

Pirates

A pirate is a person who attacks and robs ships. Most piracy happened during the 1600s and 1700s.

Pirate Ships

Pirate ships were often ships which had been captured. Some pirate captains would start with a small ship and crew. Once they had captured a bigger ship, they would use that instead and take on more crew members.



Pirate Dress

Bicorn hat

Bandana



Famous Pirates from Long Ago

John 'Jack' Rackham

English pirate captain who made the Jolly Roger flag.



Bartholomew Roberts

Welsh pirate who captured 400 ships in four years!

Pirates Today

They don't dress the same as pirates from the past, but pirates do still exist today in places around the world.



- Pirates stole useful items such as medicine, weapons and soap as well as gold and silver.
- Pirates thought whistling on a ship could cause a storm.
- As far as we know, pirates never used treasure maps. This could have been an idea which was made up for pirate stories.

Questions

1. Match the beginning of the sentence to the correct ending:

A pirate

400 ships in four years.

Most pirate captains
started out with

made the Jolly Roger flag.

John 'Jack' Rackham

attacks and robs ships.

Roberts captured

a small ship and crew.

2. True or False? Pirates stole things like soap and weapons, as well as gold and silver

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

3. Pirates thought that whistling on the ship would...

- ☐ bring good luck
- ☐ stop the wind
- ☐ cause a storm
- ☐ make them rich

4. True or False? All pirates used treasure maps.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

5. Pirates still exist today in places around the _____.