

IN BRIEF

The Pirate Princess is a story about a girl who is determined to do things her own way and decides to become a pirate! Leah's tale has important lessons to teach us about overcoming problems and making our own decisions.



1 LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- Reading stories is a great way to discover new words! If you came across some that you don't know in this month's issue, look them up in the **Glossary**. For an extra challenge, try to use each new word in a sentence!
- What did you think about the way Leah coped with the challenges she faced in 'The Pirate Princess'? Answer the questions on the **Class Discussion Sheet** and talk about the things she did well... and the things she did that might have been wrong!
- The extract in this month's **Reading Comprehension Sheet** is about Leah's adventures as a pirate. See if you can answer the questions about the treasure she found.
- Can you retell the story of Leah's adventures? Write in what happened underneath the illustrations on the **Storyboard** worksheet.
- What challenges did Leah face in 'The Pirate Princess', and how did she deal with them? Fill in the **Story Structure Sheet** to figure out the most important facts about the story!
- Can you put the mixed-up events in Leah's story back in the right order on the **Story Sequencing Sheet**?
- Print and cut out the fun **Story Cards** – you can use them for inspiration when coming up with a sequel to Leah's tale!
- Do you want to sound more like a scurvy seadog? Check out the **Talk Like a Pirate!** page and try using some of the words in conversations. (NOTE: We aren't really sure about how pirates used to talk! Some of these words on the sheet are real sailor's expressions, and some are from fictional books and movies about buccaneers – but they are still fun to use!)

- Imagine that you and your friends have decided to become pirates and seek adventure on the high seas. Create your cool pirate nicknames, name your ship and tell the tale of how you found your greatest treasure on the **Who's Your Crew?** page!

2

HISTORY LESSON IDEAS

- There are many fictional pirates in stories – but you can find out about six of the best (or worst!) *real-life* pirates on the **Pirate Fact Cards!** Based on these cards, what do you think the chances of surviving a life of piracy were?
- Pirates have been popular for a long time, and a lot of tall tales have been told about them in books and movies! See if you can sort out the facts from the fiction on the **True or False?** quiz sheet!

3

GEOGRAPHY LESSON IDEAS

- Test how well you and a friend can work out compass directions on the **Find the Treasure!** activity page. Print out two copies of the map page. One player then draws an 'X' on their copy, showing where they have hidden their treasure. They then try to guide the other person towards finding that spot on their own map, using directions like 'north', 'south', 'east' and 'west', as well as 'port' (left) and 'starboard' (right).
- Pirates have plundered many parts of the world, but they are most famous for attacking ships in the Caribbean Sea from about 1650 to 1725. This was called the 'Golden Age of Piracy'. Spanish ships carrying treasure from Central America and South America to Europe sailed through there, and they were tempting targets. Can you find the Caribbean on a map or globe? Can you think of another reason why it might have been a good place for pirates to operate in?

Answer: The Caribbean has hundreds of little islands, which made ideal pirate hideouts...

4 ART LESSON IDEAS

- You came up with cool pirate names for yourself and your friends on the **Who's Your Crew?** page. Now print and cut out the **Pirate Beard Masks** and act out your adventures, too! Wrap a handkerchief or scarf around your head to complete your pirate outfit...
- See how good you are at finding details by identifying the pirate impostor on the **Odd Pirate Out!** puzzle page. Can you spot which pirate is wearing clothing that didn't exist in the Golden Age of Piracy?
- If you were a pirate, what sail would you put on your ship? Create a cool and scary design and draw it on the **Draw a Pirate Sail** sheet. For inspiration, take a look at the real-life pirate flags on the **Pirate Fact Cards!**
- A colourful parrot is a great accessory for a stylish pirate! Design your own bright bird on the **Colour a Pirate Parrot!** page.

STORYTIME GLOSSARY

1 OF 2

Don't know a word in a story?
Find out what it means here!

The Eagle and the Kite (Page 6)

- ▷ **Magnificent** – impressive
- ▷ **Chirped** – made a sound like 'chirp'
- ▷ **Provide** – give
- ▷ **Satisfy** – take care of
- ▷ **Perch** – place where a bird sits
- ▷ **Hunter** – someone who hunts
- ▷ **Voles** – small mouselike animals
- ▷ **Vulture** – large bird that eats dead animals
- ▷ **Ruff** – frill around neck
- ▷ **Offerings** – things that are offered
- ▷ **Suitors** – people who want to marry her
- ▷ **Boomed** – said in a loud way

The Boy Who Opened the Door (Page 9)

