

# YO HO HOLY!

## A

# PIRATE'S GUIDE

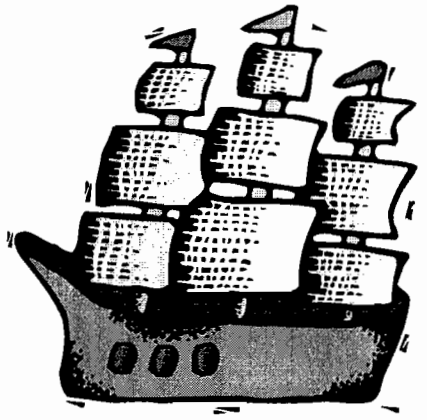
## TO

# JESUS

ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MINISTRIES



**YO HO HOLY!**  
**...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS**  
**ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**



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## ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

# YO HO HOLY!

## ...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS

### WELCOME ABOARD!

Why is this **One Day Vacation Bible School** celebration different from all others? Come on, think of a quick answer. Give up? It is because elementary children love fun more than anyone in the world and smart leaders love fun too! Combining lots of fun with lots of stories about Jesus is the perfect way to celebrate being a Christian kid!



Before we go any further, there is something we need to be clear about. Pirates were and are bad people. Really reprehensible. Even the most casual exploration of the history of pirates leaves you saddened by their barbarity. We recognize this, all right? We aren't for one minute suggesting that real pirates were in any way, shape or form worth emulating. **But, imagine a Christian Pirate!** How would a relationship with Jesus Christ change that life? The Jesus Factor is what we celebrate with this theme.

That is why **YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS** is an important addition to the memory making activities of your gang. The point is that Jesus changes lives, even really, really bad lives!

So, relax and create an amazing ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL filled with swaggering *pirateness*, pirate talk, ships, islands, treasure chests and most of all....A Pirate's Guide to Jesus!

# YO HO HOLY!

## ...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS

### One Day Vacation Bible School



**Ahoy there, Matey!** What lad or lassie hasn't wanted to find buried treasure, discover an island, meet Captain Hook? Well, maybe not that last one. Enjoy an adventure where your Motley Crew searches for the heavenly treasure Jesus offers. Hoist yer sails, ye Jesus Buccaneers, and head for the high seas. Even landlubbers enjoy swabbing the decks and singing sea shanteys while searching for Jesus.

**YO HO HOLY** brings God's Word to life when students (Age 4-Grade 6) visit three Bible Stations. **TREASURE ISLAND, MAROONED** and **CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS** guide kids to Jesus, Treasure of the world!

**YO HO HOLY** crews gather at **TREASURE TROVE LAGOON** to meet Featherhead the Pirate and his buddy, Captain Kidd. Eat at **SHIP'S MESS** and enjoy games at **WALK THE PLANK**. Visit a hilarious Bible Theater called **DAVY JONES' LOCKER**. Sing Pirate Praise at **SEA CHANTEYS**. Create a special treasure craft in **CANNONBALL CRAFTS**. Visit **THE TREASURE CHEST** to dig for real gems from God's Word!

**YO HO HOLY** foods are served at various time during the day at **SHIP'S MESS**. Options include breakfast, lunch and dinner. Toss in an evening snack and the day is complete.

**YO HO HOLY** includes preschool curriculum ideas (Age 4-Pre K 5). Preschool students become **PIRATE SPROGS** (Pirate-ese: Raw recruits, children) and participate in large group activities with older students. Home Base (separate classroom) is optional for rest time. **ME WEE HEARTIES** Nursery (Birth-Age 3) is suggested for staff babies.

**YO HO HOLY** is Christ centered and fun! The Pirate theme is a "hook" upon which to hang a memory and guides students to Jesus.

# GANGWAY, MATEYS!

**THESE SUGGESTIONS ARE A GUIDELINE.**

**Build an exciting ONE DAY VBS  
using YO HO HOLY activities.  
Teach God's Word boldly.**

**YO YO HOLY** is designed for  
Preschool through Grade Six students.  
Involve Grade 7-12 and college students  
as assistants and leaders.

**STUDENT GROUPS ARE COLOR CODED.**

Students become the **MOTLEY CREW** searching the high seas for the treasure of Jesus. Individual groups display color coded name tags--a valuable tool.

**BIBLE STATION TEACHERS ARE  
RESPONSIBLE TO PREPARE ACTIVITIES IN THEIR AREA.**

Each Bible Station (**TREASURE ISLAND**, **MAROONED** and **CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS**) is repeated to separate groups during the day. Adjust activities as age levels change.

**ACTIVITY LEADERS PREPARE SPECIFIC GAMES, FOOD OR  
THEME FUN.** Use curriculum suggestions to prepare before **YO HO HOLY** begins.

**PURCHASE SUPPLIES.** Give bills to Director, **CAPTAIN KIDD**, or ask for a check in advance. Look for sales, church discounts, catalog items and backyard scrap materials. Use the church tax exemption number.

**CREATE EXCITEMENT.** Have fun and students catch your enthusiasm. Greet everyone with cheerfulness and a hearty "*Avast Ye Scallywags!*" If you enjoy the day, so will your **MOTLEY CREW**.

**Copy all pages needed for your local church. Make as many copies of each page as needed for personal use. Do not give this program to any other church or group. Instead, give interested folks our order form, address and toll free telephone number (1-888-236-5433). This allows CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MINISTRIES to continue production of exciting, inspiring, positive Christian programs at a low cost to churches across the nation.**



# CAPTAIN KIDD'S CAVERN

“As a Christian, my job is to take care of the possible and trust God with the impossible.”



*Direct a One Day Vacation Bible School adventure your community will remember for years. Take your MOTLEY CREW to three Bible Stations and a variety of High Seas adventures while guiding them to Jesus, the real Treasure. Divided into reasonable tasks, this event is easily completed by a dedicated teaching team of Jesus Buccaneers under the direction of Captain Kidd—that’s you! Your church sparkles with the excitement of a unique, fanciful pirate ship and island theme complete with treasure chests, rascally characters and salty stories.*

**CHARACTER AND COSTUME.** Enjoy dressing as a Pirate Captain. Go all out by following our curriculum suggestions. Become the swaggering pirate who knows the lingo and can guide the crew into mighty adventures.

**DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITY.** This event must be a team effort. Never apologize when asking for help. Trust the staff to complete their tasks.

**PRACTICE A POSITIVE APPROACH.** Scurvy statements like “We can’t do it”, “We never did it this way”, “There is no money”, or “No one will teach” have no place in this program. If CAPTAIN KIDD’S attitude is right, even the grouchiest saint responds cheerfully.

**PRAY!** Pray for the staff, the students and the set up. Take each detail before the Lord and then—Relax!

**PLAN!** Read this Master Copy and note areas requiring special attention. List details you must handle personally. Meet with the staff.

**ADAPT!** When it is necessary to adapt YO HO HOLY to accommodate your local church, complete those changes during preliminary planning to avoid confusion.

**SET UP.** Give your team adequate time to set up their activity areas. Decorate during the week prior to YO HO HOLY, making sure that everything is in place before the big day.

**STAFF PRAYER.** Plan a five minute prayer session one half hour before the day begins. Those who attend appreciate the “*upward boost*”.

**PRESCHOOL.** Read curriculum suggestions for **SPROGS**. Adaptations may be necessary for preschool students. Speak to activity leaders to guarantee that all general activities are age appropriate. Eliminate complicated, frightening or exhausting activities.

**PURCHASE OR MAKE THANK YOU GIFTS FOR STAFF.** There is nothing like appreciation to keep teachers coming back for more next year. Thank them privately and publicly.

