

## Resource H

# The Myth of Icarus and Daedalus

About 1325 BC King Minos lived on the island of Crete.

A man called Daedalus, who was a great architect and inventor, lived in Minos' palace.

Daedalus invented lots of things. He built a labyrinth for King Minos to keep the Minotaur in. The Minotaur was a creature with the head of a bull and the body of a man.

To make sure Daedalus didn't tell anyone the secrets of the labyrinth, King Minos locked him and his son, Icarus, in a tall tower.

Daedalus began to think about how they could escape. He watched birds flying and he noticed how free they were. He decided that he would make wings to escape.

Daedalus and Icarus made the wings from bird feathers and wax. They tied the wings on to each other.

Daedalus warned Icarus to be careful because if he went too close to the sea he might fall in and if he flew too high, the heat of the sun would melt the wax on his wings and he would fall.

Icarus promised to be careful.

They started to fly, but Icarus forgot his father's words. He began to show off. He did tricks and flew higher and higher.

Suddenly, Icarus realised his wings were melting!

He tried to fly back down again, but it was too late. His wings fell apart. He fell into the ocean and drowned.