- ▷ **Wicked** – evil
- ▷ **Crept up** – sneaked up
- ▷ **Scampered** – ran
- ▷ **Despite** – ignoring
- ▷ **Comforted** – helped him feel better
- ▷ **Outsmart** – fool
- ▷ **Gobble** – quickly eat
- ▷ **Beneath** – under
- ▷ **Organ-grinder** – organ-player
- ▷ **Passers-by** – people walking past
- ▷ **Piped up** – spoke
- ▷ **Peeved** – a little bit angry and upset

The Big Bad Snore (Page 14)

- ▷ **Rudely** – in a rude way
- ▷ **Echoing** – bouncing back and forth
- ▷ **Dreadful** – horrible

- ▷ **Clutching** – holding tightly
- ▷ **Snort** – a sound like 'snort'
- ▷ **Snuffle** – a loud sniffing noise
- ▷ **Bid** – wished

The Guardian of Yosemite (Page 16)

- ▷ **Cliffs** – high steep areas of rock
- ▷ **Wandered** – walked
- ▷ **Prowled** – walked like hunters
- ▷ **Wilderness** – wild area
- ▷ **Gathered** – picked up
- ▷ **Acorns** – nuts from oak trees
- ▷ **Prospered** – were successful
- ▷ **Heartbroken** – very sad
- ▷ **Captured his heart** – enchanted him
- ▷ **Landslides** – places where land slipped
- ▷ **Quarrelling** – arguing
- ▷ **Anew** – as if new
- ▷ **Prayer** – request for help
- ▷ **Drifted** – gently moved like mist

The Pirate Princess (Page 20)

- ▷ **Strong-willed** – determined
- ▷ **Symbol** – sign
- ▷ **Bitter** – especially bad
- ▷ **Shelter** – place to stay
- ▷ **Merchant** – person who sells things
- ▷ **Insisted** – said that she must
- ▷ **Civilization** – where people live
- ▷ **Aboard** – onto
- ▷ **Noble** – from important families
- ▷ **Handmaidens** – female servants
- ▷ **Novice** – beginner

Continued on page 2...

STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

- ▷ **Plank** – long flat piece of wood
- ▷ **Hideout** – secret base
- ▷ **Feast** – big meal
- ▷ **Cloth** – what clothes are made of
- ▷ **Fierce** – dangerous or frightening
- ▷ **Disguised** – dressed up as
- ▷ **Well-travelled** – has travelled a lot
- ▷ **Election** – event where people vote
- ▷ **Overjoyed** – very happy

The Best Day Ever (Page 28)

- ▷ **Thump** – hit
- ▷ **Dribble** – have spit come out of his mouth
- ▷ **Lead** – leash
- ▷ **Whined** – made noise like ‘whine’
- ▷ **Twitchy** – making sudden movements
- ▷ **Swerved** – quickly turned
- ▷ **Scampered** – climbed
- ▷ **Growl** – make angry noise in throat
- ▷ **Wriggling** – moving like a worm
- ▷ **Trotted** – quickly walked

The Unstoppable Girl (Page 33)

- ▷ **Dimple** – little dent in cheek
- ▷ **Mischievous** – naughty
- ▷ **Courtyard** – open area
- ▷ **Force of nature** – unstoppable thing
- ▷ **Carvings** – things made by carving wood, stone or other materials
- ▷ **Revolutionaries** – people who fight to change a country’s government
- ▷ **Stirring** – exciting

- ▷ **Disease** – sickness
- ▷ **Mist** – cloudy stuff
- ▷ **Toughness** – strength
- ▷ **Plaster cast** – hard shell of plaster used to stop injured body parts from moving
- ▷ **Self-portraits** – pictures an artist makes of themselves

The Monkey’s Heart (Page 38)

