



The Mystery of

BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE

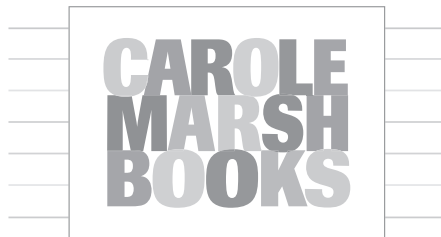
Teacher's Guide

by

Carole Marsh



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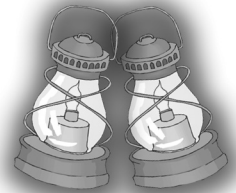
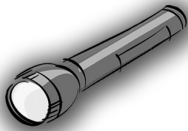
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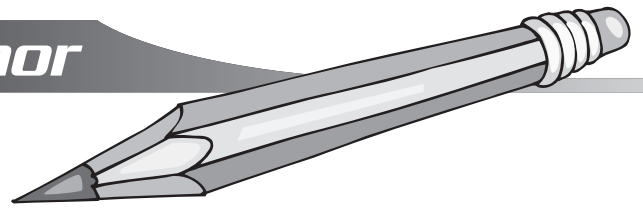
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- #1 THE MYSTERY OF BILTMORE HOUSE
 - #2 THE MYSTERY AT THE BOSTON MARATHON
 - #3 THE MYSTERY OF BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE
 - #4 THE MYSTERY OF THE ALAMO GHOST
 - #5 THE MYSTERY ON THE CALIFORNIA MISSION TRAIL
 - #6 THE MYSTERY OF THE CHICAGO DINOSAURS
 - #7 THE WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY
 - #8 THE MYSTERY ON ALASKA'S IDITAROD TRAIL
 - #9 THE MYSTERY AT KILL DEVIL HILLS
 - #10 THE MYSTERY IN NEW YORK CITY
 - #11 THE MYSTERY AT DISNEY WORLD
 - #12 THE MYSTERY ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD



A Word from the Author



Dear Teachers,

In 1979, I began writing children's mysteries set at historic sites that still existed—primarily so that kids could go and see what they had read about. Frankly, I found no more fun, educational, and stress-free (actually, just plain joyful!) activity to do with my then school-age children than to visit a fascinating historic site!

Pirate tales and legends always seem to fascinate people. But most folks only hear the stories and never learn about the historical background of this interesting era. Well, one summer we found ourselves in Bath, North Carolina, an unsuspecting coastal town where pirate lore just happens to pop up everywhere. If you've never been to Bath or any of the dozens of other amazing pirate towns up and down the Atlantic Coast, then go! Just don't get kidnapped!

Yes, Bath might seem like a sleepy little town near the Graveyard of the Atlantic, but it's also one gigantic history lesson. At every site, I tried to introduce the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the places. Not only has it been surprising to me how fascinated the kids are in real life, but it is amazing to also witness the depth of their interest. The first set of these magical experiences eventually transcended into a lifelong ongoing connection between me and my children.



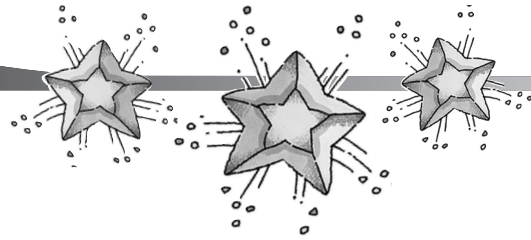
We learned a lot, but what we learned best is that kids and adults can learn together. Reading and going and seeing and doing is what education is all about, and most especially, that "adopting" a subject or place leads to a lifelong interest in an era, a place, the people, and all the fascinating facts that made up their lives. We learned that history is still "living" and is not lost on kids! In fact, it is quite a revelation!

Enjoy your pirate mystery and studies,

Carole Marsh



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The Mystery of
**BLACKBEARD
THE PIRATE**

MEETING BLACKBEARD!

An author's favorite book is often her first—and that's true for me! My kids were ages 7 and 14 when they first begged me to write a mystery book for them. I did! It was called "The Missing Head Mystery"—today updated and retitled "The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate."

Michele and Michael and I had just started visiting the tiny town of Bath, North Carolina. Why? Because it was the closest place to our home that was on the water. We stayed in a little motel on Bath Creek that had only four rooms. But there were sailboats, and paddle boats, and barbecue pits, and pirates!

Bath, the oldest town in North Carolina, was once the home and haunt of the fiercest pirate of them all—Blackbeard! I actually met Blackbeard one night. I was walking down the street and came toe-to-toe with a big pair of black boots. Slowly I looked up to see big, baggy black pants, then a big black coat covered with pistols and cutlasses. In fear and trembling, I raised my head to come face to face with a man with a big, bushy black beard tied up in tiny red bows. He also wore a large pirate hat complete with feather and had matches stuck behind his ears.

He said, "Hi!" An actor in the local outdoor drama, he told me all about Blackbeard and his life as a pirate up and down the east coast of America. This, I thought, would make a great mystery! My kids thought so too and helped me by finding every secret passage and tombstone in town. How we ended up with Blackbeard's head is another story, but I guess you don't want to hear about that, hey? You'd rather get started reading this mystery!

Carole Marsh

Pirate Fan



Pirate Lairs

Historic Bath

P.O. Box 148
Bath, NC 27808
(919) 923-3971
www.beaufort-county.com
• *Lurking spot of Blackbeard*

Mission San Juan Capistrano

P.O. Box 697
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693
(949) 234-1300 x322
• *Annual Pirate Festival & Live Re-enactment, October*

Madison Street Pirate Museum

25 Vail Street
Sag Harbor, NY 11963
(631) 725-0770
• *Features a history of pirates, local pirates and privateers, and a whaling museum*

Hampton Blackbeard Festival

Hampton, VA
(757) 727-1540
• *Annual festival (June) with "at sea" pirate battles and historical reenactments*

Sea Lab & Learning Center Expedition Whydah

P.O. Box 493
16 MacMillan Wharf
Provincetown, MA 02657
(508) 487-8899
• *Ongoing salvage of a pirate shipwreck, clothing, weapons and treasure*

New England Pirate Museum

274 Derby Street
Salem, MA 01970
(978) 741-2800
• *New England pirate ship, treasure cave, and recreated colonial seaport*



Chapter Subject

EXPLORE!

1 Writing



What is the difference between fiction and non fiction? Which parts of the story are fact and which parts are from the author's imagination? Does the fact that much of the story is true make it more interesting? Why?

1 Vocabulary

What is a publisher?

1 Vocabulary

What is research? Research is discovering facts about a subject. Do facts ever change? Are historians ever wrong? Should we believe everything we ever read? Define the term "bias."

