

Online Information

Dear Pirate: The Buried Treasure Mystery

Fascinating Facts

1. William Kidd, better known as Captain Kidd, was a notorious pirate. Many people believe that Captain Kidd buried a hidden treasure before he died!
2. Pirates used flags called "Jolly Rogers" on their ships to terrify their enemies. The flags often displayed pictures of skeletons, daggers or the infamous skull and crossbones.
3. Buccaneers were French settlers who lived on Caribbean islands when they got kicked off their pirate ship. Most buccaneers hunted wild boar and oxen!
4. Anne Bonny was a woman who disguised herself in men's clothes and snuck on board a pirate ship. She turned out to be one of the fiercest pirates to ever sail in the Caribbean!
5. Privateers and pirates are not the same thing. Privateers carried a government license to pillage ships. Pirates did not.
6. Pirates who lost their hand in battle would often replace it with a metal hook because it was a useful tool around the ship. The hook would be held in place by long leather straps that wrapped around the pirate's shoulder.
7. A pirate had to sign a copy of The Articles before he could join the ship's crew. The Articles were a list of rules that every pirate had to follow.
8. Pirates really did have peg legs! Pirates were often hurt in battle and lost their legs. A substitute was required for their missing leg. So, they would look around their ship to find something that would work, like a long piece of wood.
9. Have you ever heard of Blackbeard the pirate? His real name was Edward Teach and he was from England. Blackbeard was one of the most feared pirates in the Caribbean!
10. A marooner was a pirate who deserted his ship or ran away.
11. Pirates really did make people walk the plank! The victim was usually blindfolded and had his hands tied behind his back.
12. Most pirates thought it was bad luck to have a woman aboard their ship!