**CLEAN UP.** When the last event of the day is over, clean up begins. **YO HO HOLY** is not complete until the church is in perfect order. Encourage staff to remove their props immediately. Provide a few empty boxes for supplies that may be stored for another event. Mark the boxes and store in a dry space. Stay to help with clean up!

**COMMIT TO THE LORD  
WHATEVER YOU DO,  
AND YOUR PLANS  
WILL SUCCEED.**

**—PROVERBS 16:3**

# SPEAKING PIRATE-ESE



Ye want to talk like a freebooter or do ye want to be espousing like a tried and true Buccaneer? Here be some jargon ye might want to be tryin' out. Here be phrases that ye need know if ye want to not be mistaken for no landlubber!

**Ahoy:** Used to hail a ship or a person or to attract attention.

**Arr!/Arrgh:** A general piratical term—can be used with anything. (Yes, no, scared, happy, hungry. Mostly it means “I’m a pirate! Yo-ho-ho!”)

**Avast!** Used as a command to stop or desist.

**Belay:** Used in the imperative as an order to stop. “Belay there!”

**Blimey!** Used to express frustration.

**Bucko:** A friend

**Dead men tell no tales:** Why pirates leave no survivors

**Gangway!** Clear a passage through a crowded area.

**Hang the jib:** To look ill tempered or annoyed. To pout.

**He’s gone to Davy Jones’ locker:** He is dead. (Davy Jones’s locker is also the bottom of the sea.)

**Me hearties:** My Comrade, good fellow, familiar address and fellowship among sailors. Captains often refer to their entire crew this way.

**Shiver me timbers! Or Sink me!** An expression of surprise

**Smartly:** Quickly

**Splice the Mainbrace!** To enjoy a drink—of Pepse, please!

**Yo-ho-ho:** Completely meaningless, but fun to say.

**Aye:** Yes. Aye, aye captain!

**Me:** My. Me ship is the biggest brig in the port!

**Ye:** You. Ye be walking the plank!

**Aft:** Short for “after”. Toward the rear of the ship

**Bilge:** bottom of the ship or stupid talk or writing; nonsense “Ye be a bilge rat!”



**Mizzenmast:** The hindmost mast of a three masted vessel. “Raise the mizzenmast, ye rotten scallywags!”

**Poop deck:** The deck forming the roof of a poop or poop cabin, built on the upper deck

**Port:** A seaport or the left side of the ship

**Buccaneer:** An adventurer upon the sea

**Hand:** One who is part of a group or crew

**Jack:** A flag or a sailor

**Landlubber:** Person who lives and works on land: An inexperienced sailor; a sailor on first voyage.

**Matey:** Sociable, friendly. A way to address another pirate you are familiar with

**Messdeck lawyer:** A know it all

**On the Account:** Living the life of a pirate. If you are going “On the Account”, you are becoming a pirate.

**Scallywag:** A deceitful and unreliable scoundrel.

**Scurvy:** Vile; mean, low, vulgar, contemptible. Ye Scurvy Dogs!

**Sprogs:** Raw, untrained recruits or children.

**Booty:** Goods or property seized by force or piracy

**Chantey, Shantey, Shanty:** A song sung by sailors to the rhythm of their movements while working.

**Cutlass:** A short, heavy sword with a curved blade.

**Doubloons:** A gold coin formerly used in Spain and Spanish America

**Jolly Roger:** A black flag bearing a white skull and crossbones; indicates a pirate ship

**Pieces of Eight:** An old Spanish silver coin.

**The Hulks:** Old or dismasted ships, formerly used as prison.

**Heave To:** Turn a sailing ship so it bow heads into the wind and the ship lies motionless except for drifting, in order to meet a storm.

**Hornswaggle:** To cheat

**Marooned:** To put ashore on a deserted island or coast and intentionally abandon

**Scuttle:** To cut holes in a ship’s hull or to sink a ship on purpose

**Walk the plank:** To be forced to walk off a plank extended over the side of a ship so as to drown.

**Weigh anchor:** Heave up an anchor in preparation for sailing (Can be used for to leave port.).

# HOIST YER SAILS DECORATING

“The best things you can give children next to good habits are good memories.”

—Sydney J. Harris

**Design a simple yet colorful pirate decor.** Students and guests visiting **YO HO HOLY** should enter a bright, fanciful pirate environment filled with tropical island and pirate ship objects. Discuss decoration at the beginning of the planning process. Feature some of the curriculum suggestions and create your own pirate adventure. Leaders in individual activity areas decorate their rooms. Give special attention to the **TREASURE TROVE LAGOON OPENING** area.

**Borrow Items.** Explain the **YO HO HOLY** One Day VBS theme and ask if friends, family, church and community members have additional decorating suggestions and appropriate items. Many attics, basements, old barns and sheds are filled with perfect accessories.

**Signs!** Place signs outside each teaching area. Print memory verses on brown paper with burned edges for a rustic, pirate map look. Scatter slogans/fun sayings across every church wall. Consider adding the following messages:

**ROGER MET JESUS.  
THAT'S WHY HE'S "JOLLY ROGER"!**

**AHOY MATEYS!  
JESUS LOVES BUCCANEERS**

**SCALLYWAGS WELCOME!**

**JESUS IS THE ONLY ANCHOR  
...SO...ANCHOR'S AWEIGH!**

**AVAST YE LANDLUBBERS!  
PIRATE WITH ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE**

**SIGNS ON RESTROOMS: POOP DECK**



**Make life sized cardboard figures.** Fish, pirates, ships, palm trees, treasure chests, parrots and other pirate items are appropriate. Lean figures against walls throughout the church. Use patterns included with the curriculum or draw your own. Make transparencies with the church copier. Project the image onto large pieces of cardboard or posterboard. Trace and color with tempera paint and/or markers. Cut the figures out with a utility knife. Find patterns in children's coloring books and on the internet.

**Flags.** Add colorful flags as desired, plain or decorated with Christian symbols.

**Simple items create a tropical pirate atmosphere.** Here are a few suggestions but keep your eyes open for other things available in your community.

<b>Wooden Benches</b>	<b>Lanterns</b>	<b>Old, wooden tables</b>	<b>Baskets</b>
<b>Rocks</b>	<b>Stacked Wood</b>	<b>Old Barrels</b>	<b>Plants/Flowers</b>
<b>Domed Trunks</b>	<b>Junk Jewelry</b>	<b>Wooden Oars</b>	<b>Sails</b>
<b>Coins</b>	<b>Flags</b>	<b>Black, Gold, Silver Balloons</b>	<b>Nautical Wheel</b>
<b>Empty bottles with XXX's</b>		<b>Treasure Maps</b>	<b>Palm Trees</b>
<b>Wooden Gang Planks</b>	<b>Sand</b>	<b>Fish</b>	<b>Parrots</b>

**Add items purchase at local party stores or catalogs.** Check internet web sites. Anything that fits the theme can be used. S&S arts and crafts catalog, Oriental Trading Catalog are two options that often feature pirate "stuff" at reasonable prices.

