



Ahoy, mates! Learn some interesting facts about a famous Scottish author, entertain your friends with some silly jokes, and create your own map for treasure hunting around your house. Happy summer!



Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson was born on November 13, 1850 in Edinburgh, Scotland. An only child, Stevenson was thin and sickly and had a hard time making friends with other children. He missed much school from illness and although he didn't learn to read until he was seven or eight, he composed many stories in his head. Later he wrote many of them down. His father enjoyed his stories and paid to have his first book published at sixteen. He went on to study engineering at the University of Edinburgh. During vacations he would travel to different islands to help his father repair lighthouses. Those travels gave him ideas for stories about pirates. Stevenson gave up his engineering studies and decided to continue writing. The rest of his life was spent traveling to different climates to improve his health. He eventually lived the last years of his life in the Samoan islands with his wife and two stepchildren, caring for the land, helping the Samoans, and writing. He died at the age of 44.

Pirate Jokes



What do pirates like to eat?

BARRRbecue!

How much did the pirate pay for his peg leg and hook?

An arm and a leg!

Why do pirates carry a bar of soap?

So, if they are shipwrecked they can wash themselves to shore!

How much does it cost a pirate to get earrings?

A Buccaneer!

Help the pirate find his treasure or you will have to walk the plank!



Book Nook~

Dive into some fun books by Robert Louis Stevenson

Classic Starts: Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (160 pages, ages 7+)

A good doctor's experiments end horribly wrong and create one person with two personalities--good and bad.

Classic Starts: Treasure Island (160 pages, ages 7+) Jim Hawkins finds a treasure map and unknowingly sets sail aboard a pirate ship to find the treasure. Adventure and surprises, including a meeting with Long John Silver, await Jim.

A Child's Garden of Verses illustrated by Tasha Tudor (67 pages, ages 4+)

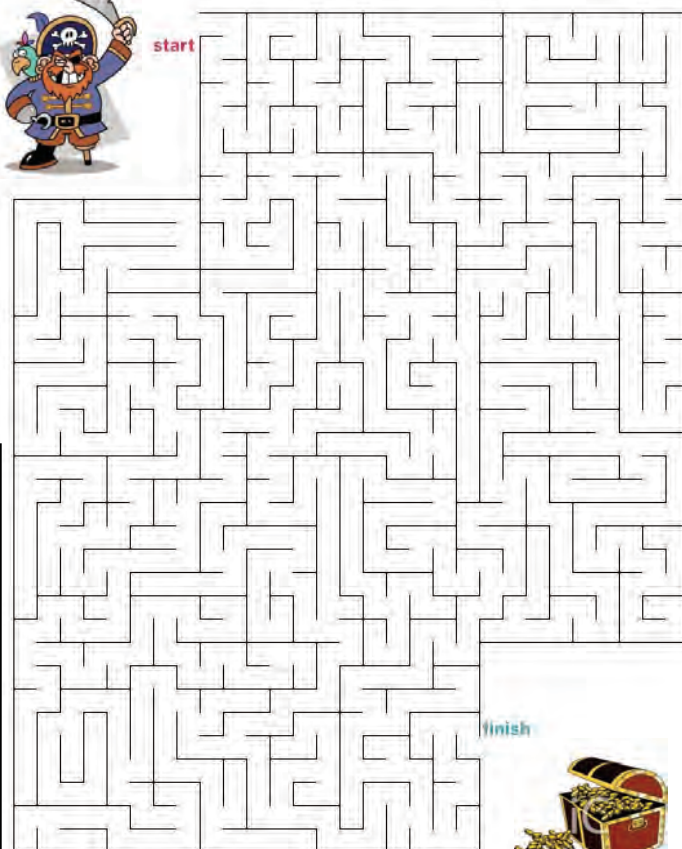
Beautifully illustrated book of poems about childhood memories and pleasures that will delight readers of all ages.

Kidnapped (Oxford Children's Classics) (Hardcover, 320 pages, ages 9+)

Young orphan David is betrayed, imprisoned, and shipwrecked. With a fellow survivor (and criminal), David sets off on a dangerous adventure to find justice.



start



finish



Well, shiver me timbers...I didn't know that!

- * There is no evidence that pirates made victims **walk the plank**. Instead, the usual method of punishment was to tie ropes to the feet of the person and drag them under the boat (keel-hauling).
- * Pirates did not **bury their treasure** in a secret location. Instead, they most likely spent it right away in order to enjoy what they stole since they probably did not live long lives.
- * Pirates really did not go around growling and saying "arrrrr" and "matey" all the time. Movies gave us that idea.
- * There are still **pirates today**. Most are in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and are just as bad--stealing ships, kidnapping, and killing.
- * Living life as a pirate was dangerous. Many did have **wooden legs** or **eye patches** after receiving injuries.



Treasure Map

Have an adult help you make a treasure map that looks and feels old.

Compass Rose



1. Tear a crude rectangle out of brown grocery bag paper.
2. Crumple it up into a ball and then loosely flatten it out again.
3. Using left over coffee or tea (ask an adult), soak the paper for a few minutes.
4. Shake off the liquid and lay map out to dry. The coffee or tea should color the wrinkles darker.
5. When dry, draw a simple map of your yard or house in crayon or marker. Don't forget to include a **compass rose** with **North, South, East, and West** for directions and an **X** for the location of your treasure. You can even include some fun obstacles or locations to travel to: **Skull Rock, Cave of Doom, Skeleton Pass, Lost Lagoon...**
6. Don't forget to hide a treasure--candy, stickers, rocks, play jewelry, etc.
7. Give the map to a friend and see if they can discover your treasure!

Pirate Hook



Supplies: paper cup aluminum foil scissors black duct tape



1. Twist a length of foil until it is a sturdy hook.



2. Cut a hole in the bottom of the cup that is the same size as your hook.



3. Cover the outside of your cup with short strips of black duct tape.



4. Fit the bottom of the hook down into the cup. Use tape to secure the hook to the inside of the cup.

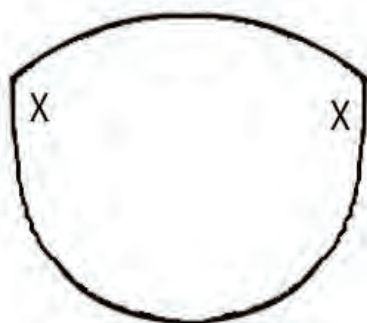


5. Fit your hand inside of the cup and set sail for some swashbuckling adventures!

This cute craft was found at: <http://www.busybeekidscrafts.com/Pirate-Hook.html>



Pirate Patch



1. Trace pattern onto sturdy black paper.
2. Cut out.
3. Punch holes on the x.
4. Tie ribbon or elastic string to each hole and loosely tie onto head.



Please send any photos of you as a pirate or of your adventures on the high seas to bittybulls@turnbullclan.com

~~Include your name and age. They will be published in the next issue.~~