1 Life

Have you ever wanted to do something, but had to do something else instead? What was your attitude like? Did things turn out differently than you expected? If Michael and Michele had been able to stay home for the summer, what would they have missed?

1 Vocabulary

What does eavesdropping mean? Have you ever done this? Why do most people think this is a bad idea? How would you feel if someone eavesdropped on you? What does shenanigan (nonsense, deceit, and trickery) mean?

1 Vocabulary

What does jeopardize mean? Name a synonym (danger) and an antonym (safe) for this word.

1 Career

Is it difficult for kids your age to earn money? Have you ever heard someone say, "You have to have experience to get a job, but you have to have a job to get experience"? How do you feel about this scenario? What could you do to get



Did You Know?

- When pirates captured a ship, they often asked the crew how their master treated them. A positive response resulted in the return of the ship, after all the valuables had been confiscated. However, if the crewmembers reported ill treatment, the ship was burned to teach the master a lesson!

- Very few pirates forced their prisoners to walk the plank. Pirates who sailed about the New World rarely practiced this form of execution, though Red Sea pirates were not above it.

- Women were not allowed on pirate ships for any reason. Crewmembers who disobeyed this standing order were punished by death. However, there were women pirates such as Anne Bonny, Mary Read, and Rachel Wall.

- Most pirates could neither read nor write. However, they often kept pens, maps, and paper in hollow bamboo tubes that were sealed at one end to keep their materials dry.



around this dilemma? Discuss working for free to gain experience, helping out at home, and volunteering.

1 Vocabulary



What is grog? What is hardtack? Look up these definitions in the glossary. Why did pirates have to eat such poor food? What other foods did pirates eat? They ate salt pork or beef (full of worms or maggots), bread (usually blue with thick mold), stale and putrid water, rats aboard ship, fish from the sea when available. They loved going ashore for fresh food!

2 Vocabulary

People referred to Blackbeard as Ned Teach, Ed Thatch, Tach, Teache, and lots of other names. Ask students to research their own last names and to ask their parents if the spelling or pronunciation has been changed over time and why.

2 Career



Michele thinks about her future career quite often, even though she is only 12 years old. At what age should you start thinking about your interests, skills, and career ideas? What does Michele do now to prepare for her career? Is this a good use of her time? What are the advantages and disadvantages of preparing for your career at an early age?

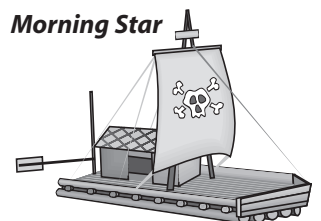
2 Life

In the last paragraph, Michele decides to solve the mystery herself and tries to keep it a secret from the adults. Is her idea a good one? What else could she have done? Is it better to solve your own problems or get other people to solve them for you? Should she have obeyed her mother and John?

Famous Names of Pirate Ships!

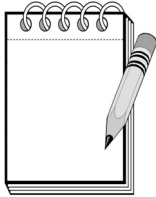
Pirates often gave their ships colorful names. Revenge was a favorite word to include. Some ship names did not sound like pirate ships at all. And surely some were private or rather "pirate" jokes! Below are some famous pirate ship names.

- Queen Anne's Revenge**
- New York Revenge's Revenge**
- Jolly Roger**
- Defiance**
- Adventure**
- Black Joe**
- Flying Horse**
- Bravo**
- Sudden Death**
- Batchelor's Delight**
- Snap Dragon**
- Good Fortune**
- Night Rambler**
- Royal James**
- Happy Delivery**
- Blessings**
- Mayflower**
- Liberty**
- Childhood**
- Morning Star**



3 Vocabulary Bath is a proper name that means something else too. What other place names can you think of that have dual meanings?

3 Writing Can you picture the colors that the writer describes? Do you think she had her readers in mind when she related the colors to swimming pools and popsicles? How could you use some of these same ideas when you write?



3 Life Many states produce something that provides many citizens with jobs but is unacceptable to some people. Tobacco is a good example. What is a possible solution for these industries? How would you feel if your mother worked for a tobacco company but was paid a good salary? How would you feel if your father had died of lung cancer from smoking? Is there a similar example in your town or state? Will these problems go away before you get to be an adult? Who will inherit these problems then? What will you do? What skills, or knowledge will you need to solve such problems?

3 Geography Even a tiny town like Bath is connected to the rest of the world in many ways. Look at a map and trace Bath Creek to the Atlantic Ocean. Can you see how Bath became a port of call for pirates? Pirate ships needed deep water and safe places to hide. What is our city's primary connection with the rest of the world? Talk about global society, economics, and communication.



3 Writing Read the description of Blackbeard's head. Can you write an even scarier paragraph? Ask each child to write a vivid description. Then read



Pirate Stuff

Barnacles: small marine animals with hard shells that attached themselves to the ship's hull

Cutlass: short sword, often with a curved blade

Doubloon: Spanish gold dollar

Forestaff: tools used to take shots of the sun to determine latitude

Gibbet: wooden frame for hanging a pirate's corpse

Jolly Roger: pirate flag made of cloth and paint; these often bore a skull-and-crossbones logo or an hourglass to show enemies they wouldn't live long!

Letter of Marque and Reprisal: official paper that allowed ship owners to legally capture enemy ships

Prize: a pirate's word for a captured ship

Tortuga Island: a pirate republic named for the tortoise





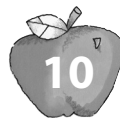
each aloud. Let the class vote by applause for the best three. Ask them to color a picture to match their description. Why did Blackbeard want to look so scary? He wanted people to be so afraid of him that they would surrender before he even attacked. Talk about image. If Blackbeard had looked more peaceful and less intimidating, would people have suspected his true self? Discuss the image of people, companies, countries, etc. Talk about pride and objective as factors in an image. What image would your students like to have? Give specific examples on how to achieve these goals, but emphasize the importance of “being yourself.”

4 Life

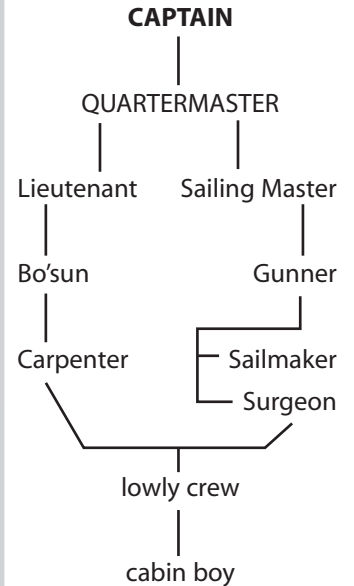
Are there similar conflicts in our town or state? What role does money and power play in these problems? Ask your students if they could try to understand both sides of the situation. How does research apply to decision-making processes for the future? Ask questions like: “How will this action affect me when I am grown?”; “What will this mean to my grandchildren?”; “Will this matter to someone in a hundred years?”