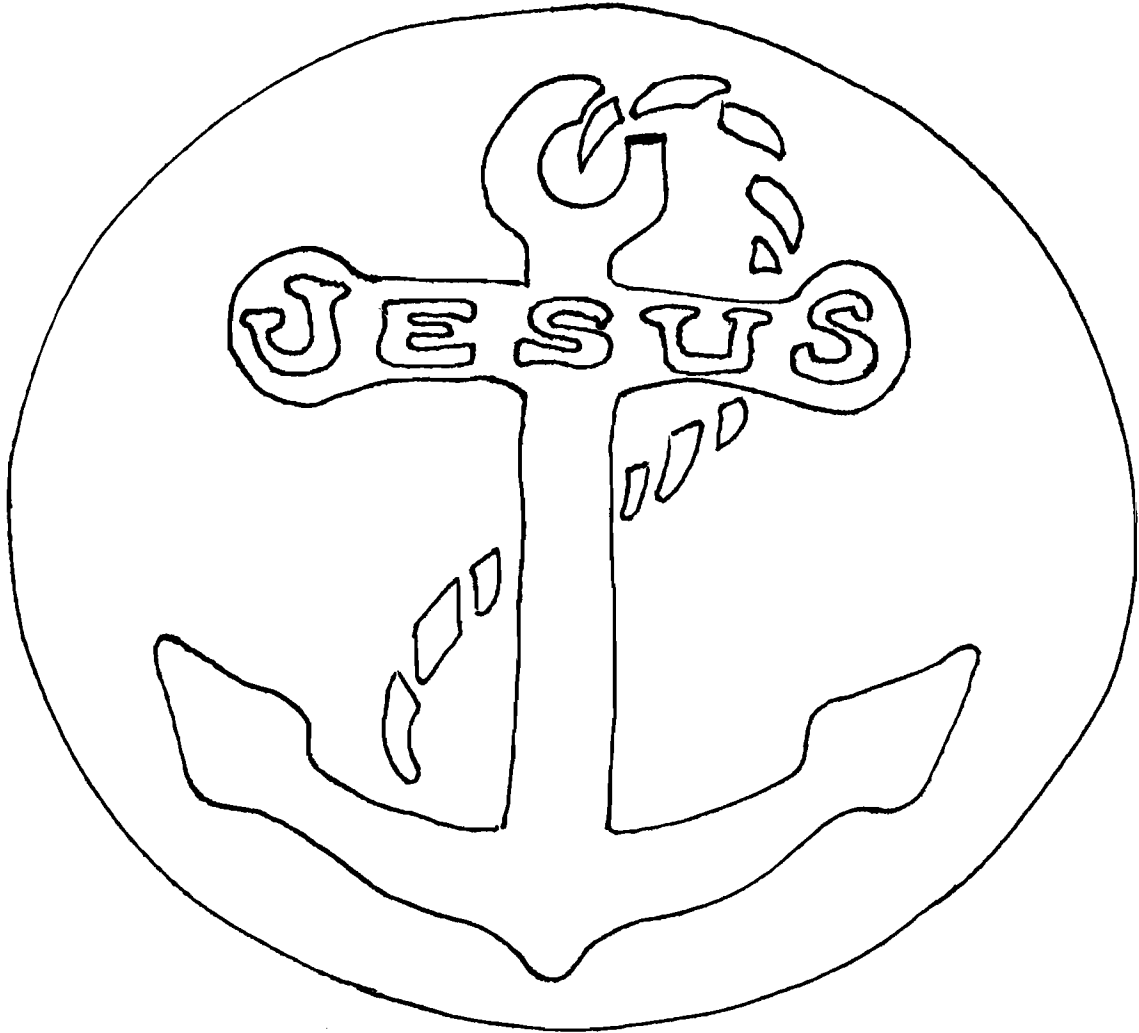
**Christian decorations are always appropriate.** Fill the areas with scripture verses and symbols. Surround them with beads, coins, gems, jewelry to fit the treasure theme.

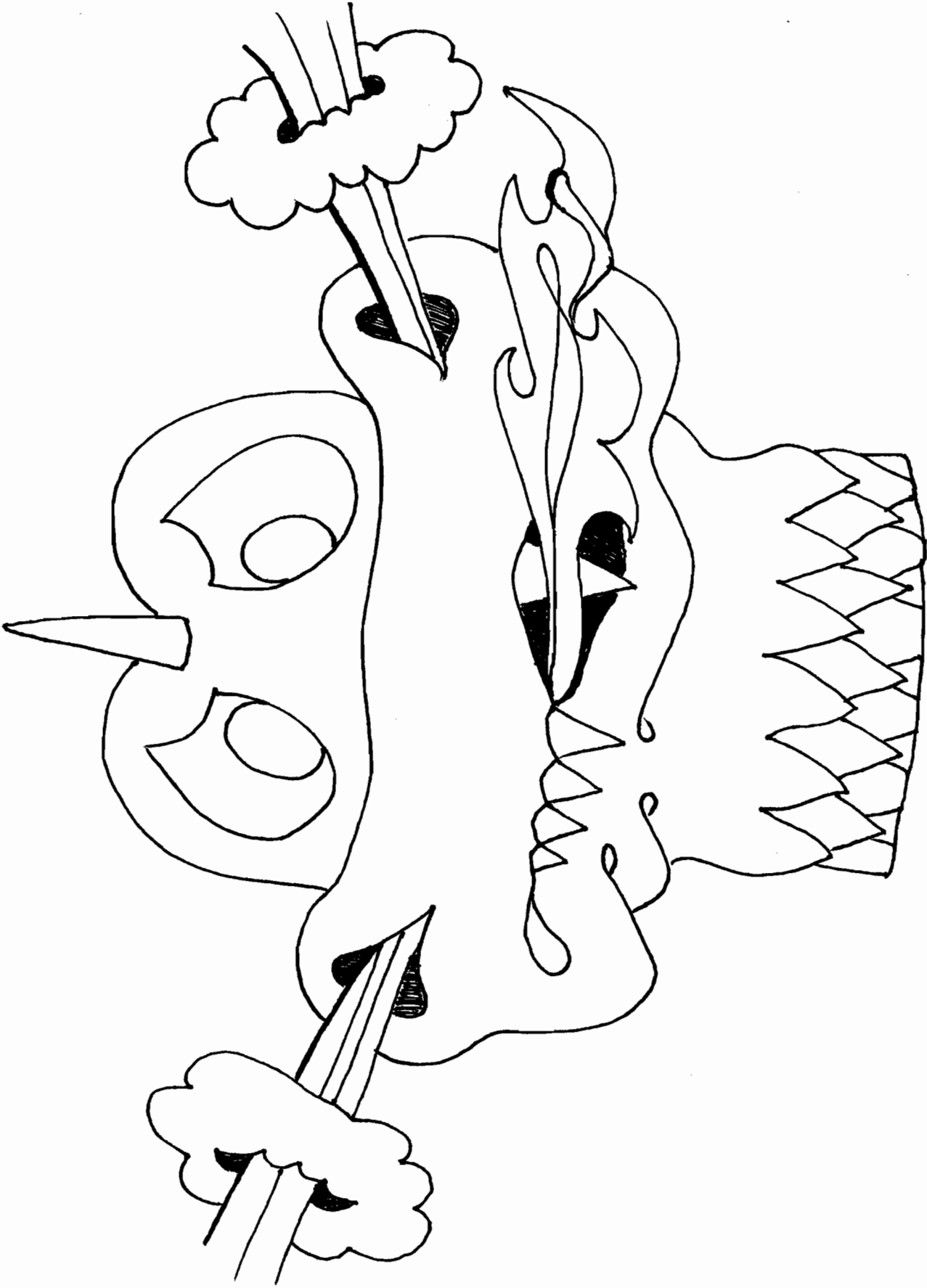
**Make a few scenes.** Make freestanding backdrops by cutting an appliance box, painting large objects and zigzagging the box so that it stands alone. Place real objects in front of the backdrop for a touch of reality.

