

# Teacher's Guide for Dig Magazine: *Pirates!*

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## Objectives:

- \* Students will gain an understanding of what it was like to be a pirate.
- \* Students will learn about the job of marine archaeologists that search for pirate ships.
- Students will learn why some countries used pirates for their advantage.

## Prior Knowledge:

- Before reading the articles, ask the students to close their eyes and think of what a pirate looks like. Draw a stick figure pirate on the chalkboard and add all the details mentioned.
- \* Ask the students to state any information they know about pirates.

## The Wickedest City on Earth: pages 8-11

Possible Vocabulary Words: alliance, obsolete, marque, spoils, vices, and haven

- \* Use a map of the world and locate the island of Jamaica, Hispaniola, Great Britain, Spain and the Caribbean. Add to this map throughout the issue. Others to include: Greece, Crete, Mediterranean Sea Strait of Gibraltar,
- Why do you think that England was an enemy of Spain in the 1600s?(competing for lands and dominance)
- What might be reasons that the English left Port Royal?(so far away from Great Britain, lack of supplies, etc.)
- Why do you think the Spanish government sought the help of the "Brethren of the Coast"?(had their own ships, had a reputation of attacking, etc.)
- How did the townspeople of Port Royal prosper from pirates?(the pirates came and spent their money)
- What is the difference between a pirate and a privateer?(one carries a letter stating that they worked for a country)
- What did a privateer possess to prove the difference?(a letter of marque)
- Why are marine archaeologists needing to study much of the history of the city of Port Royal?(earthquake in 1692 sank much of the town)
- Have students draw some of the artifacts unearthed.(tobacco pipes, case bottles, onion bottles, etc.) Pretend you are working as a marine archaeologist and write a paragraph including three facts learned from the reading or pretend you are a pirate and write a day in your life(including 3 facts learned from the reading).
- Why do you think women might want to become pirates? Why do you think that woman pirates disguised themselves as men?

Site of interest:

<http://nautarch.tamu.edu/portroyal/>

## Queen Anne's Revenge: pages 13-15

Possible Vocabulary words: pardon, converted, ballast stones, flagship, sternpost, reign, and apothecary

- Why do you think the waters around North Carolina are called the “Graveyard of the Atlantic?(all the shipwrecks). Why were there so many?(treacherous waters in the Atlantic Ocean along the Outer Banks of North Carolina, severe weather, strong currents, navigational challenges.
- List three facts about the Queen Anne’s Revenge.( originally the La Concorde, at least 24 cannons, used as a slave ship before a pirate ship, etc.)
- Why do archaeologists think there were so many different country cannons on the ship(taken from other ships)
- What is the sternpost?( very bottom/back of the vessel)
- What is the evidence that the discovered ship is the Queen Anne’s Revenge?(anchors, date of artifacts, size of the ship, number of cannons, technique used to fasten the hull, etc.)
- Why do you think that Blackbeard demanded medical supplies from the people of Charles-town?(to aid sick sailors). What were some of the medical supplies found at the site?(pewter syringe, weights for measuring medicines, mortar and pestle)

Sites of interest: <http://www.qaronline.org/> and <http://www.ncmaritime.org/Blackbeard/qar.htm>

**Pirates vs. Privateers pages 16, Grace O’Malley page 17 , Mary Read p. 27**

**Possible Vocabulary words:** commissions, sanctioning, swag, quays, entrusted, and catapults stones

- Ask the students to list character traits of a pirate.
- Ask the students to list reasons why people would become pirates.

**Mediterranean in Peril pages 18- 20**

1. The ancient Phoenicians actually told stories of sea monsters in the Mediterranean Sea especially near the Strait of Gibraltar. Why do you think they encouraged such stories?(to keep competition off the seas)
2. Why did some pirates take people as well as their treasures(to ransom for money, to sell as slaves, to use certain craftsmen on their ships)

Site of interest: • [http://www.piratesinfo.com/detail/detail.php?article\\_id=46](http://www.piratesinfo.com/detail/detail.php?article_id=46) picture of a pirate ship and its parts

**What’s for Dinner pages 21- 23**

**Possible Vocabulary words:** hornswaggled, amnesty, and duff

1. Ask the students to list proper nutrient our bodies need to be strong and productive. Explain that sailors often didn’t get their needed nutrients since there wasn’t a supply of fruits and vegetables and could get a disease called scurvy.
2. Discuss the food pyramid found at this site:[http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay\\_healthy/food/pyramid.html](http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/food/pyramid.html)
3. What were some foods the ship’s cook kept on board the ship?(wine, cabbage, bread, cheese,rum, etc.)
4. Why didn’t the crew stock much water?(water didn’t stay fresh on long trips)
5. Which eating utensil was in short supply?(forks)
6. Write a paragraph of a meal that you ate aboard the ship including 5 facts learned from the article.

### **Into the Deep pages 24- 26**

**Possible Vocabulary words:** magnetometer, authenticated, nautical, and forensic

1. Barry Clifford began the search for the Whydah because of stories he had heard as a young boy that captured his interest. What are some of your interests and who or what helped to stimulate them?
2. If you are searching for a shipwreck, what are the necessary skills needed to be successful?(answers will vary but may include: perseverance, research, optimistic, reading skills, math skills, etc.)
3. Some countries (and states) say that if you find treasures in the waters that they belong to the country(state). This happened recently with a discovery made off of Spain. If you were the judge, what would be your ruling as to who would get the treasures brought up from a sunken wreck?
4. Clifford hasn't sold the different artifacts he has found. Would you have done so? Can you understand his view? Explain.

### **Onsite with a Pirate pages 28- 29**

1. Ask the students if they have seen any of the Pirate of the Caribbean movies? Encourage the students to share their thoughts on the movies.
2. Brainstorm all the different jobs involved in making a movie.(writers, director, actors, researchers, custom design, set design, stunt persons, etc.)

Site of interest:

<http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/pirates/>

### **Activities:**

- Issue Safari

**Destruction at Nola p. 31, Art-i-facts Figureheads p. 32, Dig facts p. 5 , and Stones and Bones p. 6 -7**

Use the following readings to have students to a trivia safari.

1. What was the pirate term for a hanging?(dance the hempen jig)
2. From where did the English word pirate originate?(Greek word *peirates*)
3. At Herculaneum, what was unique about the throne unearthed and in who is believed to have owned the house?(made of wood and ivory, house of Julius Caesar's father-in law)
4. In which country was found one of the earliest glassmaking sites?(Egypt) Along which river was it found?(Nile River)
5. What was the name of the dinosaur unearthed on the continent of Antarctica? (sauropodomorph)
6. What did the ancient Egyptians put on their ships?(eyes)
7. To sailors, what did a figurehead on a ship represent?(where the spirit of the ship lived)
8. In which country was the site of Nola discovered?(El Salvador)

- Pretend to be one of the pirates mentioned in the issue. Write down 5 facts about the pirate. With another student pretending to be a reporter, conduct an interview in front of the class.

- Modern Day pirates are on the rise, minus the jolly roger, the peg legs and the hats. So where are the Pirates? Reported incidents for 2002: Locate these countries on the map of the world.

Indonesia: 103

Gulf of Aden/red Sea: 11

Ecuador: 12

Guyana: 12

Vietnam: 12

Nigeria: 14

Malaysia: 14

Malacca Straits: 16

India: 18

Bangladesh: 32

- From: [http://www.nauticalsupplyshop.com/artman/publish/article\\_2.shtml](http://www.nauticalsupplyshop.com/artman/publish/article_2.shtml)