4 Vocabulary

What is the definition of a pirate? A pirate is a person who robs or commits illegal violence upon the seas or shores. Do we have pirates today? Think of terrorists, slumlords, drug runners, hijackers, and suicide bombers. Did you know that there are still people who take ships (large and small) by force to rob the goods and the ship? Often these people even take the owners’ lives as well. Do we think the pirates of today are exciting or scary? What is another meaning for the term piracy? One definition is



Pirate Flow Chart



Captains were usually only in complete charge of the ship during battle. The quartermaster split up the booty! If the captain perished, the lieutenant took over. The sailing master handled the ship’s navigation. The bo’sun saw to the ship’s upkeep, weapons, and other supplies. Gunners instructed the crew on how to use the weapons. And the crew? Work, work, and more work! Swab the deck, mates!





to steal or copy an invention or creative work without legal permission. Piracy is common for MP3 music files and information found in books. How would the author feel if someone stole a chapter of her book? How would the readers feel if the author stole a chapter from someone else's book? How does everyone get robbed when someone steals creativity from others?

4 Vocabulary What is the word to describe what Michele and Brian are doing by sneaking into the theater without permission? The answer is trespassing.

4 Life Is Michele wasting her time by imagining herself as a real actress on stage? Talk about visualization. Can picturing your goals make them seem real to you or help you make them come true? Are daydreams good or bad? Why?

4 Writing How does the author end her chapters? Why does she seem to cut the chapter right in the middle of the action? Does this frustrate you or excite you about the next chapter? How can you use this strategy in your own writing?

5 Life What does the phrase, "Nothing's like it seems" mean? Do you ever find that's true? Discuss concepts like first impressions, wanting something now that might not be good in the end, and jumping to conclusions. What role can research play in determining how things really are? Does research always require looking things up in a book? Talk about seeing something firsthand, tunnel vision, interviewing, drawing independent conclusions, propaganda, bias, objectivity, and prejudice.



5 Life Why do some people take their own town for

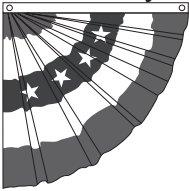
Pirate Rules

1. Obey all orders or else.
2. Pirates who run away or keep a secret will be marooned (left to die alone on a deserted island).
3. Each crewmember gets one share of treasure from all stolen loot. The captain gets 1 and 1/2 shares.
4. Pirates who steal, gamble, or do not pay debts will be shot.
5. Pirates who fight, cock a pistol outside battle, smoke an uncovered pipe, or take a candle below deck will receive "Moses' Law" (39 whiplashes).
6. The captain may punish according to his will any other crimes.





granted? How do we feel about tourists in our town? How do we feel about ourselves as tourists? Are the two points of view different? When you are a tourist, how do you usually see a country or town? Is there another side? Could you find that other side by doing some innovative research?

- 5 **Communication** Talk about nonverbal communication. Discuss body language, symbols, signals, sign language, etc. Relate the topic to Blackbeard's looks, pirate flags, ship's signal flags, winks, shrugs, and other nonverbal communication in the book.
- 6 **Writing** What's a mystery without clues? Write five mystery clues in the next 60 seconds. Do you think you could write a mystery based on these clues? What is a "red herring" (misleading clue)? Do we ever find red herrings in real life?
- 6 **Math** If the twin chimneys were 30 feet tall by 12 feet wide and made of bricks that were 6 inches tall and 12 inches wide, how many bricks are in the chimneys?
- 6 **Vocabulary**  What is a bicentennial? What is a semiquincentennial? Look up some words that are similar to these. When will the next big anniversary celebration occur in your town or state?
- 7 **Communication** Do you hate to admit that you don't know something (like Michael)? Why? Is it "dumb" or "stupid" not to know something or not to find out as quickly as other people do? What are some positive phrases to use when you don't

Pirate Punishment

Whipping

Only the quartermaster or captain could flog (whip) the crew. Usually a dose of Moses' Law (39 lashes) was given to the offending sailor.

Cutlass & Pistol

Those who could not settle an argument aboard ship were taken ashore to duel. The first to draw blood (any amount) was declared the winner.

Keelhaul

Guilty offenders were sometimes dragged by rope beneath the ship's hull. Even those who could hold their breath that long were often cut to pieces by the sharp barnacles that clung below the depths.

Man Overboard

If the jury ordered death and no other suitable method struck their fancy, over the guilty sailor went.

Maroon

Pirates were sometimes given a little food and water, then left to die on an uninhabited island.

Other Types

Forced to eat cockroaches, getting teeth cracked off with an iron bolt, having to eat your own ears, losing a hand, being towed with your hands tied to the stern of the ship.



know or understand something? Do adults know everything? Does anyone ever stop asking questions or learning new things? Discuss the term “lifelong learner.”

8 History



Talk about restoration. Why has this concept become so popular in recent decades? What old places have been restored in your town? What historic homes were not saved? Why? What can you do to save those that remain? What is new and modern today that might be an antique or historic site tomorrow?

8 Vocabulary

What is an obsession? Is there anything you feel that strongly about?

9 Math

If \$2,000 was collected for the opening week’s performance, and tickets sold at \$5.00 apiece, how many tickets were sold?

9 Vocabulary

What do the letters in CPR stand for (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation)? What do those words mean? Why is it important to know CPR? How can *you* get certified in CPR?

10 Vocabulary

What does ire (wrath, anger, fury, rage) mean?

10 Math



Write a budget to restore a house and a budget to remodel a home. Include major and minor expenses like wallpaper, shingles, flooring, and a new roof. Compare the two budgets. What is different? What is similar?

10 Vocabulary

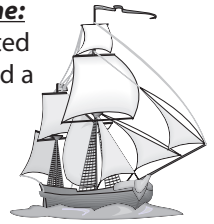
What is molding? Molding are long and narrow strips of decorative wood, usually placed on the side of a house right under the roof or at the top of a wall near the ceiling.



Types of Pirate Ships

Brigantine:

two-masted ship called a “brig” by pirates



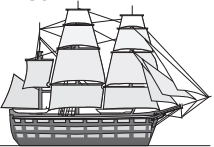
Galleon:

big ship with three to four decks



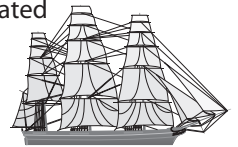
Man-of-War:

heavily armed ship prepared to fight battles



Merchantman:

trading vessel often confiscated by pirates



Schooner:

fast vessel (pirate favorite) that can be used in shallow waters



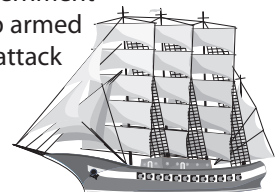
Sloop:

small boat with one mast



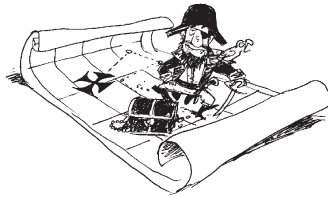
Warship:

government ship armed for attack



Let's look around to find examples of molding.

