



TEACHER'S NOTES



Pirates II.



Aim

• To study piracy.

Language focus

Key vocabulary: sailor, leader, feared, brave, beard, sword, knife, pistol, battle, kill, capture.

Key language: Blackbeard probably began as a sailor on a battleship. He was a big man and carried two swords and many knives and pistols.

Materials

- Worksheet.
- Pictures of Blackbeard and treasure.

Warm-up

- Ask the pupils *Do you know the names of any famous pirates*? Write on the board *Jack Sparrow, Captain Hook, Henry Morgan, Mary Read, Blackbeard.* Point out that *Jack Sparrow and Captain Hook are fictional characters. Henry Morgan, Mary Read and Blackbeard were real pirates. Blackbeard is probably the most famous pirate. Mary Read was a woman pirate.*
- Explain that most pirates were sailors. One day they decided to become pirates. Pirates were usually good sailors. They were also strong, brave and good at using weapons. Pirates were always looking for treasure.

Completing the Worksheet

Activity 1

Show the pupils a picture of Blackbeard if possible. Write some questions about him on the board. Ask the pupils to copy the questions in their notebooks and guess the answers in pairs, eg, *Where was Blackbeard from? When did Blackbeard become a pirate? Why was his name Blackbeard? How many ships did he have in 1718? When did he die? How many ships did he capture? How many people did he kill?* Ask the pupils to read the information in Activity 3 and break the code. Get the pupils to answer the questions on the board. Ask the pupils to write the complete text.



Blackbeard was the nickname of an English Pirate, Edward Teach. Blackbeard probably began as a sailor on a battleship in the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-1714). He was a very good sailor and a natural leader. In 1713 he became a pirate. He was one of the most feared and brave pirates of all time. He was called Blackbeard because he had a long, black beard. He was a big man and carried two swords and many knives and pistols. Blackbeard attacked ships in the Caribbean Sea from 1716 to 1718. In 1718 he had four pirate ships and over 300 pirates. On 22nd November 1718 some Royal Navy ships surprised Blackbeard and his men. They had a short but very bloody battle. They killed Blackbeard. During his years as a pirate Blackbeard captured over 40 ships and killed hundreds of people.

Extension activity

- Hide some 'treasure' in the classroom. Write a coded message on the board. Encourage the pupils to solve the message and find the treasure. Give them clues if necessary, eg, hide a small bag of sweets behind a cupboard. Write the coded clue on the board. The clue can be *Look behind the cupboard*. Write on the board: 15,12,12,16 / 25,22,19,18,13,23 / 7,19,22 / 24,6,11,25,12,26,9,23.

Code:

 $\begin{array}{l}a=\!26 \ / \ b=\!25 \ / \ c=\!24 \ / \ d=\!23 \ / \ e=\!22 \ / \ f=\!21 \ / \ g=\!20 \ / \\h=\!19 \ / \ i=\!18 \ / \ j=\!17 \ / \ k=\!16 \ / \ l=\!15 \ / \ m=\!14 \ / \\n=\!13 \ / \ o=\!12 \ / \ p=\!11 \ / \ q=\!10 \ / \ r=\!9 \ / \ s=\!8 \ / \ t=\!7 \ / \\u=\!6 \ / \ v=\!5 \ / \ w=\!4 \ / \ x=\!3 \ / \ y=\!2 \ / \ z=\!1\end{array}$

- Arrange the pupils in two groups. Give each group a picture of some treasure. Explain to the class that they are going to hide their treasure and write a coded message. Encourage the pupils to think where they are going to hide their treasure and write their coded message in their notebooks. When they are ready, send one group of pupils out of the room. Ask the group in the room to hide their treasure and write their coded message on the board. Then ask the other group to come back in and break the code. The winner is the pupil in the group who finds the treasure. Repeat with the other group.