

Online Book Club

The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate

Bring It To Life!

1. Make a pirate ship! The whole book club group can work together on this project. First, get a big box from a place that sells appliances. Paint your ship, write the name on the side, and add blue waves crashing against your ship. You might want to put some angry sharks in the water! Then, add a pirate flag (a broomstick handle and a piece cut from an old sheet will work) and a treasure chest full of coins made from aluminum foil or construction paper. Ahoy, Mates!
2. Have a pirate party! Wear pirate hats, striped shirts, shorts, and of course, an eye patch! Serve some punch as your "grog," and decorate cupcakes with "treasures"—like small candy pieces or sprinkles. Make up names for each other like "One-legged Larry," or "Belinda Bones!" Play some games like "Swab the Deck," where two pirates compete to see who can sweep five lively ping-pong balls across the room first! AAAAAARRRRRRGGGGGHHHHH!
3. Do the math! Break the club into small groups to tackle a "piratical" math problem! If gold sells for \$250 per ounce, and Blackbeard's treasure totaled 25 pounds of gold, how much money would you have if you found his buried loot? If you had to pay 40 percent tax on this treasure, what would you have left to keep?