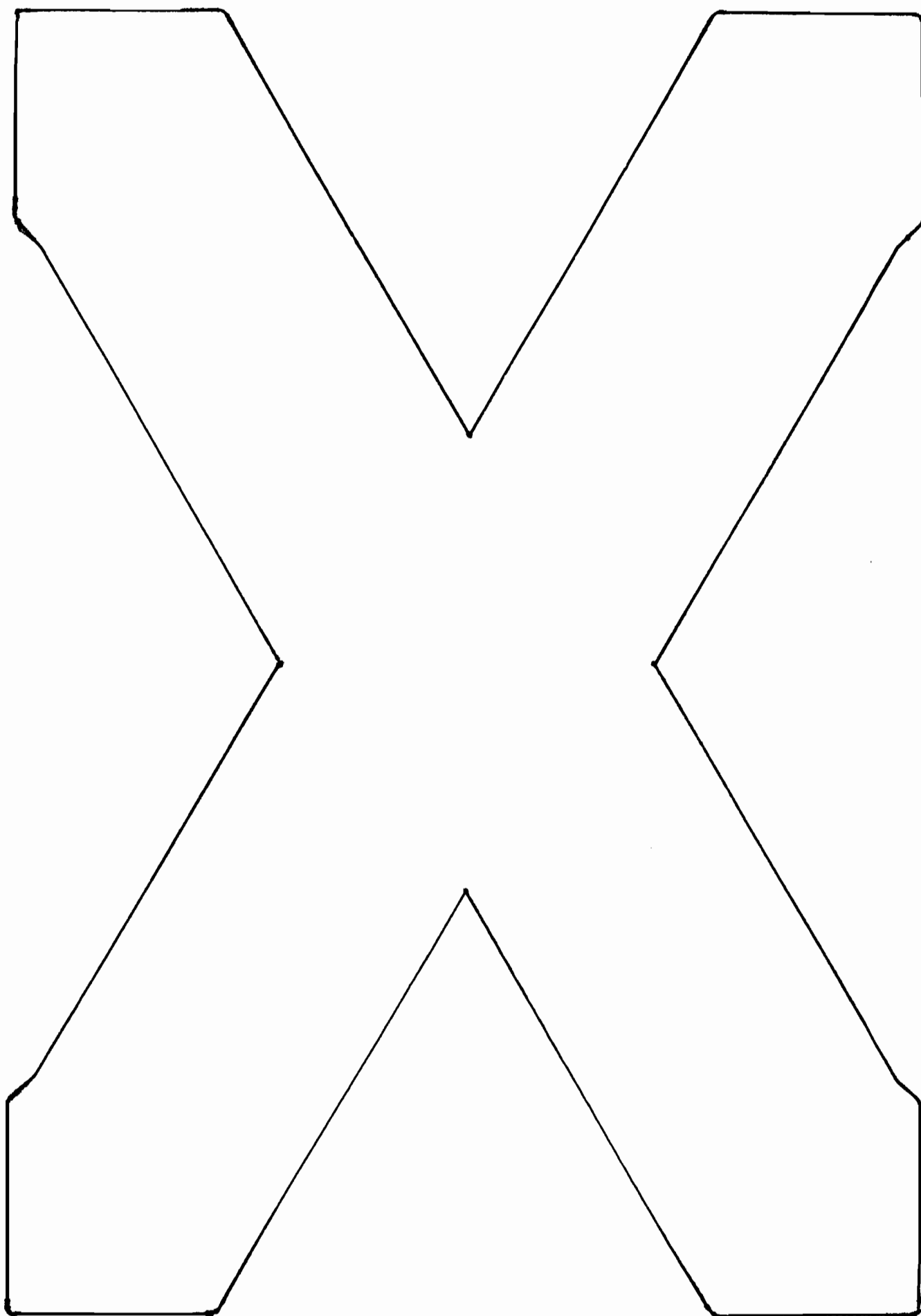
**Play CD's or Audio Tapes.** Quiet Christian music is nice. If songs of the high seas or sea shantys can be found in your local music store, have fun with them as well.

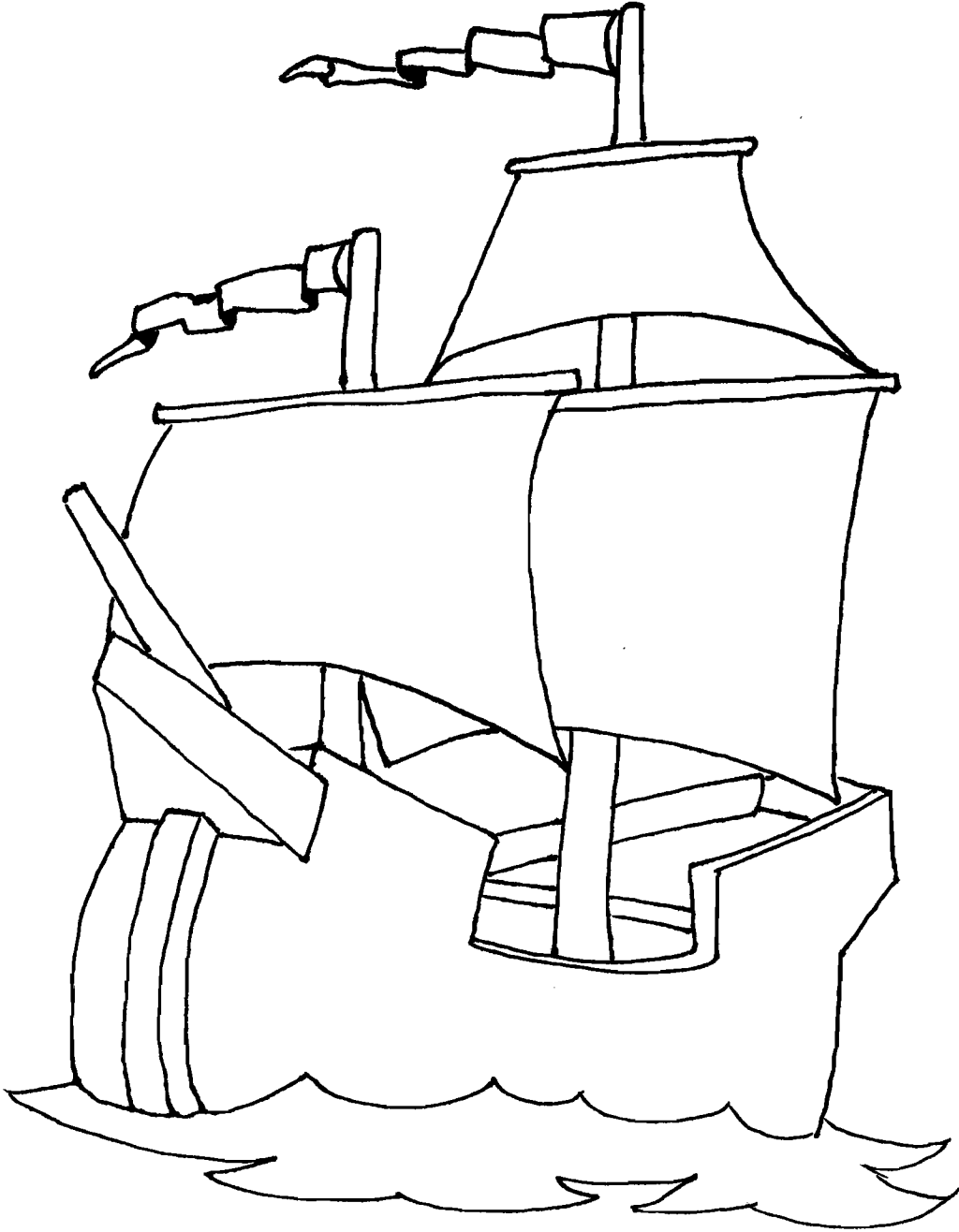
**Optional Decorations:** Use items appropriate for tropical islands and old, wooden pirate ships as available.

1. Make a waterfall by using a small water pump. Fill a small swimming pool or container with rocks, silk flowers and greenery to make it look like an outdoor pond. A running stream of water makes a terrific background sound to any activity.
2. Fill a child's pool with rocks, plants, turtles, goldfish and coins in the bottom of the pool.
3. Live parrots may be displayed but assign a caretaker for each one. They must be chaperoned at all times. Ask for help from a local pet shop.
4. Real rowboats, canoes or sailboats may be displayed in strategic areas.







