so eager to marry him.

When the feast was over, Thor's hammer was brought in. "Here you are, my dear," said Thrym, placing it in his bride's lap.

Immediately, Thor jumped up and tore off his veil. "I'm Thor and this is *my* hammer," he roared, swinging it around his head.

Thrym and the other giants stared at him in total disbelief. It was the strangest thing they had ever seen. Thor seized his chance. Before they could gather their wits, he hitched up his dress and fought his way out of the hall, wielding his precious hammer.

Nov 18-21:16

For hundreds of years, a previously unknown farmstead in southern Iceland has been home to a rare, coin-sized soapstone amulet believed to have been made in resemblance to Norse god Thor's magic hammer.

Along with four other undated items, the hammer was found on a Viking-era farmstead in south Iceland's Þjórsárdalur valley. According to a Facebook post, archaeologists with the Arctic Institute have named the ancient farmstead Bergsstaðir and believe it dates back to around 900 years. The team was first clued into the find by local resident Bergur Þór Björnsson. He says he decided to take a hint from his great-grandfather, who found several of the last-known Viking era farms in 1920, and start poking around the site.

The hammer and other items, which include a whetstone, an iron pick, and a buckle, were found in loose soil. The archaeological team says they also found rock that appears to have been the foundation for a cabin, as well as ash, burned bones, and evidence of early iron-working, indicating metal forgery was active in the area. This is of particular interest considering Iceland does not have iron ore deposits.

Oct 3-07:11



"There is a lot of this up here on the slope. And it is very likely that there was ironwork to some extent and even construction, ironworks," archaeologist Garðar Guðmundsson told RUV. It's possible Vikings and early settlers produced iron from nearby bogs, but researchers need to further study the area to determine if that's the case.

Oct 3-07:11

The hammer is believed to have been worn as a protective amulet around the neck. It's only the second hammer found in Iceland and the first to have been carved from stone. Thor was one of the most prominent gods in Norse mythology and was central across religious sects of Germanic people before the spread of Christianity, from Norway to the United Kingdom. His mission was to protect people from evil and he used his hammer Mjöllnir to do so. Evidence of his influence has been found in prehistoric "thunderstones" found in other Scandinavian archaeological sites. These were believed to have been intentionally placed in graves as good-luck talismans to keep lightning away.

The hammer and other artefacts are on route to Reykjavík for further research.

Oct 3-07:11

Mjölnir (pronounced Miol-neer) is the name of Thor's hammer in Nordic mythology. The hammer gave Thor his extensive power and was said to be forged by a dwarf. Due to the weapon's short handle, Thor could only wield it with one hand and had to wear magical iron gloves in order to grip the shaft.

Oct 3-07:11

Friday 4th December

LO: To ask an archaeologist questions about the

SC: I know how to ask a range of questions.

I can use what I already know (from the text) t

question an archaeologist

Oct 3-07:55

One of you now pretends to be an archaeologist and your partner is a newspaper reporter.

Make up a set of interesting questio reporter to ask the archaelogist. Hot-seat.

Oct 3-08:14