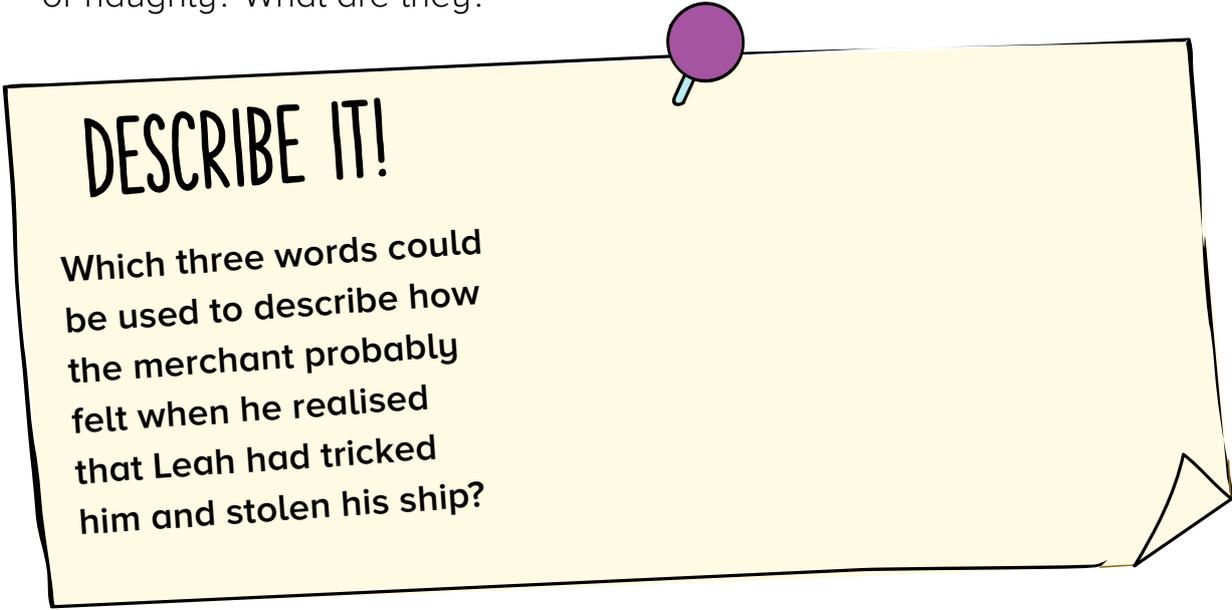
- ▷ **Mangrove** – kind of tree that grows partly in water
- ▷ **Chatter** – talk
- ▷ **Triangular** – shaped like a triangle
- ▷ **Anemones** – flowerlike underwater creatures that cling to rocks
- ▷ **Manta rays** – large flat fish
- ▷ **Palm hearts** – edible buds of palm trees
- ▷ **Safely** – without danger
- ▷ **Honest** – truthful
- ▷ **Medicine** – stuff that helps someone to get better from an illness or injury
- ▷ **Precious** – worth a lot
- ▷ **Leaped out** – jumped out

CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

TEXT QUESTIONS

What did you think of the story of the pirate princess? Can you answer these questions about Leah and how she behaved?

1. Think about Leah as a character! How would you describe her as a person?
2. In the story, there are four characters who try to boss Leah around without paying any attention to what she wants. Who are they?
3. When people try to trap Leah, how does she act and what does she do? Do you think that this can be a good way to deal with problems?
4. When Leah wants to go off pirating with her handmaidens, what does she do? How is this different from the way the merchant, the king and the pirate captain behave?
5. Do you think Leah did some things that could be thought of as wrong or naughty? What are they?



DESCRIBE IT!

Which three words could be used to describe how the merchant probably felt when he realised that Leah had tricked him and stolen his ship?

NAME _____ CLASS _____

Answers: 1. Leah could be described as *brave, determined and clever*. 2. The Emperor (Leah's father), the merchant, the pirate captain and the king all try to push Leah around. 3. When Leah is being pushed around, she normally pretends to do what people want but secretly plans to leave and find her freedom. This can sometimes be a good way to deal with situations – but not always! 4. Leah asks her handmaidens if they want to sail away with her – she doesn't try to force them to! 5. Stealing ships and being a pirate probably count as 'wrong' – even if Leah didn't hurt anybody while being a pirate. Describe it! The merchant probably felt *angry, embarrassed, helpless, confused or unhappy*.

READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

Read the extract from 'The Pirate Princess' and try to answer the tricky questions about the words used in it. How many can you get right?

The girls had a great time being pirates! They sewed fancy costumes for themselves from the rich cloth they found in the ship's treasure chests, and even wore fake beards of horse-hair to look even more fierce.

In fact, they looked so frightening that ships surrendered to them without a fight! Leah and her unusual crew soon had a hold full of gold and jewels.

1. In this extract, there are two adjectives (or *describing words*) that mean something similar to 'scary'. What are they? (**Clue:** they both start with 'f'.)
2. The word 'unusual' in the extract means 'not usual'. Can you think of three more words that are made by adding 'un-' to another word?
3. Can you fill in the spaces in this sentence with new words that make sense but change the meaning? Be creative!

They sewed _____ costumes for themselves from the _____ cloth they found in the ship's treasure chests, and even wore _____ beards of horse-hair to look even more _____.

IT'S OPPOSITE DAY!

Can you find words in the extract that mean the opposite of the words below?