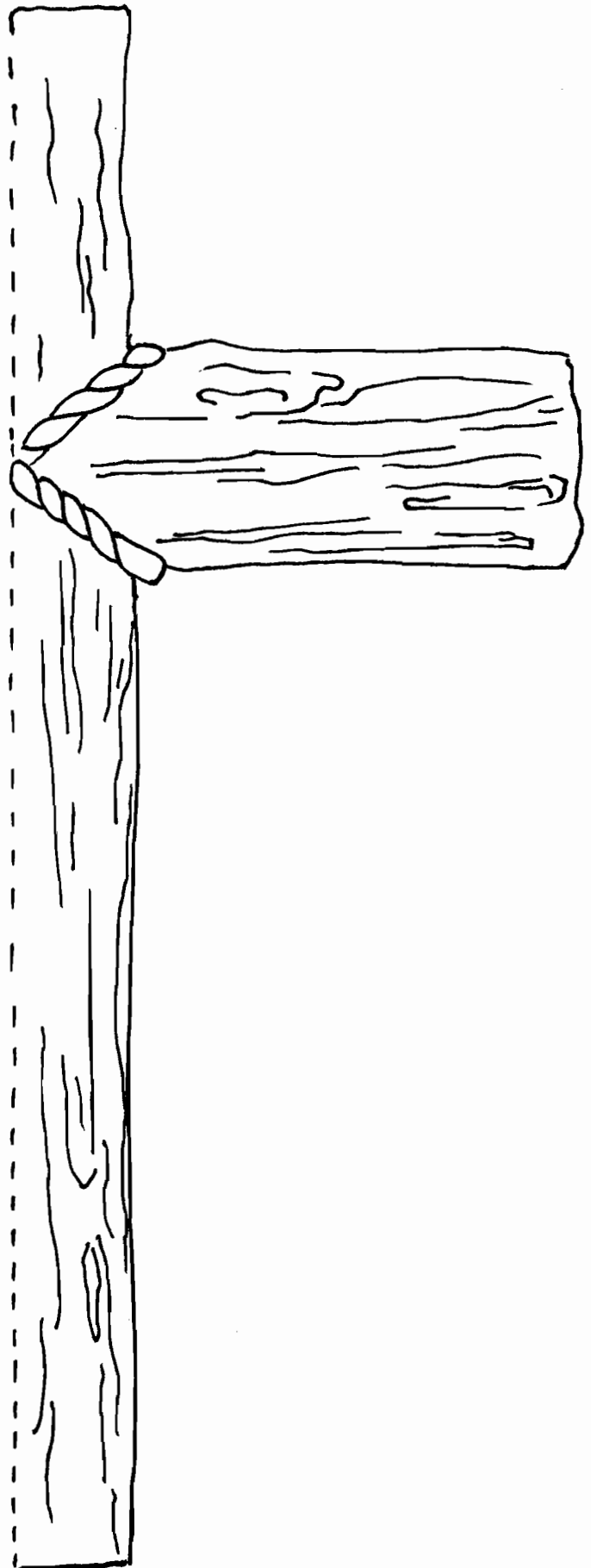
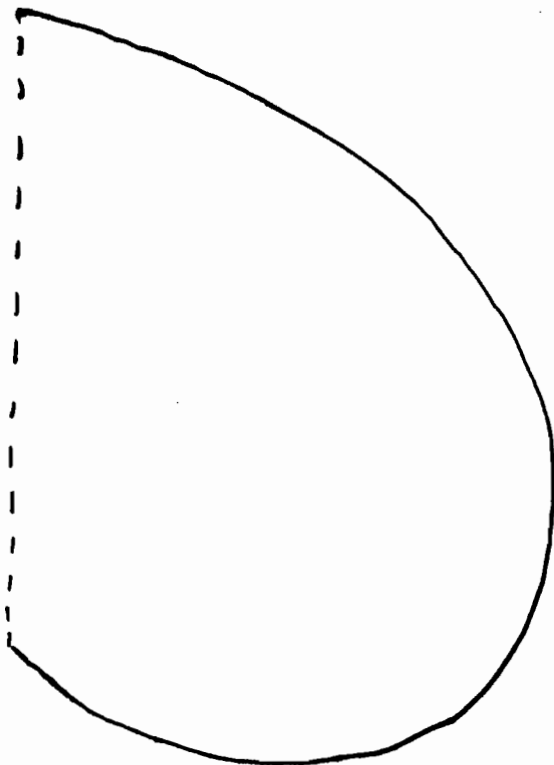


**HEART AND CROSS PATTERN**

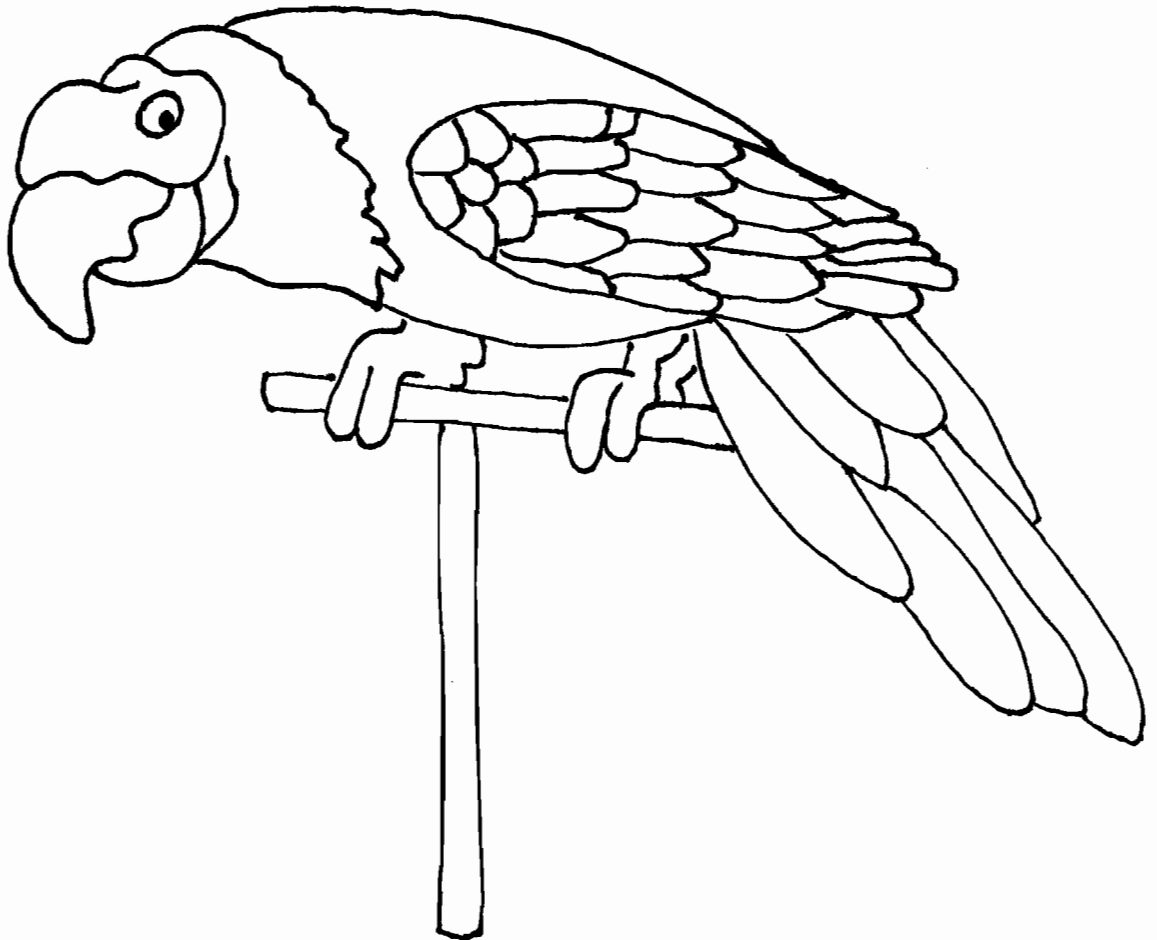
**MAKE A CHRISTIAN PIRATE  
"JACK" (FLAG) BY PLACING  
A HEART OVER THE CROSS.**

