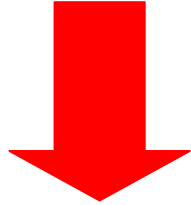




Created by Mrs Sims-King


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What images come into your mind when you hear the word pirates? Blood, the skull and cross bones, treasure chests heaped with gold? Did you know there were women pirates and pirates who were knighted?



WILLIAM KIDD

Task one

Can you write your own definitions of these words?

- Pirate
- Privateer
- Buccaneer
- Corsair

Next we are going to look at two very different types of adventurer, both equally famous:

Captain William Kidd and the infamous Blackbeard.

The story of Captain Kidd and the Pirates

Travelling by road was risky but not as risky as sea voyages. Crossing the Atlantic Ocean meant running the risk of pirates seeking Spanish gold. Queen Elizabeth encouraged seamen to rob foreign ships. The monarch shared anything they stole, officials even paid for the arms and ships to do this. Special letters were issued to captains allowing them to attack ships of other countries. They were called lettres de marque and the sailors were called privateers. This was different from a pirate, who would rob anybody, even his own country's ships.

Sometimes it was difficult to see the difference and a number of people were accused of being pirates who said they were privateers. One of them was Captain Kidd.

Kidd's last voyage began in 1696, he had a lettre de marque from the king to let him rob French ships and he was asked to destroy any pirate ships he could find.

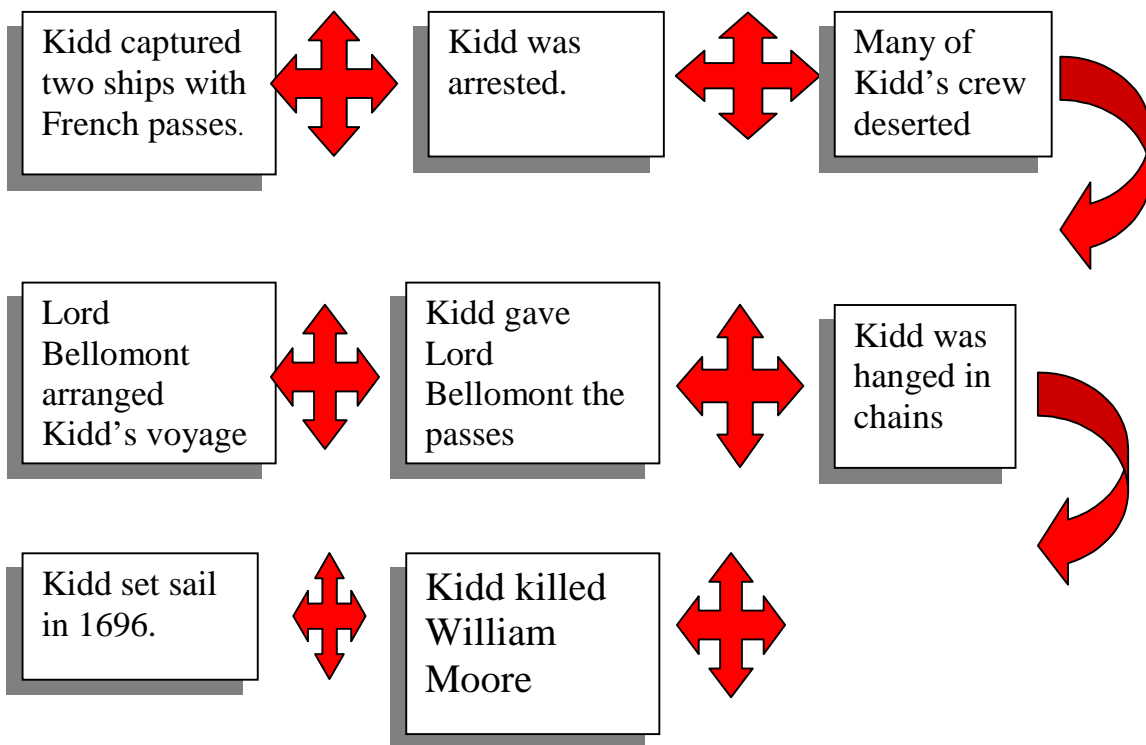
The voyage was organised by Lord Bellomont. Other lords helped raise £6000 needed to equip the ship. They would take most of any profit made, the government would get 10% and Captain Kidd and his men would have a share. For a while there was nothing to share, food ran short and the men grew restless.

The man who laid the complaints was a gunner, William Moore. He and Kidd had an argument which ended when Kidd hit Moore over the head with a bucket. Moore died the next day.



Your next task is to investigate the life and times of Captain Kidd.

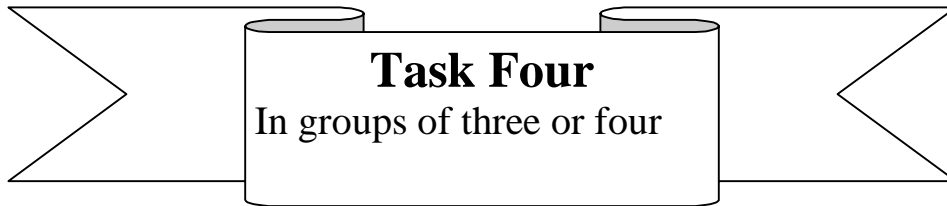
Can you put these events in the right order?



Task three

Find out whether Kidd was guilty; give your verdict and the reasons for it. What would be the best way to present this information, a newspaper account, a courtroom drama, an historical thriller...?

Choose the way you think is best and present it yourself.



Task Four
In groups of three or four

Read this agreement carefully, was it fair, would you sign it?



An agreement between buccaneers (1681)

It was stipulated that he should have one-hundredth part of all that was gotten for himself alone.