POOR _____

REAL _____

PLAIN _____

*Answers: 1. Fierce and frightening.
2. Possible words include unhappy, untidy, unlucky, undo and untie. It's Opposite Day!: rich, fake and fancy.*

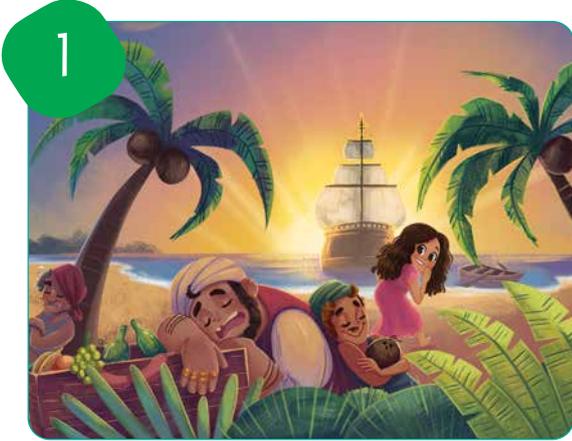
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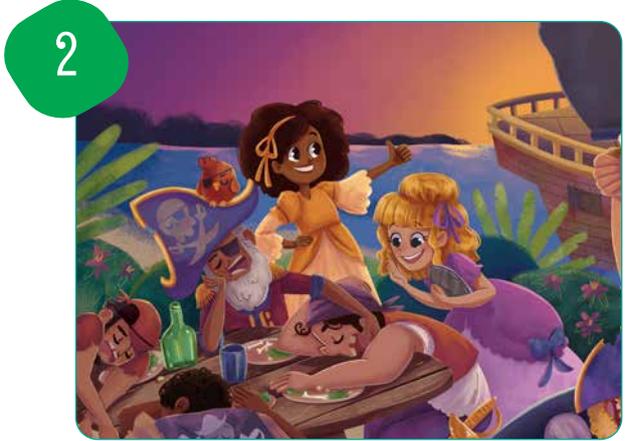
THE PIRATE PRINCESS: STORYBOARD

1 OF 2

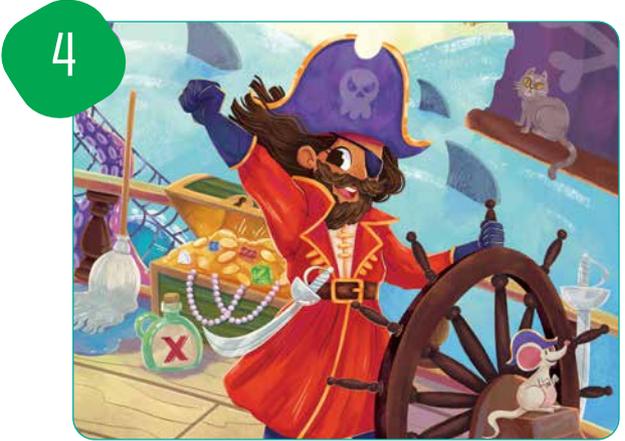


Tell Leah's tale in your own way by writing in what happened underneath the pictures on this storyboard!









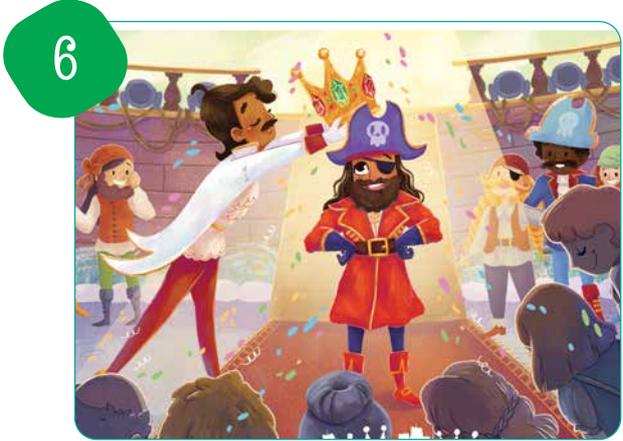
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THE PIRATE PRINCESS: STORYBOARD

2 OF 2







WRITE IT!

Imagine that you are Leah and you have just been crowned 'king'. What would you say in your speech to your subjects?

NAME _____ CLASS _____



STORY STRUCTURE SHEET

Where is the story set?

When is the story set?

Who are the main characters in the story?

What is the main problem in the story?

What is the solution?

How does the story end?

NAME _____

CLASS _____

FAVOURITE FAIRY TALES: THE PIRATE PRINCESS



STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

Some scurvy scallywag has mixed up Leah's story. Put the events back in the right order!

Leah and Joshua decided to buy a ship and sail away together. They were shipwrecked on an island, and Joshua got lost in a forest.