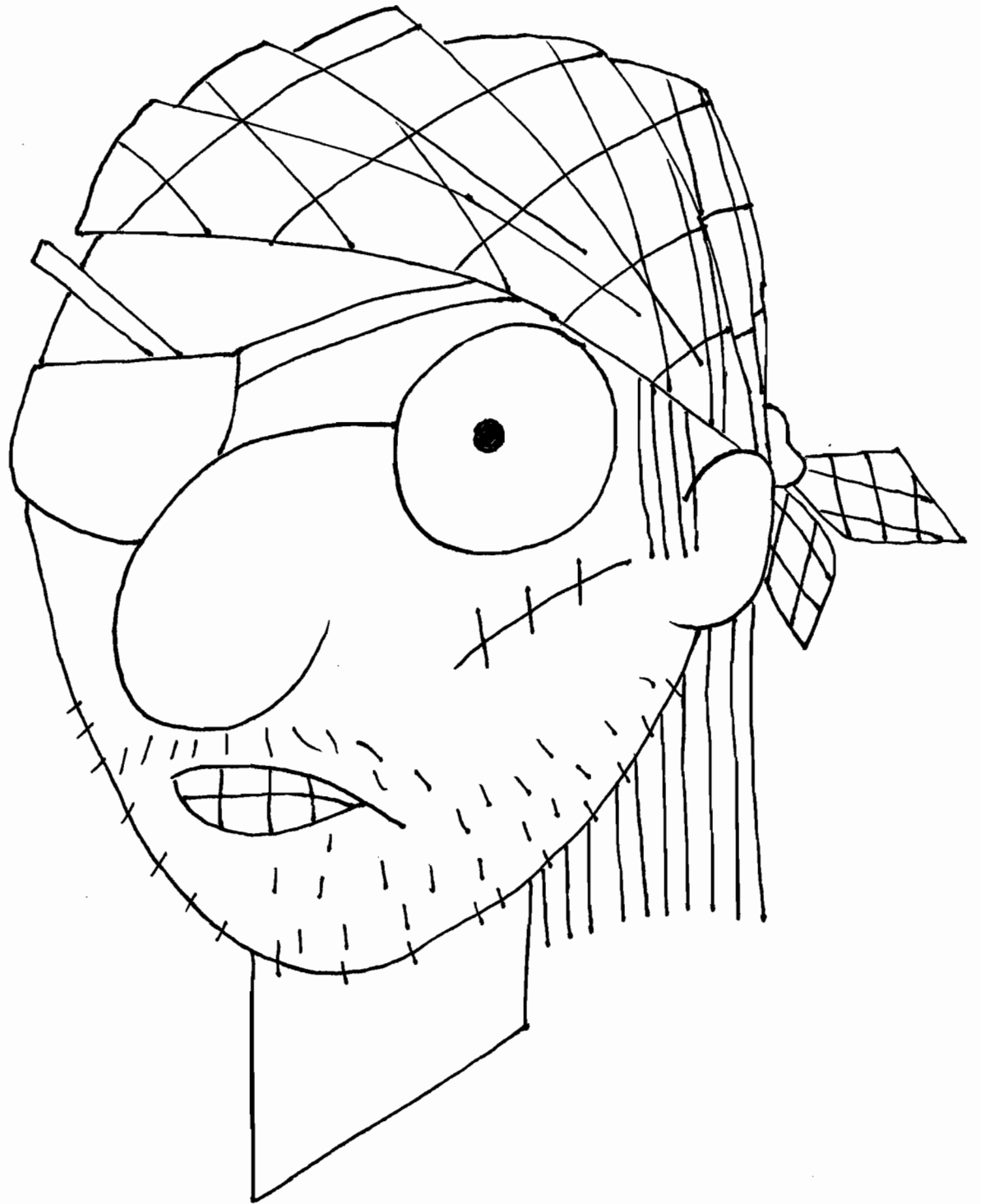
**ADJUST THE SIZE FOR HATS OR  
DECORATIONS OR FLAGS.**

**USE YOUR IMAGINATION AND  
THIS SYMBOL CAN POP UP ALL  
OVER YO HO HOLY VBS!**









S&S arts and crafts catalog offers decorative as well as FUN items at excellent prices. For a free Master Copy of the current catalog, all 1-800-9232. Check their excellent web site at: [www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com) Prices may change

Foil Toucan. Hanging decoration has a 35" wingspan! RME-PY872 \$8.00 each

Metallic Palm Tree. Shimmery tree will become the focal point of your decorations. 8' high. RME-PY869 \$8.00 each

Luau Decorating Kit. Everything you need to create the feeling of sunny, tropical Hawaii. Includes one 10" x 4' Aloha banner, one 14" x 4' metallic Aloha banner, one 6' palm tree, three 17" art tissue parrots, 2 palm tree stringers, three 12" art tissue pineapples, eight 16" fish cutouts, eight 20" luau cutouts, one 24" tropical fish cascade and twelve 17" exotic bird cutouts. 41 pieces. RME-PY1239 \$60.00 per pack.

Kindness Currency. Let special people know when they've made your day with these gold tone metal coins 1 1/4". RME-SL1550 \$4.80 PER PACK OF 4.

"I Was Caught Being Good" Coins. Metallic looking plastic coins in 6 colors. RME-SL1506 \$4.00 per pack of 144.

Chocolate Coins. 144 count tub of 1 1/2" gold foil wrapped chocolate coins. 25 oz. RME-SL874 \$14.50 per tub

**PLUS MUCH MORE! LOOK FOR YOURSELF!**

**Oriental Trading Company catalog offers a wide variety of appropriate games and gift items. If you do not have their delightful free catalog, call toll free 1-800-228-2269 or on their web site: [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com) Order directly through the company.**

**Prices may change**

Silly Parrot Hat. Felt, brightly colored. Lots of fun! 10" x 15" x 11" EP-34/701 \$5.95 each

Nylon Giant Inflate Lawn Palm Tree includes electric blower, metal stand with stakes and 78" power cord. Each with 4 yard stakes and 2 nylon tethers for ground placement. Lighted with five interior lights. 8' x 18" with 6' palms. UL listed. Light bulbs included. EP-34/785 \$44.95 Each

Tropical Tattoos. Assorted styles and colors. Easy to apply and remove. Safe and non toxic. (6 doz. Per unit) 1 1/2"-1 3/4" EP-39/585 \$3.95 Unit

Tissue Parrots. 3 pieces per set. 15" EP-3/27 \$4.95 Set

Tissue Jumbo Parrot. Hang this brightly colored fellow from your ceiling or a palm tree. 25 1/2" x 27". EP-34/318 \$3.95 Each

Foam Jumbo Parrots. Assorted colors with hanger. 21" EP-34/184 \$14.95 Dozen

Cardboard Treasure Chest Box. Keep all your little treasures inside this handy little box. 12" x 7" x 5". Some assembly required. EP-5/460 \$2.95 Each

Paper Treasure Chest Boxes. Great for party favors! 5". Simple assembly required. EP-3/570 \$3.95 Dozen.