Every captain should draw the shares of eight men, for his ship's expenses, beside his own;

The surgeon, besides his ordinary pay, should have 200 pieces of eight, for his chest of medicaments;

Every carpenter should draw 100 pieces of eight, above his common salary;

For the loss of both legs, they fixed 1500 pieces of eight or fifteen slaves, the choice being left to the party concerned;

For the loss of both hands, 1800 pieces of eight or eighteen slaves;
For one leg, 600 pieces of eight or six slaves;

For a hand as much as for a leg;

For the loss of an eye, 100 pieces of eight or one slave;

Lastly unto him that in any battle entered any castle first or took down Spanish colours and set up the English, they constituted 50 pieces of eight for a reward.

BLACKBEARD

PIRATE TERROR AT SEA

Edward Teach started life in Bristol in around 1680; he began his career on the high seas as a privateer, sailing out of Jamaica. But by 1716 he had turned to piracy. Teach had many aliases, he was known as Thatch, Tash and Drummond before he decided to change his name to Blackbeard. Perhaps the most famous pirate of them all.

He became captain of a captured trading sloop while serving under the pirate Captain Benjamin Hornigold. Soon he had a fleet of his own with his flagship 'The Concord' soon renamed 'The Queen Anne's Revenge'.

Blackbeard was famous for his ferocious appearance, he had a thick, jet-black beard which was plaited and tied with red ribbons. When he went into battle he had three pairs of pistols strapped across his chest, a number of daggers and pistols in his belt, a cutlass in his hand and slow burning fuses in his hat.

Teach was as cruel to his crew as he was to his prisoners.

If you read Captain Johnson's General History you will be told the story of First Mate Israel Hands, who was shot in the knee by Blackbeard, his crime was drinking with the Captain. Hands was crippled for life. Why did Blackbeard do it – he explained:

'If he did not now and then kill one of them they would forget who he was.'

In 1718 Alexander Spottiswood, the Governor of Virginia, soon offered a £100 reward for the capture of Blackbeard, DEAD OR ALIVE!



Lieutenant Robert Maynard of HMS Pearl, soon claimed the reward. A risk taker to the end, Teach ignored all warnings and was finally trapped on a sand bar, he toasted his opponent with a mug of rum, said he would take no quarter and be damned if he gave any. Maynard and Blackbeard fought it out, in hand to hand combat. Finally, Teach fell to the deck, with 20 cutlass wounds and 5 pistol shots. Seeing him fall, the other pirates surrendered.

Maynard beheaded Blackbeard and hung his scowling head from the bowsprit of his ship.

Now a new heading in your book

Blackbeard the Terror of the High Seas

Task One

Look at the illustrations on this page, can you identify these weapons, and give a brief description of when and how they were used? Here's a website to help you with this task and some of the ones to follow.

www.ebs.hw.ac.uk/EDC/CAC/pirates/weapons.htm



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Task Two

1. How did the pirates trick other ships so that they could draw close?
2. Why did the people of North Carolina tolerate Blackbeard's presence?
3. Write an account of how Blackbeard was captured; there is more to it than the information on the last sheet. How are you going to present your information? A news report, a mystery, a historical thriller, a cartoon...? The possibilities are endless.

Now it's time to find out about two unusual pirates



**ANNE
BONNY**



MARY READ

Try this web site:

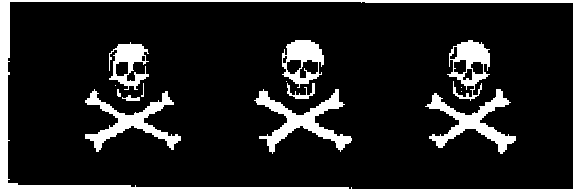
<http://powerup.com.au/~glen/pirate2.htm>

- How did Mary Read and Anne Bonny meet?
- How did they become pirates?
- How did they get caught?
- What happened to them?

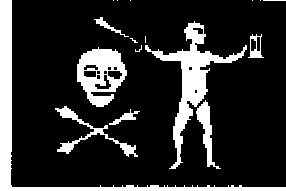
The final part of your Pirate Quest



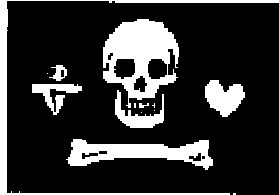
- Can you identify this man?
- Did you know all the pirates' flags were different?
- Where do we get the name 'Jolly Roger'?



CHRISTOPHER CONDENT



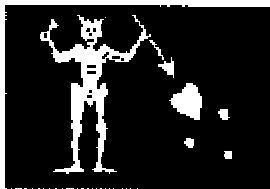
CAPTAIN DULAIEN



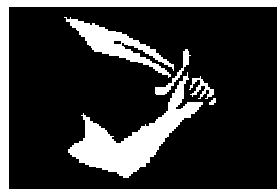
STEDE BONNET



JACK RACKHAM



BLACKBEARD



THOMAS TEW



CHRISTOPHER MOODY

Websites to help you complete your tasks:

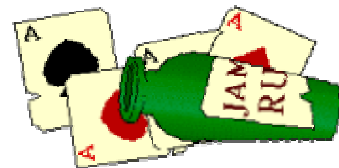
www.cac.org.uk/pirates/pirates.htm

<http://powerup.com.au/~glen/pirate2.htm>

www.nationalgeographic.com/features/97/pirates/html/bbeard_frame.html

www.ebs.hw.ac.uk/EDC/CAC/pirates/weapons.htm

Extension Activities



Want to gain some bonus points?

- Try using the web to research another pirate;
- Draw a picture of a pirate list their crimes; create a wanted ad for one of the pirates you have just researched.

Now use your new knowledge to solve the riddle of the treasure hidden at the Salty Dog Inn:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/97/pirates/maina.html>

And click on High Seas adventure. Good Luck!

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