10 Thinking



Discuss creativity. How do you think the author thought of this mystery? Can anyone be creative? How do you use your imagination? Who do you think is really creative? Talk about how creativity can be encouraged or discouraged. Talk about brainstorming.

12 Vocabulary

What is commercialization? Name some examples of this concept.

13 Vocabulary

Who is Van Gogh? What should you do when you see a word or person you don't know when you are reading? Why? What was Van Gogh known for?

13 Vocabulary

What color is amber? What colors look like amber?

13 Spelling

Spell lustre. Name five more words from the book (not found in the glossary) that you would like to learn how to spell.

18 Reading

Who did you think took Blackbeard's head at this point in the story? Why?

20 Reading

This book is almost over. Are you going to miss these characters? Have they become real to you? How does an author make this happen? What are some characters you really liked from other mystery books? Why?



Be sure to read Carole Marsh Mystery #4:
The Mystery of the Alamo Ghost



Common Hazards of Career Pirates

- Disease (especially scurvy)
- Sunburn
- Windburn
- Rotten and spoiled food
- Falling from the rigging
- Ship fires
- Cannon blasts from enemy ships
- Nightmares about planks and sharks
- Injuries from falling equipment
- Drowning
- Lack of privacy and personal space
- Sea storms
- Can't visit family often
- Habitually poor grammar
- Traitorous pirates
- Possible need for an eye patch
- Not much peace and quiet
- Everyone assumes you love parrots
- Being killed or wounded in battle
- Statistical likelihood of a peg leg
- Being washed overboard
- Not many exercise options
- The same food over and over...



Discussion Questions

- ❖ How do the pirates of the past compare to the terrorists of today? How are piracy and terrorism similar and different? How can we avoid piracy and terrorism? Who are the “pirates” of today?
- ❖ What events might led an honest sailor or citizen to become a pirate? What might the life of a pirate be like?
- ❖ How does modern technology affect historic research? Discuss dating methods, testing methods, and how recent treasure ship hunters use the latest technological gadgets.
- ❖ Discuss colonial architecture, such as that found in the historic district of Bath, North Carolina. How do present day homes compare with those built during colonial times?
- ❖ What role has water played in the history of civilizations and countries? How does being located by an accessible body of water help or hinder a nation?
- ❖ Would you miss our history if we did not know anything about it? How important is history to our nation? To you?
- ❖ How does history continually change? How does history stay the same? If today will be tomorrow’s history, how would you like to change it for the better now?
- ❖ How important is heritage to you and to others? Is your heritage more important or better than someone else’s heritage? How do historic sites help educate about our heritage? What ways help people to become proud of their heritage?

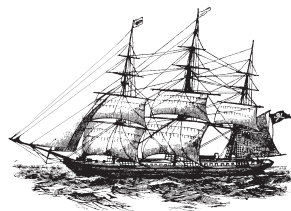


Pirate Trivia!

- The "Golden Age of Piracy" existed between 1689 and 1718.
- The word "buccaneer" comes from the word "boucan" which means barbeque!
- Pirate ship captains were usually chosen by an election. If the crew didn't like the captain after a while, they voted again!
- Thomas Jones, the captain of the Mayflower ship, was once arrested for piracy!
- Experts estimate as many as 20,000 shipwrecks lie beneath the Gulf of Mexico.
- Pirates were sometimes called "Princes of the Sea."
- Gunwales were railings built up along the side of the ship. Pirates would hide behind them in battle.
- Pirates careened their ships about three times each year. This meant they would lean the ship on its side and clean the bottom of barnacles and other debris. This had to be done in a hidden cove because the pirates were vulnerable to attack when their ship was "belly up"!
- Most pirates changed their names to avoid bringing shame to their families at home.
- Pirates would often fly a common ship flag until they got close to an unsuspecting ship. Then they would change the flag to a Jolly Roger and attack!
- Julius Caesar was once captured by pirates!

Geography: Find It!

1. Draw a historic map of your school, town, or neighborhood. Color your map and label several historic sites.
2. Design a new path for Bath Creek. How would history be different if Bath Creek went another direction and didn't pour into the Pamlico Sound? Would Blackbeard have ever lived in Bath?
3. Compare the small town of Bath with the big city of Raleigh. What are the differences? What are the similarities? Would you like to live in the country or the city? Why?
4. Construct a model of one historic home in Bath. Use balsa wood, paint, wood glue, pieces of wallpaper and carpet, and tiny objects to add realistic touches. Set the finished home on a wooden base that is painted green. Add scenery and other details to match the era of the home you chose to model.
5. List the geographical benefits of living in the state of North Carolina. What are your favorites? What wouldn't you like? How is North Carolina unique in comparison to the other 49 states in America?
6. Find the latitude and longitude of Bath, North Carolina. Use an atlas as a resource.
7. What kinds of crops grow well in North Carolina? How does this state's geography help and hinder its agricultural industry?
8. What geographical places border Bath? What geographical places border North Carolina?



Privateers!

Privateers were privately owned ships. Governments gave the owners of these ships permission to attack and capture the ships of enemy nations. The captain received a "Letter of Marque and Reprisal" that allowed his ship to attack and plunder enemy ships!

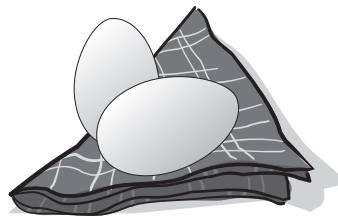
However, instead of really helping the naval forces by attacking warships, these privateers often chose to attack enemy merchants with valuable cargo aboard. Some say that the governments wanted that to happen because one way to fight a country during war is to harm trade so that the economy will suffer.

Many people of that era called these privateers another name: "legal pirates." What do you think about this situation? Right or wrong?

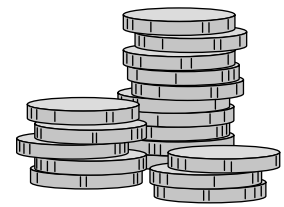


Mathematics: Calculate It!

