The Dragon-Kings: A Chinese Myth

The dragon-kings live in gorgeous palaces in the depths of the sea, where they feed on pearls and opals. There are five of these divine creatures; the chief is in the centre and the other four live in the north, the west, the south and the east.

Each is incredibly long and so bulky that they throw one mountain against another when they move. Each creature has five feet (one of them being in the middle of its belly) and each foot is armed with five sharp claws. They can reach into the heavens and stretch themselves into all quarters of the sea. They have a glowing armour of yellow scales, a beard under their long snout, a hairy tail and fluffy legs.

Quick Questions



1. Find and copy an adjective used to describe the dragon-kings' armour.



2. Which two things do dragon-kings feed on?



3. Do you think dragon-kings are loved or feared? Explain your choice.



4. Give one way in which the dragon-kings are similar to another creature you know.





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The Dragon-Kings: A Chinese Myth **Answers**

1. Find and copy an adjective used to describe the dragon-kings' armour.

Accept: glowing; yellow

2. Which two things do dragon-kings feed on?

Accept: pearls; opals

3. Do you think dragon-kings are loved or feared? Explain your choice.

Accept either answer providing that an explanation is given, e.g. 'I think they are feared because they are armed with sharp claws.'

4. Give one way in which the dragon-kings are similar to another creature you know.

Accept answers which compare any aspect of the dragon-kings to another real or mythical creature, e.g. 'The dragon-kings are like a werewolf because they have sharp claws and hairy legs.'

