



Pirates of the Carolinas!

Standards Addressed:

Social Studies

- 3-2.6:** Summarize the contributions of settlers in South Carolina under the Lords Proprietors and the Royal Colonial government, including the English from Barbados and other groups who made up the diverse population of early South Carolina

English Language Arts

- 3-1.7:** Create responses to literary texts through a variety of methods such as writing, creative dramatics, and the visual and performing arts.

Performing and Visual Arts

- II-Acting:** Acting by developing basic acting skills to portray characters who interact in improvised and scripted scenes.

Objective:

1. Students will create a newspaper article that summarizes the story of either Stede Bonnet or Blackbeard, and their interaction with the city of Charleston.

Materials:

- “Stede Bonnet, The ‘Gentleman’ Pirate: A Play on the High Seas”
- “Blackbeard: The life of a Pirate”
- “Pirate ‘Arrgh!-ticle””
- “Pirate Vocabulary Extension Activity”
- “Pirate Vocabulary”
- The South Carolina Adventure: *Problems with Pirates*, pages 92-93.

Procedures:

1. Begin the lesson by having a short class discussion on pirates. Using a K-W-L chart, ask the students to tell what they know about pirates; record their answers on the chart.
2. Have students read the handout “Stede Bonnet, The ‘Gentleman’ Pirate: A Play on the High Seas” as a class. Assign each of the students a part to read. Do the same with the play “Blackbeard: The Life of a Pirate.”
3. Have students create a newspaper article or story, using the “Pirate ‘Arrgh!-ticle”” form, that tells the story of either Stede Bonnet or Blackbeard and what he did in Charleston. The students should use information they learned from the story to write the article.

4. Have students share their article or story with the class and tell what happened to either of the pirates when they came to Charleston.

Assessment:

- Each student will create a newspaper article or story that will include the following:
 - Attention grabbing title
 - Information on Stede Bonnet or Blackbeard
 - Information about what happened in Charleston
 - Picture relating to Pirates (this could be a picture of Bonnet or Blackbeard, his ship, his crew, his trial, etc.)

Extension Activities:

1. Use the “Pirate Vocabulary Extension Activity” handout to test the students’ pirate vocabulary knowledge.
2. Use the “Pirate Vocabulary” form to check the students’ work. Students can also use the “Pirate Vocabulary” handout while writing the newspaper article.



Stede Bonnet, The “Gentleman” Pirate: A Play on the High Seas



Characters:			
Narrators (4)	Mrs. Bonnet	Colonel William Rhett	
Stede Bonnet	Crewman (4)	Blackbeard the Pirate	Judge

Narrator 1: Major Stede Bonnet was one of the more unique pirates commonly known as the “Gentleman Pirate.”

Everyone: “Arrgh! The “Gentleman Pirate!”

Narrator 1: Bonnet came from an upright English family and was a retired Major in the King’s Guards. He lived with his wife on a large estate in Barbados.

Narrator 2: He was a well-educated and well-respected man. Stede Bonnet became a pirate in 1717. The reason Stede Bonnet became a pirate is a mystery.

Everyone: “Arrgh! A mystery!”

Narrator 2: Some say it’s because of his nagging wife!

Mrs. Bonnet (Shouting angrily): “Stede, when are you going to take out the trash? You are always out playing cricket with your friends! When are you going to spend more time with me? You always leave your wig on the floor--how many times do I have to put it away for you?”

Stede Bonnet: “I’ll leave my wig wherever I choose! And where are my cricket bats anyway? I’m off to meet the guys!”

Narrator 3: One day, Stede bought a sloop, or ship.

Everyone: “Arrgh! He bought a sloop!”

Narrator 3: He named the sloop *Revenge* and outfitted it with ten guns. Stede decided that he needed a crew, so he went to the dirtiest, grimeiest places he could find. Then, he hired the dirtiest, grimeiest crewmen, or hands, he could find.

Crewmen together: “Arrgh!”

Stede Bonnet (to the crewmen): “Ahoy me hearties! Are you sick of working for nothing? Well, then come work for me on the *Revenge*. We’ll plunder every ship on the sea and share the booty! And on top of that, I’ll pay you in gold, me buckos!”

Crewman 1: “Blimey! I’m on board this ship! Aye-aye!”

Crewman 2: “Shiver me timbers! Let’s set sail and loot everything in sight! Arrgh!”

Narrator 4: So, Stede and his new dirty, grimy crew raised the Jolly Roger and set sail on the high seas. They plundered many ships off the Virginia and Carolina coasts.

Everyone: “Arrgh! Get the loot!”

Narrator 4: But the crew soon realized that Stede was not an experienced seaman, or sea dog, and they began to grow restless.