1. If the town of Bath has 16 historic homes and each mystery book character visited an equal number of homes alone, how many homes would each person have visited?
2. Make a book production budget for *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate*. Typesetting is \$500, editing is \$200, author royalties are \$800, graphic design is \$300, advertising is \$700, printing is \$4,430, and binding is \$1,350. What is the total budget? If you print 5,000 books, how much will each book cost you to print?
3. If you were an author and received \$2,000 for writing a book, what would you have left after these expenses?
taxes - \$122; Internet service - \$20 a month for 6 months;
paper - \$32.50; research travel - \$174.50; telephone calls - \$62.50;
postage - \$16.25; aspirin - \$5.75
4. If John made 8 omelets for breakfast and each omelet requires 2 eggs to make, how many eggs did he use to make breakfast? If eggs cost \$0.17 each, how much did he spend to cook the omelets?
5. How many numbered pages does *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate* include? If the author wrote five pages a day, how many days would it take her to write this book? If the author was paid \$9,000 for writing this book, what would she be paid per page? Per day?
6. If gold sells for \$250 per ounce, and Blackbeard's treasure totaled 25 pounds of gold, how much money would you have if you found his buried loot? If you had to pay a 40% tax on this treasure, what would you have left to keep? If you had to pay 50% of the remainder to your crew, what would you have left?



Pieces of Eight



- Pirates earned about one pound each month (only about \$2 in today's currency).
- Gambling was forbidden aboard pirate ships, but frequently occurred ashore with stolen gold.
- If pirates were injured in battle, they could often collect "pirate insurance" payments for their injuries.

Right arm in battle
(600 pieces of eight)

Left arm in battle
(500 pieces of eight)

Right leg
(500 pieces of eight)

Left leg
(400 pieces of eight)

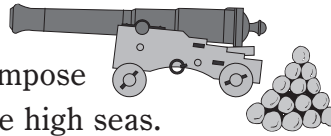
One eye
(100 pieces of eight)

One finger
(100 pieces of eight)



1. What is the difference between a manuscript and a book? What are your five favorite books?

2. Read more about Blackbeard the Pirate. Compose a poem about Blackbeard's adventures on the high seas.



3. Describe five characters for a mystery book of your own. What happens when characters “come to life” for the reader? What book characters have come to life for you?

4. What kind of setting would you pick for a mystery book? Describe your setting. What are the advantages to writing about what you know best? Why should you write about something you don't know?

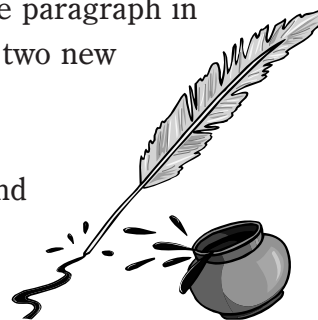
5. How does an author research a mystery book? Write a list of research steps to write a mystery book.

6. What is a plot? How important is conflict in a story? Write a page about these elements in *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate*.

7. Write five new titles for *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate*. Write new chapter headings for every chapter in the book.

8. How important is revision in the writing process? What is revision? How do writers revise their work? Revise one paragraph in *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate*. Rewrite two new endings for the last chapter.

9. Who would you dedicate a book or poem to and why? Write a dedication.



10. If you were a writer, what would you write about? Would you write books, poems, stories, articles, textbooks? Compile a list of eight different writing careers and include two relevant job skills for each.



Pirate Books

• *Blackbeard and Other Pirates of the Atlantic Coast*

By Nancy Roberts

• *Pirates*

By Scott Steedman

• *Blackbeard: The Fiercest Pirate of All*

By Norman C. Pendered

• *A General History of Pirates*

By Captain Charles Johnson

• *The Great Days of Piracy*

By George Woodbury

• *Pirates*

By Karen McWilliams

• *Dig for Pirate Treasure*

By Robert I. Newsmith

• *Piracy Was a Business*

By Cyrus H. Karraker

• *The Age of Piracy*

By Robert Carse

• *Pirates: Fact & Fiction*

By David Cordingly & John Falconer

• *Treasure Island*

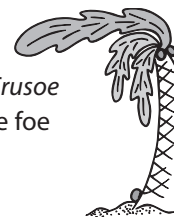
By Robert Louis Stevenson

• *Peter Pan*

By J.M. Barrie

• *Robinson Crusoe*

By Daniel De foe



Vocabulary: Spell It!

Study the words below. Then fold the page in half and take a spelling test! Unfold the page to check your work. Study the words you miss!

SWASHBUCKLER

GROG

ILLEGAL

ANCHOR

PIRATE

KIDNAPPER

BURY

CEMETERY

TREASURE

HISTORICAL

CRIMINAL

RESEARCH

LANDMARK

MYSTERY

DUEL

ARCHAEOLOGIST

CAPTURE

CHARACTER

OMELET

PILLAGE

CHARACTER

TRAITOR

APPLAUSE

RESTORATION

AMPHITHEATER

CHOREOGRAPHY

VOYAGE

CHIMNEY

ROGUE

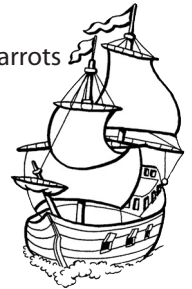
Brethren of the Coast



In the 1700s, many of the American buccaneers joined together and called themselves the Brethren of the Coast. Being a part of this group gave the pirates a chance to brag and show off their evil strengths with their "brothers."

The group also vacationed together in the West Indies, particularly at a place called Turneffe Island, off the coast of Guatemala.

Here they camped, sunbathed, captured parrots and taught them to speak, and barbecued lambs and pigs. They spent the rest of their time drinking rum,

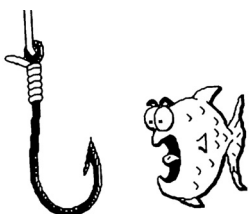


fighting, carousing, and carrying on with the natives.



Become a Pirate for a Day!

1. Make a pirate ship from a giant cardboard box. Ask your local appliance store for this item. Paint your ship with dark mysterious colors, and write the name on the side with white letters. Paint blue waves crashing against the sides of your ship and maybe some hungry sharks!
2. Time to accessorize! Attach a skull-and-crossbones pirate flag to the mast. Add a broom handle mast, sheet sails (ask first!), and ropes. A ship's wheel and a bell would be great if you can find them. Use an old bike tire and a cord of jingle bells! Cut out some jewels and doubloons (coins) from colored construction paper and make a treasure chest from a small brown box.
3. Set the scene. Make palm trees from cardboard gift wrap tubes and green construction paper leaves for a distant island. Add brown balloons for coconuts! Spread a large bright blue tarp, sheet, or blanket (ask first!) under your ship for the high seas.
4. Transform into a pirate! Change into a striped shirt, long shorts, and dark colored boots. Cut out a paper pirate hat and eye patch. Look online to find directions for an origami parrot to tape on your shoulder. Crisscross two long belts across your chest for bandoliers.
5. What's to eat? Cut out several paper fish and tape small magnets to their heads. Then spread the fish all around the tarp. Make fishing rods from sticks and string. Attach another small magnet to the end of the string so you can "catch" some fish in your blue lagoon! Then mix up some Gun Powder Punch to drink, and invite some friends to share in the fun!



More Art Ideas!