Leah sailed to a kingdom ruled by a king who did not have a wife. He insisted on marrying her, even though she did not love him.

Instead of marrying the king, Leah convinced her handmaidens to sail away with her and become her pirate crew.

Leah and her handmaidens then arrived in a country that needed to choose a new ruler. The people chose Leah to be their new 'king'.

At the school, Leah met a boy named Joshua, but their fathers did not want them to get married.

Her guards brought in a man who had looked at Leah's picture in surprise. It was Joshua! He and Leah were reunited, and got married.

A merchant stopped at the island where Leah was shipwrecked. He said he would rescue her – if she would marry him.

Leah ordered that pictures of her should be hung up everywhere, and that anyone who looked at them in surprise should be taken to her.

Leah's father was the ruler of a great empire, and he sent her to a school in a distant land where she learned how to be a good ruler.

Leah and her crew were captured by pirates, but they tricked them and stole their ship and treasure.

The princess agreed to marry the merchant, but that night she stole his ship and sailed away.

NAME _____

CLASS _____

STORY CARDS

Imagine that Leah gave up on being a king and went on a new pirate adventure. Use these cards to help you make up a sequel to this month's story by drawing a card to see which character appears next!

 <p>LEAH</p>	 <p>THE PIRATE CAPTAIN</p>
 <p>ABEL THE PARROT</p>	 <p>JESSICA</p>
 <p>JOSHUA</p>	 <p>RUTH</p>

TALK LIKE A PIRATE!

Can you work out what the pirate words below mean? See if you can match them with the descriptions underneath – and try to use them when talking to your ‘shipmates’!



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- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Hello | F. Treasure | K. To the left |
| B. Stop! | G. Someone that cannot be trusted | L. To the right |
| C. Yes | H. Pull hard | M. The youngest crew member |
| D. Nasty person | I. Non-sailor | N. Experienced sailor |
| E. Expression of surprise | J. My friends | |

Answers: 1.K, 2.C, 3.H, 4.M, 5.J, 6.D, 7.N, 8.L, 9.A, 10.G, 11.B, 12.I, 13.E, 14.F.

NAME _____

CLASS _____



WHO'S YOUR CREW?

Imagine that you and your friends have become pirates, just like Leah and her handmaidens. Give yourselves ranks and nicknames, name your ship, and write about how you found your greatest treasure!

The captain is _____ “ _____ ” _____
(first name) (pirate nickname) (last name)

The first mate is _____ “ _____ ” _____
(first name) (pirate nickname) (last name)

The powder monkey is _____ “ _____ ” _____
(first name) (pirate nickname) (last name)

Our pirate ship is called the _____

Where is your hideout? (Tip: It's probably in a secret spot on an island with a scary name!)

Write a short story about the greatest treasure you have found, and how you got it!

NAME _____

CLASS _____

PIRATE FACT CARDS!

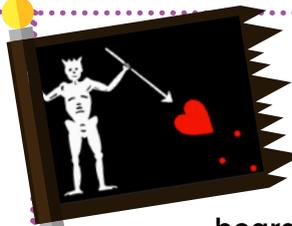
Cut out these handy cards, which have all the facts you need to know about the world's best (and worst) real-life pirates...



Name: Bartholomew Roberts
Nickname: 'Black Bart'
Famous for: Being one of the most successful pirates of all time – he captured more than 400 ships.

What happened to him? He was killed by cannon fire from a Royal Navy ship.

PIRATE RATING: 🦴🦴🦴🦴



Name: Edward Teach
Nickname: 'Blackbeard'
Famous for: Being big and scary, with a huge beard. He wove lighted matches into his hair to look extra-fierce!

What happened to him? He was killed in a battle against the Royal Navy.

PIRATE RATING: 🦴🦴🦴



Name: Jack Rackham
Nickname: 'Calico Jack'
Famous for: Not being a very good pirate! He was most famous for the women in his crew: Anne Bonny and Mary Read.

What happened to him? Was captured in battle with the Royal Navy and hanged.

PIRATE RATING: 🦴🦴



Name: Henry Every
Nickname: 'Long Ben'
Famous for: Getting the biggest load of booty in pirate history. He captured the fleet of the Indian Mughal Emperor, which was carrying £600,000 worth of treasure.

What happened to him? He managed to retire and live a life of luxury!

PIRATE RATING: 🦴🦴🦴🦴🦴



Name: Edward Low
Nickname: None
Famous for: Being perhaps the cruellest pirate of all! He captured over 100 ships and killed many of the crew.

What happened to him? He probably drowned when his ship sank.