Crewman 3: “Arrgh! This Cap’n don’t even know how to drive this ship! Me thinks he’s never been on the sea before! Me thinks he’s a rum fellow.”

Crewman 4: “Begad! Me thinks you’re right, matey. He thinks he’s so savvy with that wig of his—me thinks he walks the plank!”

Everyone: “Arrgh! He walks the plank!”

Narrator 1: But, Stede Bonnet didn’t walk the plank because another ship was in sight. The ship was a pirate ship. The captain on the pirate ship was none other than Blackbeard!

Everyone: “Arrgh! Blackbeard!”

Narrator 1: Blackbeard and Stede met and decided to be partners.

Blackbeard: “Well, Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum! I like your wig and I like your rum. You and me will be good buckos and we will loot the seas together. Arrgh!”

Narrator 2: But making friends with pirates is not always a good idea. Blackbeard tricked Stede. He plundered Stede’s sloop and sailed off with all of Stede’s treasures.”

Stede Bonnet: “Arrgh! I’ve been tricked by Blackbeard!”

Everyone: “Arrgh! He was tricked by Blackbeard!”

Narrator 3: Meanwhile, Colonel William Rhett of Charleston was searching for Stede Bonnet.

Colonel William Rhett: “Nobody messes with Charleston! I’m gonna find that Stede Bonnet and have him hanged!”

Narrator 4: Colonel Rhett did find Stede Bonnet. There was a fierce battle and in the end, the “Gentleman Pirate” raised the white flag of surrender. Bonnet and his dirty, grimy crew were taken to Charleston. They were put on trial for their diabolical deeds.

Judge: “Stede Bonnet, you are a filthy pirate! I have no idea why you decided to become a pirate. You had money, you had land, and you had a great life. You are a disgrace.”

Everyone (shouting): “Hang him! Cut off his hands! He’s guilty!”

Judge: Death by hanging!

Narrator 1: On December 10, 1718, Stede Bonnet was hanged at White Point (Today known as “the Battery”) in Charleston, South Carolina. His body was left hanging for four days as a warning to anyone thinking about becoming a pirate.



Blackbeard: The Life of a Pirate

Characters:

Narrator 1 Narrator 2 Blackbeard Pirate 1
Pirate 2 Judge Trott Governor

Narrator 1: *It is mid-August, 1715. The sea is rough and the pirate ship Revenge lies off the coast of Charles Town. The sound of deck bells, creaking wood, and the crash of the ocean are the only sounds that can be heard*

Narrator 2: *The infamous pirate Blackbeard stands on the wooden deck of his ship, Queen Anne's Revenge, discussing how to get the much needed medicine for his crew*

Blackbeard: We need to barter with the people of Charles Town for the medicine before we have a mutiny.

Pirate 1: Mutiny? Do you think it would come to that?

Narrator 1: *Blackbeard looks out over the harbor and strokes his long black beard. Tired and haggard, with blood-shot eyes, he looks out to sea.*

Blackbeard: My men are sick. Our rations are almost gone. How do you propose we keep afloat?

Pirate 2: Maybe we can trade or sell some of our booty that we captured in the West Indies...

Blackbeard: That won't work, mate. We're pirates! We need to take it by force.

Narrator 2: *Suddenly, Blackbeard spies a wealthy merchant ship coming into the harbor.*

Blackbeard: blimey, my friend, I might see something on the horizon!

Narrator 1: *Blackbeard calls to his crew to raise the Jolly Roger and run out the guns. Descending on the panicing ship, Blackbeard calls out to the crew and passengers on board.*

Blackbeard: People of Charles Town...I am taking you and your families hostage until your city and your governor meet the demands of my crew!

Narrator 2: *The people comply. They have no choice. He is Blackbeard, the most feared pirate of the seas. Blackbeard locks them in the hold of the ship and threatens to hang them if his needs are not met.*

Narrator 1: *Meanwhile, there is chaos in Charles Town. At the Powder Magazine, Judge Trott and the Governor go over their options.*

Governor: What are their demands? Have they mentioned the powder magazine?

Judge Trott: We are protected by the wall. They will never get close to the magazine. My sources tell me that they want medicine. And worse, they have hostages.

Governor: Hostages!! How many?

Judge Trott: About twenty men, women, and children. They have given us a deadline. If we do not meet it, I fear the hostages will not survive.

Governor: Well, we have no choice but to give in. We cannot abandon our fellow citizens and we must not anger Blackbeard. Let us meet their demands.

Narrator 2: *Back aboard the Revenge, Blackbeard and his crew await the much-needed medicine. They see a small row-boat in the distance and they know they have won.*

Blackbeard: I think our ship has come in!

Pirate 1: Hurray! Cheers for our Captain!

Pirate 2: This will make the men happy, sir! You have saved our ship once again.

