

# Beowulf

## SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

*Beowulf* has its fill of heroism, danger, defeat, victory, revenge, enemies, and struggle. While you may not fight a dragon or a dungeon troll this summer, you may have a troll of a boss, experience an epic struggle on a baseball field, or accomplish some great feat of strength. As you read this Old English epic, think about how the experiences of Beowulf—his struggle for mastery, his demonstrations of courage, and his camaraderie—connect with your own summer experiences.

Which character are you most like?

What battles have you fought and won or lost?

What personal character or mettle was revealed?

**After reading the poem, put together a 2.5-to-3-minute presentation about your summer through the lens of *Beowulf*.** You could tell a personal story, show pictures from an epic voyage or trek, explain how you've mastered a new skill, or boast about how you accomplished some proud feat.

**Come ready to do a simple presentation on the third day of class: Friday, August 16.** As you assemble your presentation, think in these categories:

(1) something personal,

(2) something visual,

(3) something literary,

(4) something true.

Make sure you demonstrate how your personal experience connected with your reading of *Beowulf*. Looking forward to hearing about all of your epic adventures—and learning about the heroes and comrades who will be joining me in Medieval Lit!