PIRATE RATING: 🦴🦴🦴



Name: Stede Bonnet
Nickname: 'The Gentleman Pirate'
Famous for: Being a wealthy man who wanted to become a pirate! He bought a fancy ship, but was no good as a captain.

What happened to him? He was caught and hanged, despite begging for his life!

PIRATE RATING: 🦴

NAME _____

CLASS _____



TRUE OR FALSE?

There are lots of tall tales about pirates – can you tell which of these things are true and which are false?

1

Pirates made their victims 'walk the plank' to get rid of them.

TRUE

FALSE

2

Some countries had pirates working for them.

TRUE

FALSE

3

All pirates flew the 'Jolly Roger' flag with the skull and crossbones on it.

TRUE

FALSE



4

Pirates were all men.

TRUE

FALSE

5

Pirates used pistols and cutlasses in battle!

TRUE

FALSE

6

Pirates buried their treasure and drew maps to find it again.

TRUE

FALSE



7

Pirate captains had total control over their ships and their crews.

TRUE

FALSE

8

Some pirates had wooden legs, and hooks instead of hands.

TRUE

FALSE

9

There was a pirate kingdom where buccaneers could find shelter.

TRUE

FALSE



ANSWERS: 1. FALSE; 2. TRUE; 3. FALSE; 4. FALSE; 5. TRUE; 6. FALSE; 7. FALSE; 8. TRUE; 9. FALSE

NAME _____

CLASS _____

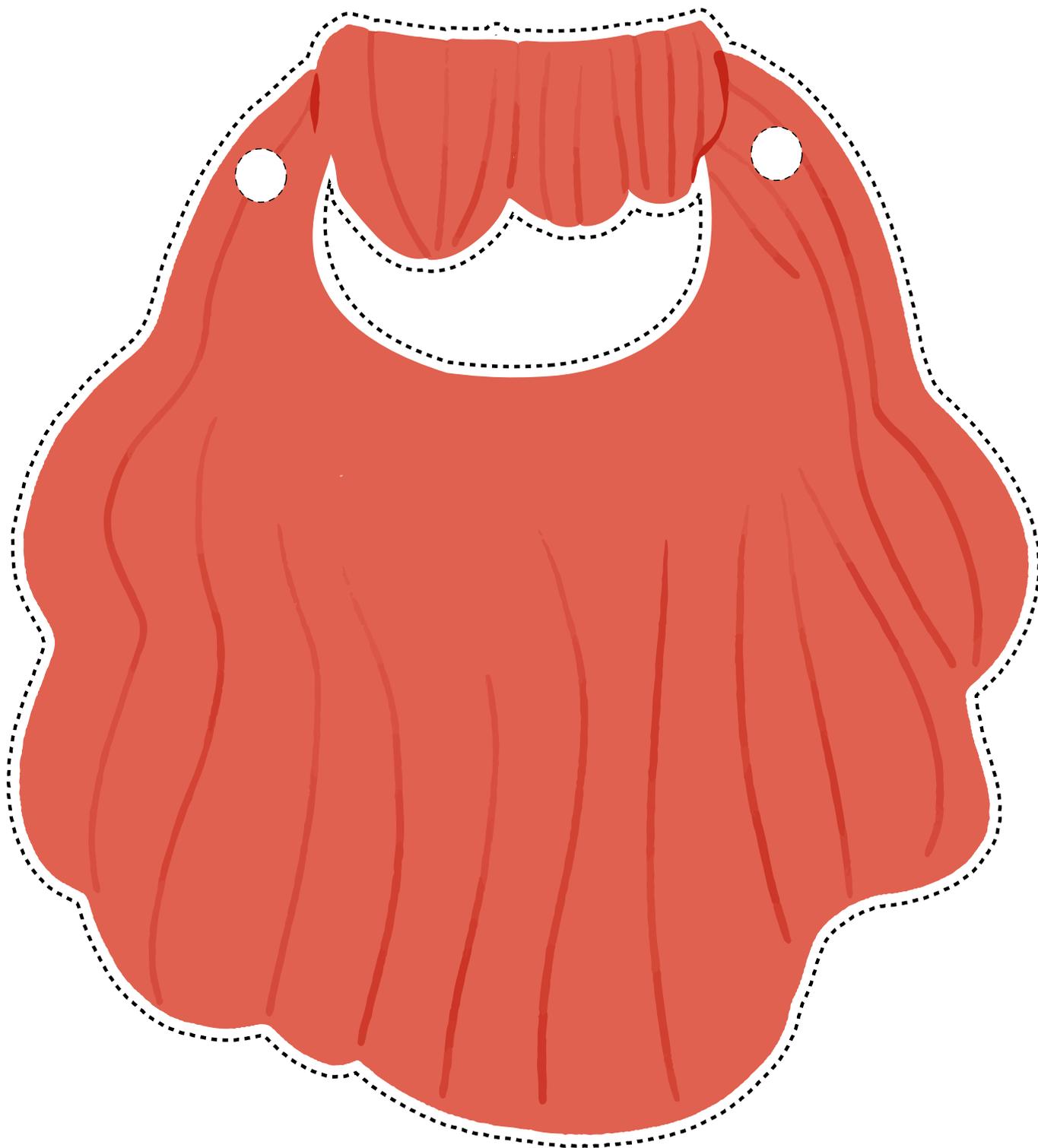
FIND THE TREASURE!



