Total Words
By Achieve Psychology For Learning

Pre-Teach
Word Study Activities

Curriculum Readers: 800 - 1300 Total Words

Pirates

1. Captain Wickstead Meets George Lowther

1. Word list: How Many Words Can You Read?

✂ -

merchant	plundering	Barbados	seized	grappling hooks
slashed	parrots	practising	pirate	cargo
remainder	cacao	valuables	colourful	swivel cannons
muskets	carpenter	surgeon	ordered	boarding
hoist	sharpening	cutlasses	ammunition	ivory
sloop	medicine chest	persuade	telescope	crew
gunpowder	routine	hurricane	bundled	careened
thundering	immediately	embroidered	demanded	celebrate

2. Reading to remember details: Fill in the gaps in sentences

1. Lowther needed a good _____ and a ship's surgeon; he could always '_____' men to join him and his pirate crew.

2. Once on board, ten pirates _____rushed down into the cargo hold.

3. They rolled barrels of _____ onto their sloop, seized the cannons, the supply of pistols and _____, and took the eleven slaves on board.

4. Remarkably, Captain Wickstead and the _____ of his crew, managed to sail the ship safely to Barbados.

3. Reading to be an editor – words and grammar: Sorting words into categories

Find words in the book that belong under each heading.

Pirate weapons	Parts of a sailing ship	The cargo that was plundered

2. Henry Avery the Short and the Successful Career of a Pirate

1. Word list: How Many Words Can You Read?

navy	raided	captain	luxury	commander
career	pirate	Madagascar	retire	decision
declared	plundered	success	Second Mate	exhilirated
privateer	navigation	achieving	ambition	raided
profitable raids	Africa	renamed	code	convincing
board	merchants	singled out	enormous	crippled
ferocious	alongside	bribed	scattered	settlements
captured	exploded	combat	fortune	frightened

2. Reading to remember details: Fill in the gaps in sentences

1. By the year 1694, Henry Avery was about to make a very big _____; his _____ was to take a different turn.

2. On the 7th of May 1694, as the _____of The Charles lay drunk, Henry Avery _____ himself to be the new captain of The Charles.

3. Exhausted but _____ by the fierce battle that they had just won, Avery and his crew searched for valuables.

4. Some say he spent the rest of his life in the Caribbean living in _____. Others say he returned to England, lost his wealth and died a poor man.

3. Reading to be an editor – words and grammar: Sorting words into categories

Find words in the book that belong under each heading.

Madagascar	Being a privateer	The Pirate Code

3. Pirate Fashion - Madagascar, 1698

1. Word list: How Many Words Can You Read?

pirate	criminal	distinctive	gangster	jewellery
precious	colourful	suitable	Madagascar	outlaw
trousers	fashion	velvet	ferocious	haven
harbour	sash	ordinary	tough	waistcoats
protection	canvas	flexible	plundering	crimson
wealthy	fashion	fearsome	pistols	haul
parrot	fabric	shoulder	decorated	unique
wounds	ornaments	pistols	silk	looted

2. Reading to remember details: Fill in the gaps in sentences

1. Ordinary sailors' clothes were not _____ or fancy.

2. Trousers were made of tough fabric like _____ or tight woven cotton.

3. As pirates became more successful in raiding and plundering ships, their fashion became more _____.

4. They wore a sling over their shoulders or a colourful _____ of fabric wrapped around their waist, as these were ideal for carrying spare _____ and their cutlass.

3. Reading to be an editor – words and grammar: Sorting words into categories

Find words in the book that belong under each heading.

Sailors' work	Pirate clothes	Madagascar and Port Dauphin

4. Pirate Rules and Captain John Phillips

1. Word list: How Many Words Can You Read?

✂ -

marooned	arguments	wounded	overboard	obey
fortune	carpenter	cutlass	executed	piracy
Newfound-land	essential	repairs	hulls	Articles of Agreement
captain	determined	command	share	ordinary
crippled	merchant	punishment	decisions	seized
equal	quarrels	opportunity	following	law-abiding
allowed	signed	plotted	agreement	starvation
Pirate Company	doomed	cargoes	brutal reputation	plundering

2. Reading to remember details: Fill in the gaps in sentences

1. The rules were designed to stop _____amongst the crew and to keep the pirate ship safe.

2. By May the_____ year, 1724, John Philips was dead.

3. Seven men took over John Phillips's ship, smashing their pirate captain over his head with an axe and heaving him _____.

4. Blackbeard, a pirate who had a brutal _____, once put 17 men onto a remote sandy island that had no water, no plants or trees and no animals.

3. Reading to be an editor – words and grammar: Sorting words into categories

Find words in the book that belong under each heading.

Being marooned	Being in command of a pirate ship	How pirates could end their careers and stop being pirates

5. The Success of The Sultana: Sam Bellamy's Richest Raid

1. Word list: How Many Words Can You Read?

✂ -

pirate	sloop	quinine	watertight	cutlass
grappling hooks	pistols	careening	prepared	preferred
indigo	merchant	plunder	ball and chain cannonball	shallow
swordsmen	weapons	cinchona	swivel cannons	recovered
precious	grape and canister cannons	designed	unable	surrendered
treasure	valuable	career	boarding pikes	drowned
reliable	convinced	treasure	fearsome	command
essential	rigging	undamaged	ideal	reputation

2. Reading to remember details: Fill in the gaps in sentences

1. A pirate ship needed to have full range of _____ to capture merchant ships that might deliver a fortune to them.

2. The most important weapon that a pirate needed was a fast, _____ ship.

3. Pirates did not like to use these big cannons because pirate crews liked to leave ships _____ if they could.

4. This meant that _____ cannon were ideal for fast, close fighting with ships—the sort of fighting that pirates were best at in their small sloops.

3. Reading to be an editor – words and grammar: Sorting words into categories

Find words in the book that belong under each heading.

Types of cannonballs used by pirates	The Whydah	Careening ships