

Notes on illustration on facing page

Odysseus escapes under a ram from the cave of Polyphemus

Based on an Attic black figure stemless cup, c. 530-520 BC, Toledo Museum of Art, Spain

Odysseus has tied each of his fellow companions underneath the middle of three sheep, roped together, to enable them to get past the blinded Polyphemus who checks the sheep with his hands. As last to go, Odysseus holds tight to the bottom of a large ram – the leader of the herd. This image appears to show Odysseus tied to the ram, although the story suggests he had to hold on with his hands!

Suggested activities

For teaching ideas see notes for Episode 3.