THE PIRATE PRINCESS: PIRATE BEARD MASKS 1



Want to play at being a pirate? Print and cut out these handy pirate beard masks. Attach some elastic so you can put them on and pretend to have exciting adventures on the high seas!



THE PIRATE PRINCESS: PIRATE BEARD MASKS 2



ODD PIRATE OUT!

The picture on the left is of a pirate impostor – can you pick him out from the group of pirates on the right?



BONUS QUESTION!
Which pirate is wearing some modern items?

ANSWERS: Pirate 5 is the impostor, and pirate 7 is wearing sunglasses and trainers!

DID YOU KNOW?

Some pirates really did wear **eyepatches!** Sometimes it was because they were missing an eye, but sometimes it was to help them when attacking ships! The eye under the patch would be used to the dark, so when they went from the bright sunlight into the darkness inside a ship, they could flip up their patch and see their enemies better!

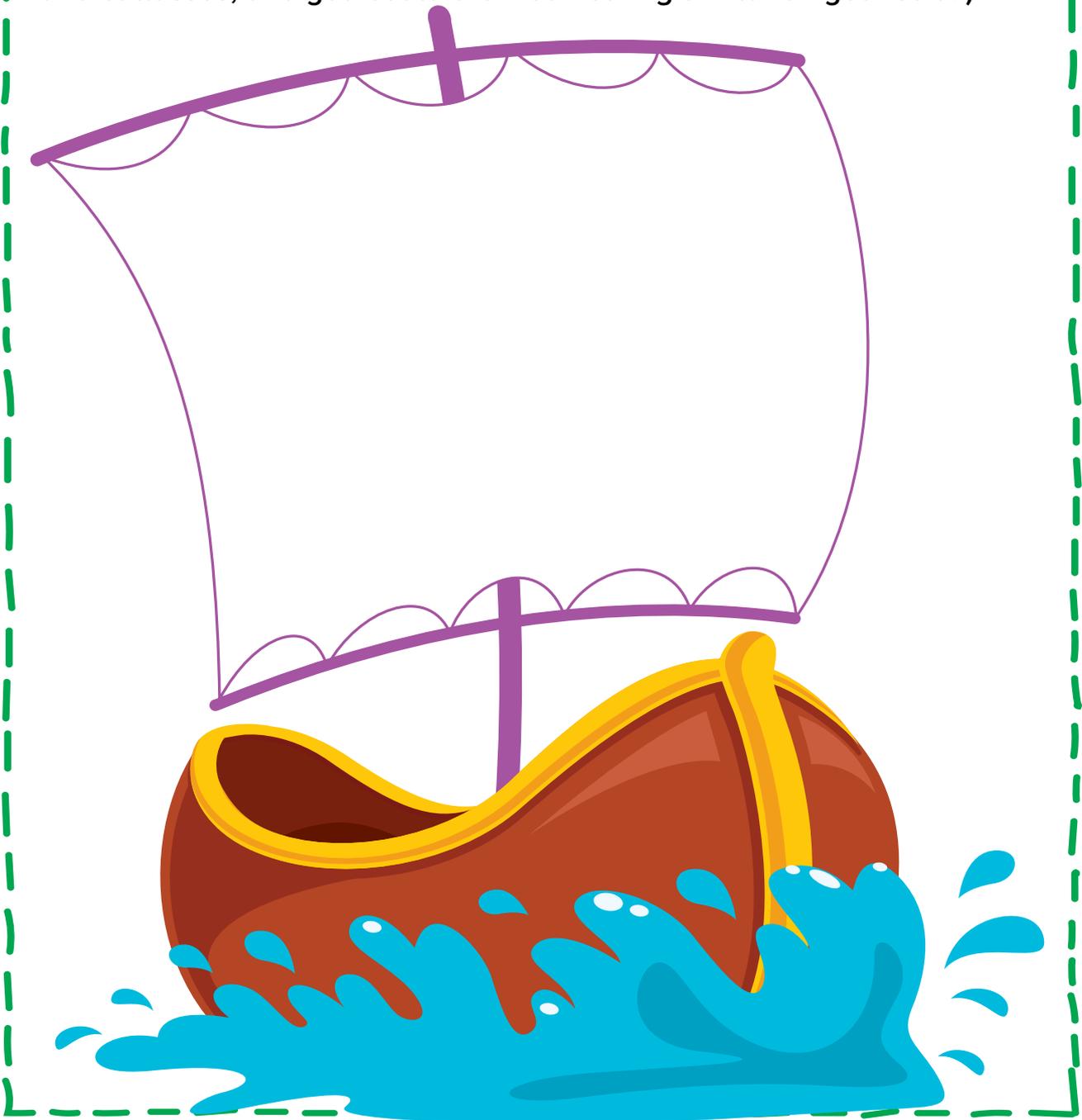


NAME _____

CLASS _____

DRAW A PIRATE SAIL

You made up your own pirate crew – now you must come up with a cool and scary pirate sail design. Draw it on the ship below! (Pirates liked to decorate their flags with bones, skulls, skeletons, hourglasses and cutlasses, and you could draw something similar on your sail...)

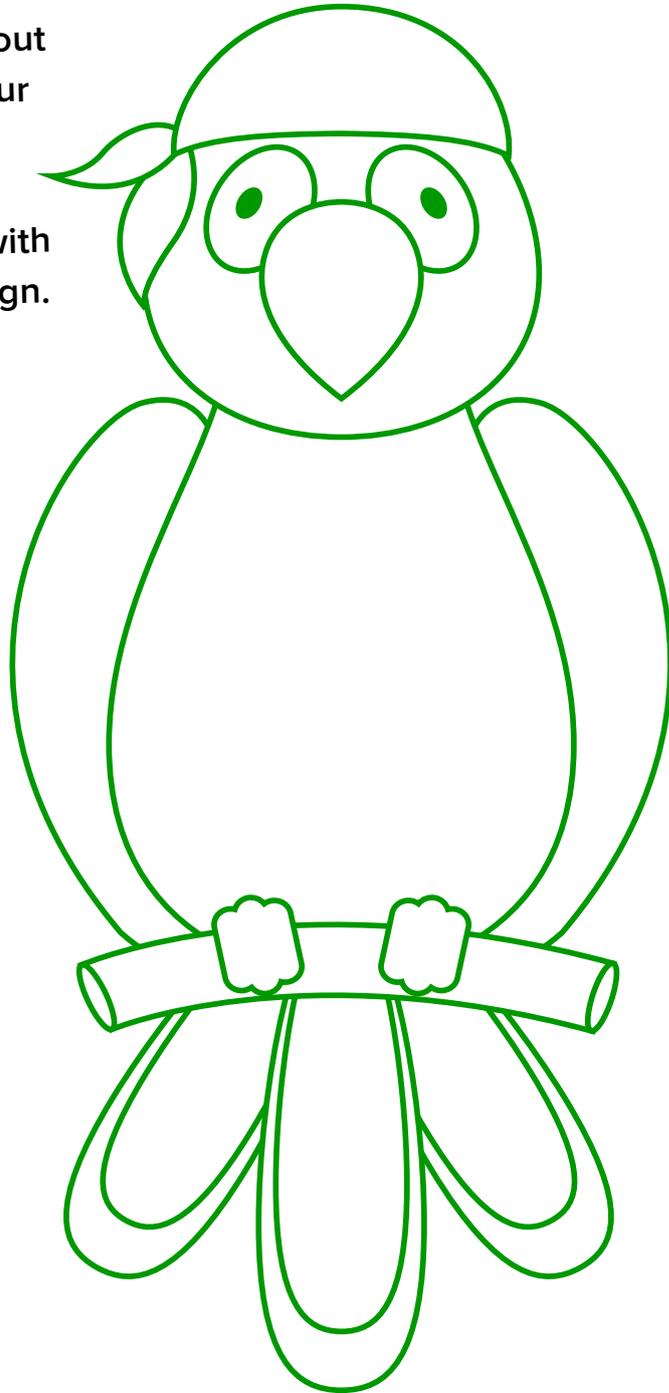


NAME _____

CLASS _____

COLOUR A PIRATE PARROT

What is a pirate without a parrot friend? Colour in this bird – look up pictures of real-life parrots or come up with your own bright design.



NAME _____

CLASS _____