



STORIES FROM THE SEA

PIRATES CLASSROOM ACTIVITY 11



PIRATES: GOODIES OR BADDIES?

Key learning outcomes

Enquiry skills

Reflective thinking

Observation skills

Neat handwriting

Descriptive writing

Activity

Talk with children about what kinds of things pirates do. Make a list. Can they sort the list into good things or bad things. Do they think pirates are goodies or baddies? Are all pirates the same? Tell children about the exploits of Sir Francis Drake, stealing Spanish gold (in turn taken from South America). Was he an explorer or a pirate? A goodie or a baddie? Find more information on him on the **National Maritime Museum classroom resources pages**.

Think about pirate names: do they give you a clue about whether the pirate is a goodie or baddie? The collection of **Pirate objects** has some pictures of real pirates. Sometimes they just have ordinary names. Challenge children to make up as many pirate names as possible, some scoundrels and some surprisingly nice pirates!

Show children Wild-West style 'wanted posters'. There are plenty of examples online, even some featuring pirates. Children can choose a pirate and make their own poster. What facial features will they have? How will children describe their pirate and the dastardly deeds he or she has done?



Resources

Examples of 'wanted' posters



More ideas

Younger children can simply make a rogues gallery.

Children can take turns dressing up as one of the pirates and being interviewed by the others

Older children can write stories about how these people became pirates: does their life story explain their nefarious deeds?



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