- Construct a three-dimensional town of Bath with homes, streets, water, people, and boats from simple craft materials.
- Paint a colorful picture of two dueling ships on the high seas.
- Sketch portraits of each mystery book character.
- Create a shadow box of a room in one of Bath's historic houses.
- Sew a real pirate costume for the summer outdoor drama at the amphitheater.
- Cut out a cardboard sword and learn how to fence.
- Sculpt a figurehead to attach to your bowsprit on the ship.
- Design a new cover for *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate* book.



Serve a Pirate Meal!

Blackbeard's Gun Powder Punch

Makes 3 gallons

Ingredients

1/4 lb. Green tea
2 quarts cold water
2 quarts passion fruit juice
1 quart pineapple juice
1 quart grapefruit juice
1 quart grape juice
3 bottles orange juice
2 cups maraschino cherries, drained
2 and 1/2 cups light brown sugar, firmly packed
Juice from 9 lemons
1/2 lb. fresh pineapple chunks
3 quarts ginger ale



Directions

Steep tea overnight and strain. Add all ingredients, except the pineapple and ginger ale. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Serve in a punch bowl with a solid chunk of ice (not crushed). Add pineapple chunks and ginger ale. Drink up, me hearties!

Sand Bar Pie

Ingredients

18 crushed vanilla wafers
3 tablespoons melted butter
1 package butterscotch pudding
2 cups of milk
Chocolate sauce
1/2 cup finely chopped nuts
1/2 cup chocolate chips
Whipped topping

Directions

Mix cookies and butter and press into a pie plate. Chill 30 minutes. Prepare pudding and spread over crust. Pour a ripple of chocolate sauce over the top. Sprinkle with nuts, chips and whipped topping.

SALMAGUNDI (pirate stew)

1. Use a large cooking pot. For the meat base, use any or all of the following: turtle meat, fish, pork, chicken, corned beef, ham, duck, pigeon. Roast the meat you use, then chop in chunks and marinate overnight in red wine.

2. Throw in the pot: cabbage, anchovies, pickled herring, mangoes, hard-boiled eggs, palm hearts, onions, olives, grapes and any other vegetables you enjoy. Cook this mixture in the meat broth; add water and wine.

3. Spice the pot heartily with garlic, salt, pepper, & mustard seed.

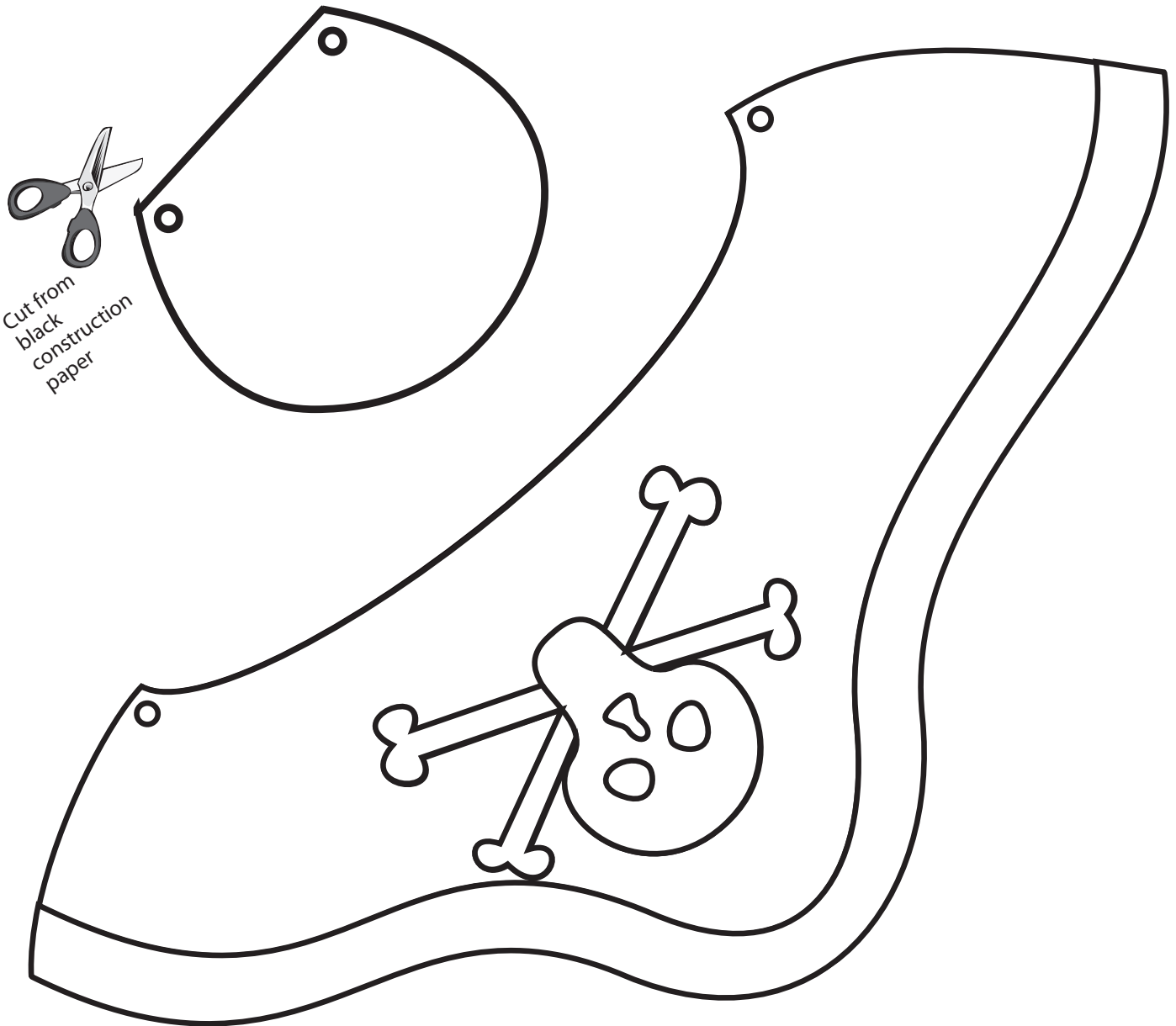
4. Serve steaming hot with hardtack (or hard rolls) and orange and pineapple salad on spinach leaves with poppy seed dressing.



