

Number the Events

Captain Finnigan was a pirate; a very bad pirate. Relentlessly, he searched for treasure to pilfer. One day, through his telescope, he spied a splendid looking ship on the horizon. 'Could it be carrying treasure?' he wondered. There was only one way to find out. He ordered his crew to man the rigging and they set off in pursuit. With the wind in their sails, they made good speed and were soon bearing down upon their prey. Captain Finnigan ordered the men to hoist the Jolly Roger as a sign that they were about to attack; there would be no mercy here. The pirates drew alongside the ship and Captain Finnigan bellowed across, "Give up ye treasure and I might show ya some mercy!" This was a lie of course, as he was a very bad pirate after all. There was no reply. In fact, there was no one there. The ship looked abandoned. Captain Finnigan smiled smugly. Taking treasure from this boat would be a piece of cake.

- Number the following events from 1 to 6 to show the order that they happened in the text.

There would be no mercy here.

The ship looked abandoned.

'Could it be carrying treasure?' he wondered.

This was a lie of course, as he was a very bad pirate after all.

Relentlessly, he searched for treasure to pilfer.

With the wind in their sails, they made good speed.

He used a rope to swing skilfully across to the empty vessel (an action he had performed many times before). His sword was grasped within his hand, as always, in readiness to fight. However, no one was there. The captain was perplexed. Who was sailing the ship? Where were the crew? An uneasy feeling crept over him. He decided to go below deck to investigate further. He walked cautiously down the steps and into the eerie darkness below. The captain perceived a soft yellow glow in front of him. Treasure! Greedily, he rushed towards it, only to be scooped quite unexpectedly into the air. He was now tangled awkwardly in a net that was being suspended from the ceiling. He couldn't move – he was trapped! Silently, he cursed his own foolishness.

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The captain perceived a soft yellow glow in front of him.

He couldn't move – he was trapped!

However, no one was there.

Greedily, he rushed towards it.

His sword was grasped within his hand.

An uneasy feeling crept over him.

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How to Make a Treasure Map

Thrilling tales of pirates and buried treasure have been told throughout the ages, yet there is very little evidence to suggest that this occurred as often as we imagined. However, records show that there was one pirate, named Captain William Kidd, who was forced to hide his treasure before being arrested. He had planned to use his vast wealth to bargain his way out of prison. Whilst trying to clear his name, some of his hidden treasure was discovered and confiscated by the authorities. Despite his attempts to buy himself out of prison, Kidd was found guilty of piracy and hanged for his crimes. It is said that people still hunt for his treasure today.

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Kidd was found guilty of piracy and hanged for his crimes.

Tales of buried treasure have been told throughout the ages.

He planned to use his wealth to bargain his way out of prison.

People still hunt for his treasure today.

Whilst trying to clear his name, his treasure was discovered.

Captain William Kidd was forced to hide his treasure.

Equipment: paper, cold tea, felt-tip pens, ruler and string

Method:

1. Using your fingers, rip the edges roughly off a piece of paper.
2. Next, pour strong, cold tea all over the paper and leave it to dry.
3. Draw the outline of an island on it and include a compass point in one corner.
4. Then, use a ruler to draw a grid on your paper. Label each axis.
5. Add other things to your map e.g. beaches, paths, rivers, caves and palm trees. Be creative!
6. X marks the spot! Draw a big cross to show where the treasure is buried.
7. Screw the map into a ball then flatten it out again.
8. Lastly, roll your treasure map up and tie a piece of string around it.

Congratulations! Your map is now complete.

Top tip – Use greaseproof paper if you don't have time to stain a white piece of paper.

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Your map is now complete.

Include a compass point in one corner.

Draw a big cross to show where the treasure is buried.

Rip the edges roughly off a piece of paper.

Be creative!

Label each axis.

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A pirate is defined as a person who commits robbery or criminal violence at sea. It may surprise you to know, that pirates have been around for considerably longer than you think. There is evidence of piracy dating as far back as the ancient Greeks, with Julius Caesar himself having been kidnapped by pirates in 75 BC. It could also be argued that the Vikings were pirates too. More surprisingly though, is the fact that pirates are still around today, although they dress differently and no longer drink grog or say “arrr”!

Blackbeard is one of the most famous pirates of all time. His real name was Edward Teach and he was born in Bristol, England. As his nickname suggests, Teach had a large black beard that he would twist into sections and tie ribbons around. He was a feared pirate and to make himself look even more fearsome, he would light fuses and place them on his hat. The resulting smoke and sparks would scare people into giving up their loot. This meant that, very often, he didn't even have to fight in order to win his ill-gotten gains.

- Number the following events from 1 to 6 to show the order that they appear in the text.

- His real name was Edward Teach and he was born in Bristol.
- Evidence of piracy dates back to the ancient Greeks.
- The resulting smoke and sparks would scare people.
- A pirate is a person who commits robbery or violence at sea.
- The Vikings were pirates too.
- He would light fuses and place them on his hat.

Many pirate ships flew a flag called the Jolly Roger. The skull and crossbones design was the most commonly used design during the 1720s. The flag was flown as a sign that the pirates were about to attack and that no mercy would be given. Most people would surrender as soon as they saw the flag being hoisted, without even putting up a fight. Other designs were used by different pirates. Most were on a black or red background. Blackbeard's flag showed a horned skeleton holding an hourglass and a spear that pointed towards a bloodied heart. A sail-makers widow in The Bahamas would make pirate flags for the price of a bottle of brandy!

- Number the following events from 1 to 6 to show the order that they appear in the text.

- The skull and cross bones was commonly used during the 1720s.
- Blackbeard's flag was a horned skeleton.
- Other designs were used by different pirates.
- Most people would surrender as soon as they saw the flag.
- A sail-makers widow would make pirate flags for brandy.
- Many pirate ships flew a flag called the Jolly Roger.

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Dear Martha,

Unfortunately, I'm having to write to you with desperate news. It appears that my pirate days are finally at an end. Last week, our ship was boarded by the Royal Navy and they discovered the cargo we had stolen several days earlier. A short battle commenced but we were dreadfully outnumbered. Some of the crew were killed as a result. There were too many soldiers; we had to surrender. The rest of the surviving crew and I have been placed under lock and key. The conditions here are appalling. We are given very little food and water and there are too many men in one cell. This makes for a very hot and smelly environment.

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The conditions here are appalling.

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There were too many soldiers; we had to surrender.

A short battle commenced but we were dreadfully outnumbered.

I have not seen Mad Beard since he was marched away on that fateful day. We fear that they will hang him. We fear that they will hang us all! No mention has been made of a fair trial. I am regretting the day that I become a pirate. I believed it to be an easy way to make money for you and the family. I have a feeling that I will never see you again my dearest Martha. I believe that this is why we have been permitted to write just one letter home. However, all is not lost, my dear. We are living in hope that Mad Beard has found some ingenious way to escape. He is perhaps, even at this very moment, plotting some cunning plan to free us all! I have my fingers crossed.

All my love, Tom xxx

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