Blackbeard: Unlock the prisoners from the hold and send them up. But before they go, they are to leave me all their jewelery and clothing.

Narrator 1: *The men in the row-boat drop the medicine at the pirate ship and help to load the frightened hostages on board. Blackbeard and his crew stand on the deck of the Revenge and watch the boat make its way slowly back to shore.*

Pirate 1: Where to, sir?

Blackbeard: Raise the flag and set the sails. We're off to the Outer Banks.

Pirate 2: Aye, Aye, Captain!!

Narrator 2: *This is the life of a pirate.*



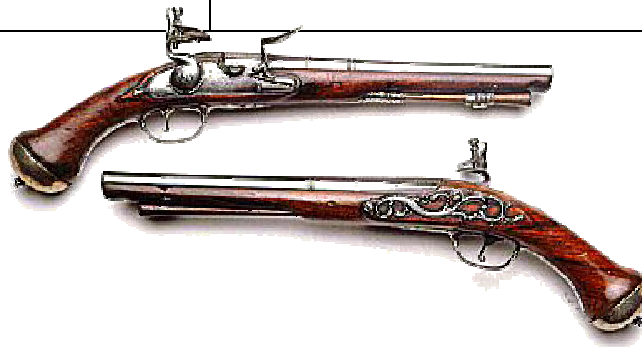


Pirate Vocabulary Extension Activity

Directions: Match each vocabulary term with the appropriate definition on the right.



___ 1. Jolly Roger	A. Hello!
___ 2. Ahoy!	B. Shouted to show a pirate means serious business
___ 3. Booty	C. “Yes, sir,” or “I’ll get right on it, Cap’n!”
___ 4. Shiver me Timbers!	D. By God!
___ 5. Me hearties	E. An exclamation of surprise
___ 6. Rum fellow	F. Gold, money or other goods obtained illegally
___ 7. Arrgh!	G. Familiar term, “me bucko” = “me friend”
___ 8. Cricket	H. Short for Captain
___ 9. Loot	I. A sport played with a bat and a ball; originated in England
___ 10. Sloop	J. The crew of a ship, the sailors
___ 11. Walks the plank	K. The pirates skull-and-crossbone flag
___ 12. Begads!	L. Similar to booty, goods obtained illegally
___ 13. Hands	M. The pirates way of addressing someone cheerfully
___ 14. Aye-Aye	N. Typical way for a pirate to address his crew
___ 15. Cap’n	O. The act of pillaging or robbery
___ 16. Bucko	P. A peculiar person
___ 17. Plunder	Q. The pirate’s way of saying, “Cool” or “Awesome”
___ 18. Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum	R. An experienced seaman
___ 19. Savvy	S. An expression of surprise or strong emotion
___ 20. Blimey	T. A ship
___ 21. Matey	U. A piratical execution. Pirates would blindfold their prisoners and make them walk on a plank off the side of the ship into the waters below.
___ 22. Sea Dog	V. A very pirate thing to say; it may not mean anything.



Pirate Vocabulary



Ahoy! – Hello!

Ammunition – Explosives that are used to fire a gun or cannon

Arrgh! – An expression shouted out by pirates to show that they mean serious business

Aye-Aye! – “Yes, sir,” or “I’ll get right on it, Cap’n!”

Barter – To trade for goods

Begads! – By God!

Blimey! – An exclamation of surprise

Booty/Bounty – Gold, money or other goods obtained illegally

Bucko – Familiar term, “me bucko” = “me friend”

Cap’n – Short for Captain

Cricket – A sport played with a bat and a ball that originated in England

Hands – The crew of a ship, the sailors

Harbor – A sheltered spot in the water than can anchor ships

Hostage – Someone taken prisoner

Jolly Roger – The pirate’s skull-and-crossbone flag

Loot – Similar to booty, goods obtained illegally

Matey – The pirate’s way of addressing someone in a cheerful fashion

Merchant – A person who buys or sells goods on land or sea

Mutiny – To overthrow the captain of a ship and vote on a new leader

Me hearties – Typical way for a pirate to address his crew

Plunder – The act of pillaging or robbery

Powder Magazine - A place where ammunition is held

Rum fellow – A peculiar person

Savvy – The pirate’s way of saying, “Cool” or “Awesome”

Sea dog – An experienced seaman

Shiver me timbers! – An expression of surprise or strong emotion

Sloop – A ship

Sweeps – The oars on a boat for crews to move swiftly

Walks the plank – A piratical execution. Pirates would blindfold their prisoners and make them walk on a plank off the side of the ship into the waters below.

West Indies – The western portion of the Carribean Islands

Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum – A very pirate thing to say even though it may not mean anything.

PROVIDED BY



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For further information, please visit The Charleston Powder Magazine website at <http://www.powdermag.org>.