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Hat & Eye Patch



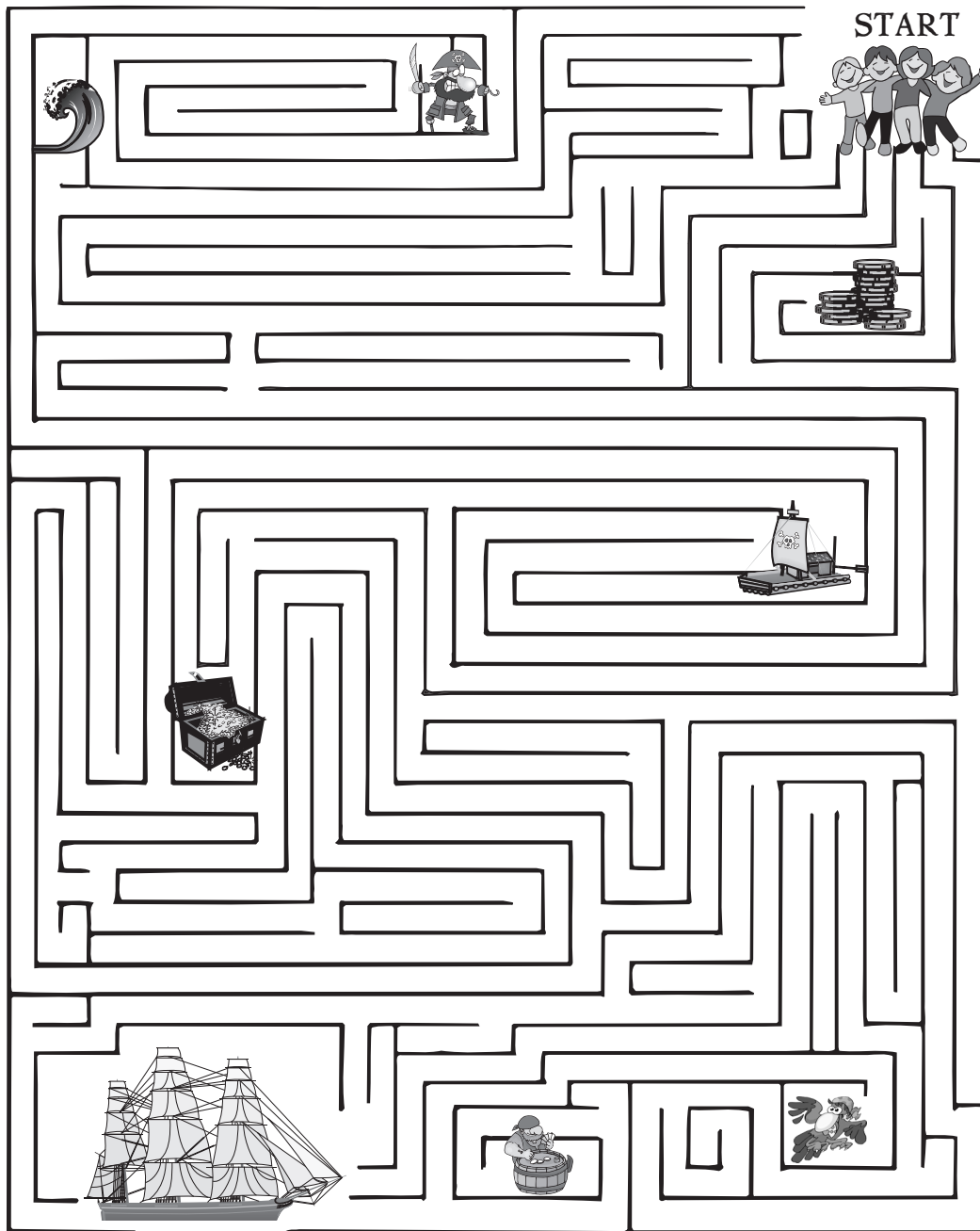
Color and cut out the pirate hat and eye patch. Punch holes in the dots.
Use rubber bands to tie around your head!



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Maze



Help Michele, Michael, Brian, and Jo Dee find their way through the maze to find the missing head of Blackbeard the Pirate!



FINISH



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Pair Up



Match the words on the left with the correct words on the right!



MISSING

CENTER

NORTH

CEMETERY

CATNIP

CHIMNEYS

BATH

HEAD

JO

HOLE

BUZZARD

TREASURE

TWIN

CAROLINA

HISTORIC

POINT

WATER

DEE

PLUM

INN

ST. THOMAS

POINT

TEACH'S

STREET

BONNER

CREEK

PIRATE'S

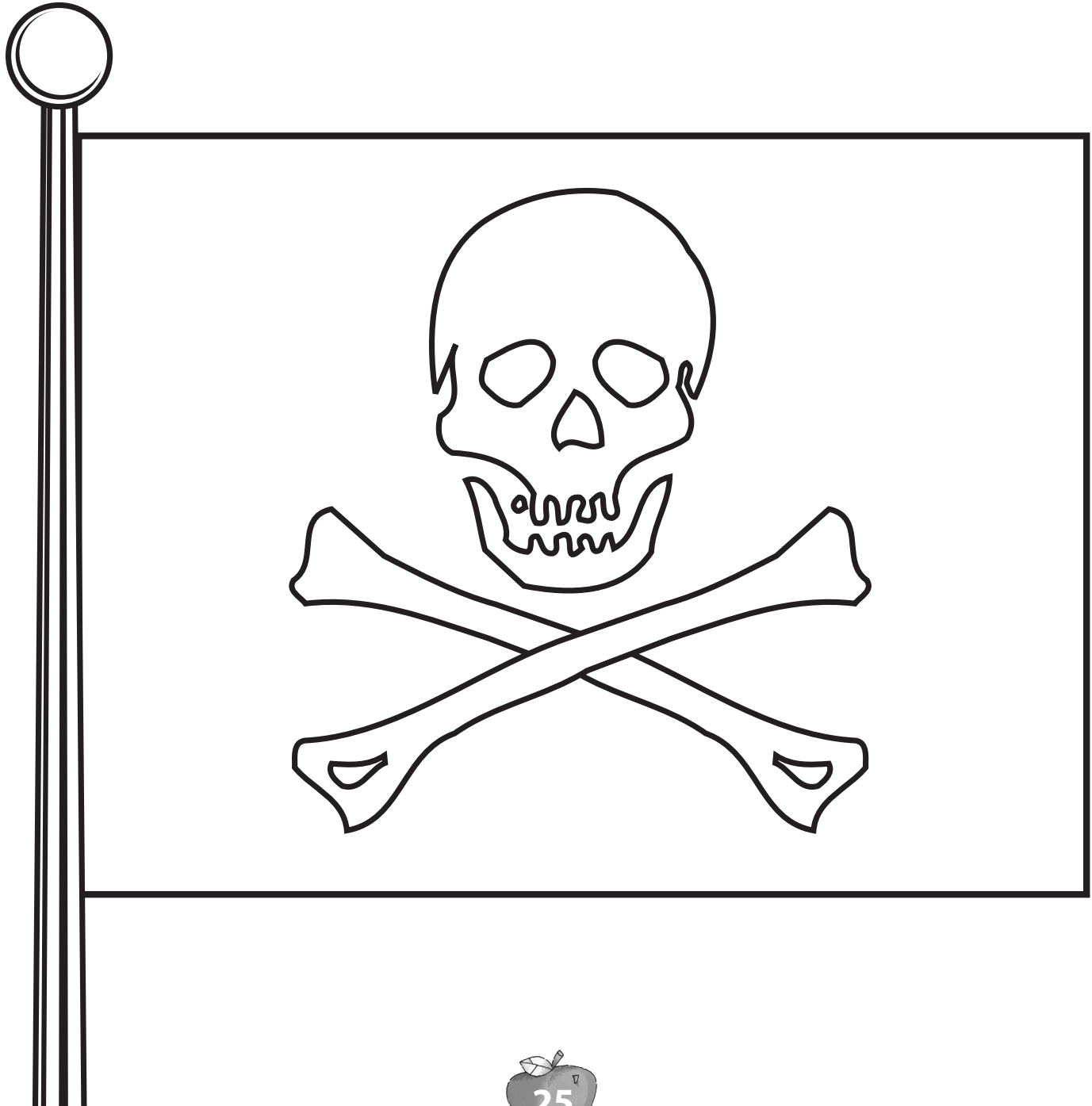
HOUSE



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Flag



Color the pirate flag!



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Clue Scramble



Unscramble the words below to find mystery clues!



1. ELBL

2. WSDOR

3. STLURE

4. TTBLEO

5. EDHA

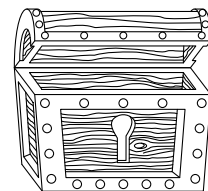
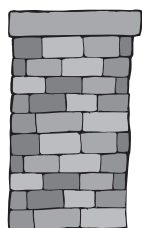
6. NMCHYIE

7. NIDWOW

8. KMSA

9. CSTHE

10. AIHR



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Word Search



*Search for the mysteriously hidden words below!
What words can you find that aren't in the word bank?*

A M P H I T H E A T E R O G R B B
 U Y Y E S H I P X E D C O E W O E
 T S B S T A G E S Z H L E Y A O A
 E T U K C X A M A R D O V A D K C
 T E O L C E M E T E R Y K N A L P
 A R D A E H R H E A U T E C B L B
 R Y D R A E B K C A L B G H E A E
 I P C H A R A C T E R B E O V E N
 P I C L U E B O A U T H O R S C L

AMPHITHEATER

GOLD

HEAD

CEMETERY

BLACKBEARD

AUTHOR

STAGE

MYSTERY

CLUE

PIRATE

ANCHOR

BOOK

DRAMA

SHIP

PLANK

CHARACTER

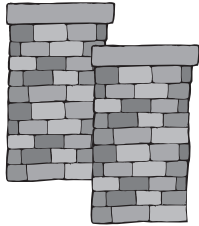


The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Fill-in-the-Blank Crossword



Fill in the blanks to find the missing words!

1. North Carolina town where Blackbeard once lived:



_____ T _____

2. Twin Chimneys look from:

_____ A _____

_____ H _____ H _____

3. Holy place where people are buried underground:

_____ A _____ A _____

C _____

4. Cap'n dropped the kids off here during a storm:

_____ L _____ T _____

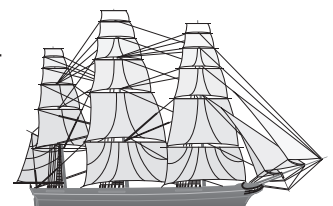
5. Where the actors met at the amphitheater:

C _____ T _____

6. Name of Blackbeard's ship:

_____ U _____ , _____ N _____ , _____

_____ V _____



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Matching Facts



Match these famous people with their amazing facts!

1. Ned Teach

A. Costumer's Assistant

2. Ozzie Ormond

B. Play Manager

3. Michele

C. Mystery writer from Georgia

4. Cap'n

D. Drunken rower

5. Mr. Tankard

E. Blackbeard the Pirate

6. Ray Whitley

F. Rescuing archaeologist

7. Carole Marsh

G. "Drama Queen"



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Quiz



Use the clues find each fun place to visit!

1. Outdoor drama was staged in the:

2. First public library in North Carolina:

3. People are buried underneath this church:

4. Pirate's inn of choice:

5. City where Michele and Michael live:

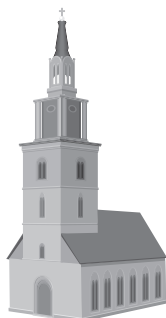
6. Great place for a cozy fire:

7. Sells tickets for historic building tours:

8. Might not always ring:

9. Blackbeard's last battle:

10. Runs past the State Pier:



The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate True or False



Mark each statement true or false.

- _____ 1. Bath is the oldest town in North Carolina.
- _____ 2. Blackbeard was faithful to his one wife for fifty years.
- _____ 3. The Palmer Marsh House had one chimney.
- _____ 4. The cemetery is closest to the Bonner House.
- _____ 5. The Amphitheater is located at Plum Point.
- _____ 6. A semiquincentennial is a 250th year anniversary.
- _____ 7. Bath is a very modernized town.
- _____ 8. Fuzzbucket is the name of the motel goat.
- _____ 9. Most people weren't very scared of Blackbeard the Pirate.
- _____ 10. Pamlico Sound lies west of the Outer Banks in North Carolina.



Answer Key...

to The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Activities



Math Activities

1. 4 homes; 2. \$8,280 budget; \$1.66 for each book; 3. \$1,566.50 is left; 4. 16 eggs; \$2.72 total spent; 5. 150 pages; 30 days; \$60 per page; \$300 per day; 6. \$100,000 of loot; \$60,000 left; \$30,000 left

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Pair Up

Missing Head, North Carolina, Catnip Point, Bath Creek, Jo Dee, Buzzard Inn, Twin Chimneys, Historic Center, Water Street, Plum Point, St. Thomas Cemetery, Teach's Hole, Bonner House, Pirate's Treasure

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Clue Scramble

1. bell; 2. sword; 3. lustre; 4. bottle; 5. head; 6. chimney; 7. window; 8. mask; 9. chest; 10. hair

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Fill-in-the-Blank Crossword

1. Bath; 2. Palmer Marsh House; 3. Saint Thomas Church; 4. Plum Point; 5. Catnip Point; 6. Queen Anne's Revenge

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Matching Facts

1. E; 2. A; 3. G; 4. D; 5. B; 6. F; 7. C

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate Quiz

1. Amphitheater; 2. Bath Public Library; 3. St. Thomas Church; 4. Buzzard Inn; 5. Raleigh; 6. Palmer Marsh House; 7. Historic Center; 8. Queen Anne's Bell in the cemetery; 9. Teach's Hole; 10. Bath Creek

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate True or False?

1. True; 2. False; 3. False; 4. True; 5. False; 6. True; 7. False; 8. False; 9. False; 10. True