Plastic Treasure Chests. Hide your treasures here! Each with hinged lid and 1 3/8" key. 3" x 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" EP-16/589 \$11.95 Dozen

Metal Treasure Chest Bank. Each with hinged lid, lock and 2 keys. 5" x 3 1/2" x 3". EP-26/1957 \$2.95 Each

Balloons (Many colors including black, gold and silver). \$12.95 gross per color.

Polyplastic Multicolor Pennants. These lines of forty eight 12" x 18" flags are 100 ft. EP-25/DP150

Check out the Mardi Gras section. Included find a great variety of inexpensive plastic bead necklaces that work well as Pirate Booty and wrapped chocolate and bubble gum coins.

Deluxe Treasure Chest and Toy Assortment. Includes 50 assorted pieces in a 12" x 7" x 5" treasure chest box. EP-5/673 \$9.95 Unit

**PLUS MUCH MORE! LOOK FOR YOURSELF!**

# BUCCANEER STAFF

“Train your child in the way you know you should have gone yourself.”

–C.H. Spurgeon

Staff choice will make or break **YO HO HOLY**.

Do **NOT** be satisfied with “any warm body”.

Aim for the best people to fill each teaching spot.

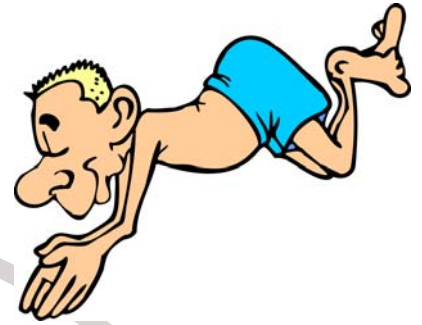


**RECRUIT.** Approach people personally with a specific task. Explain the job fully. No sugar coating allowed!!

**ADVERTISE.** Place a staff recruitment insert in the Sunday morning bulletin for two or three Sundays. Give people with specific requests their spot immediately. Explain the insert during worship announcement time dressed in pirate costume. Give this introductory effort the personal touch.

**PICK AND CHOOSE.** For vacant positions, ask people who will do a good job. The Lord honors your attempts to have the best possible staff. Pray about staff choices and if someone says no, assume another person is waiting to fill that place. Ask young teens, older teens, men, women and senior citizens to become part of the Buccaneer team!

# BUCCANEER STAFF MEETING



**PLAN ONE STAFF EVENING TO EXPLAIN  
EXACTLY WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED.**

Stress 100% attendance so no other meeting will be necessary.

**SEAT STAFF ACCORDING TO WORK AREAS.**

Distribute lesson plans to each small team.

Build in “chatter” time to create excitement and encourage specific planning.

**PREVIEW THE ENTIRE PROGRAM.**

The staff needs an overview of the total program  
to understand their place in the event.

**BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS,  
ASSIGN CLASSROOMS, GIVE INSPIRATION.**

Be the person in charge—CAPTAIN KIDD!

**AFTER THE MEETING, CAPTAIN KIDD'S  
ATTENTION TURNS TO OTHER AREAS.**

Trust the Buccaneers to carry out their responsibilities.

**THE TELEPHONE IS THE STAFF LIFELINE.**

Call the Buccaneer of each area to verify progress.  
Ask questions and check on how things are going.



# YO HO HOLY ...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS!

**SHIVER ME TIMBERS!** Grab your Buccaneer eyepatch and join your Motley Crew for amazing Christian Pirate adventures. List three spots you are willing to fill.

## YO HO HOLY ASSIGNMENTS

...REGISTRATION	Greeters/Name Tags	LEAD/HELP
...PHOTOGRAPHER		VIDEO/SNAPSHOTS/DIGITAL
...ART CREW	Make and Set Up Decorations	LEAD/HELP
...SEA CHANTEYS	Songs Of The Sea	LEAD/HELP
...SHIP'S MESS	Pirate Feasts	LEAD/HELP
...WALK THE PLANK	Games	LEAD/HELP
...DAVEY JONES' LOCKER	Bible Theater	LEAD/HELP
...CANNONBALL COVE	Crafts	LEAD/HELP

## YO HO HOLY LITTLE CREW

...CAPTAIN'S KIDDS	Preschool Fun (Age 4-5)	LEAD/HELP
...ME WEE HEARTIES	Staff Nursery (Birth-Age 3)	LEAD/HELP

## YO HO HOLY BIBLE STATIONS

...BIBLE STATION #1	TREASURE ISLAND	LEAD/HELP
...BIBLE STATION #2	MAROONED!	LEAD/HELP
...BIBLE STATION #3	CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS	LEAD/HELP

...I HAVE PIRATE/HIGH SEAS PROPS THEM!

...I WILL DONATE SNACKS

...I WILL GIVE PIECES OF EIGHT

...I WILL PRAY FOR THE YO HO HOLY TEAM

I WILL LEND

TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED!  
IT'S AN ETERNAL INVESTMENT!  
IT'S WHAT I WANT TO DO!

**YO HO HOLY DATE:**

**TIME:**

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**Need More Details? Ask our very own Captain Kidd:**

# HOIST YER SAILS YE PIRATE SCALLYWAGS FOR A HIGH SEAS ONE DAY ADVENTURE!

# GROUPING THE MOTLEY CREW

*YO HO HOLY is broadly graded.*

*The curriculum is appropriate for Age Four to Grade Six.*

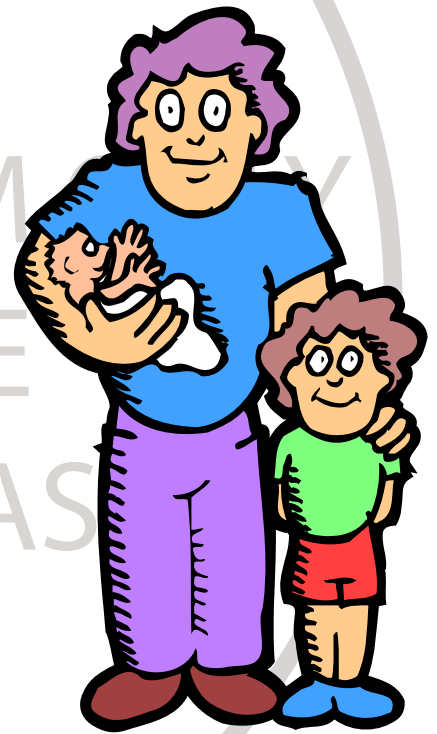
*The goal in grouping students is to provide five student groups of approximately equal size.*

## ME WEE HEARTIES STAFF NURSERY

Nursery is a babysitting service for babies (Birth-Age 3) of the staff.

## COLOR CODE EACH STUDENT GROUP FOR VISUAL IDENTIFICATION

1. CAPTAIN'S KIDDS—GREEN  
Preschool: Age 4- Pre Kindergarten 5
2. LORD'S LANDLUBBERS —GOLD  
Kindergarten
3. HEAVENLY SCALLYWAGS—RED  
Grades 1-2
4. SAVED SWABBYS—ORANGE  
Grades 3-4
5. REDEEMER'S ROGUES—BLACK  
Grades 5-6



Overlap ages in any group except CAPTAIN'S KIDDS.  
If twenty students are in one group and five students in another,  
switch some students regardless of age or grade.

Keep neighborhood friends together for their comfort.  
Visiting cousins appreciate joining their family's group.





# ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL YO HO HOLY SCHEDULE

GROUPS	9:30 TO 9:45	9:45 TO 10:15	10:15 TO 10:45	10:45 TO 11:15	11:15 TO 11:45	11:45 TO 12:15	12:15 TO 12:45	12:45 TO 1:15	1:15 TO 1:45	1:45 TO 2:00
PRE SCHOOL	R E G I S T R A T I O N & O P E N I N G									
CAPTAIN'S KIDDS										
KINDER-GARTEN	S E A C H A N T E Y S									
LORD'S LAND LUBBERS										
GRADES 1 & 2	S H I P ' S M E S S L U N C H									
HEAVENLY SCALLY WAGS										
GRADES 3&4	M U S I C									
SAVED SWABBYS										
GRADES 5&6	C L O S I N G									
REDEEMER ROGUES										

# REGISTRATION TEAM

“Children spell love ‘T-I-M-E’”

–Dr. Anthony P. Witham

The Registration Team makes name tags and runs YO HO HOLY Registration. The job is too big for one person. If there is a tangle at Registration, Vacation Bible School can be delayed as much as 30 minutes. Mark Registrations Tables with color coded group names and grades of student groups. As soon as students have completed Registration, move them into TREASURE TROVE LAGOON OPENING.



**PRE REGISTRATION.** A registration card simplifies arrival by having name tags prepared for pre-registered students. Register through the church newsletter, worship bulletin and take home forms. Telephone families and visit nearby neighborhoods with flyers.

Consider how much information is needed. Ask for name, grade or age, emergency telephone number and contact person. If cards are the basis for church growth, include address, parents and specific information for local church follow up.

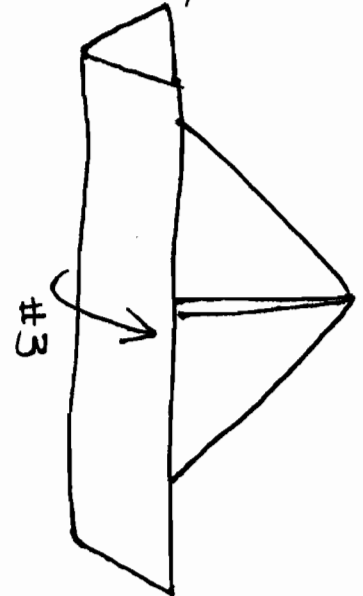
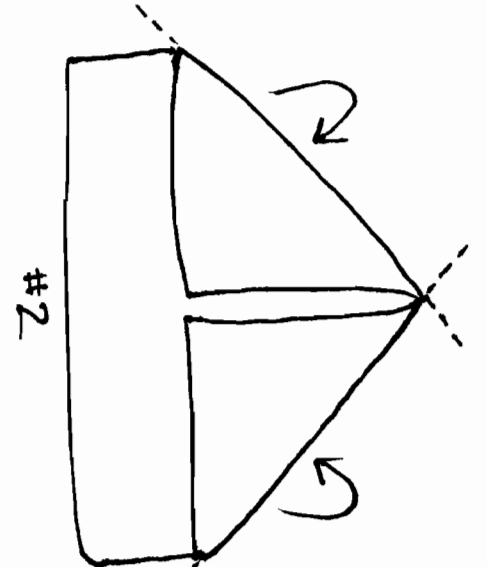
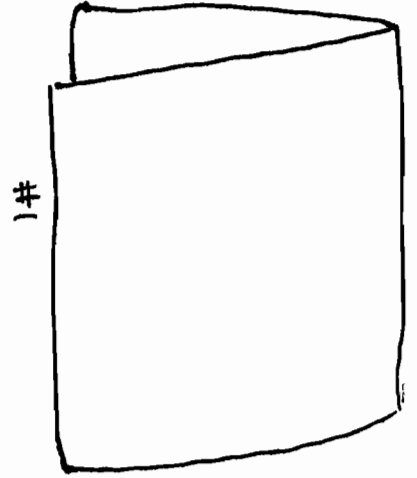
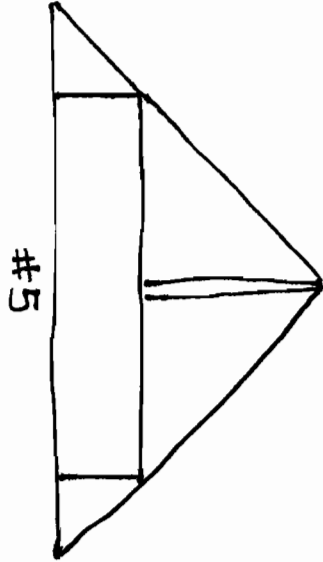
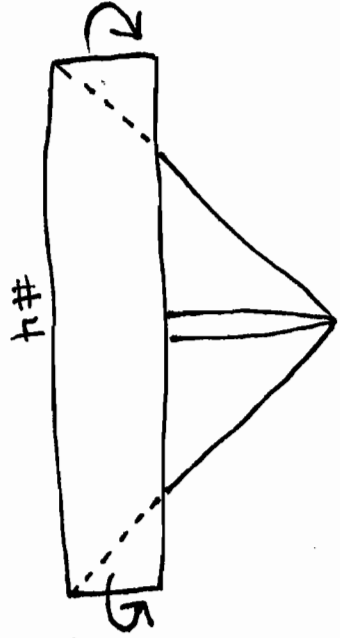
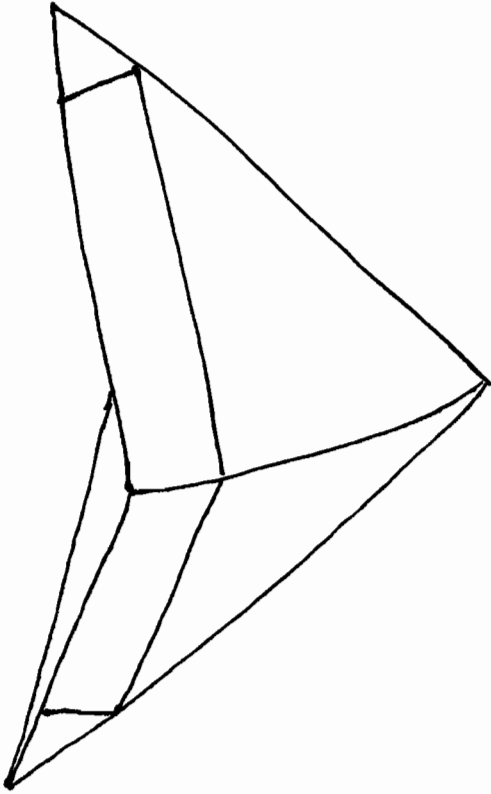
**OPTION:** In these days of severe food allergies and health problems, consider a line for diet restrictions and environmental allergies.

**NAME TAGS.** Give each group a name and color identity. Make tags in group colors. To preserve name tags, cover with clear contact paper or purchase clear plastic sleeves or badge necklaces.

**HATS AND BANDANAS.** Check Oriental Trading Catalog for tri-corner hats and colorful bandanas. Bandana colors should match team colors. Wear bandana tied to one side under the hat. Bandanas may be worn on the head without a pirate hat.

**If the traditional pirate skull and crossbones is a problem, consider making an alternate symbol. Make colored felt hearts to place over the skull. Glue the hearts onto the hat using a strong fabric glue.**

**To make a homemade version follow our printed instructions.** For a small hat used as a wall or table decoration: 8 ½ x 11 sheet of colorful paper. Child sized hat: use ½ sheet of newspaper. Keep the hat together with strategically located scotch tape. Decorate as desired. Use solid color paper in team colors, spray paint once the hat is made or leave as is in newsprint. Attach long feathers and stickers. Student’s name can be printed across the front of the hat.





## YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS MOTLEY CREW REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE/GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES (FOOD/ENVIRONMENT) \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIEW PROGRAM ONLY

NOT FOR USE

## YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS MOTLEY CREW REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE/GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES (FOOD/ENVIRONMENT) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PURCHASE



# PUBLICITY

## Promotion is vital to Vacation Bible School.

*People must know WHAT is going on and WHEN it will be occurring.*

**CHURCH BULLETIN.** Advertise for **Buccaneer Leaders**. Include recruitment inserts in Sunday morning bulletins. Print general announcements until **YO HO HOLY** begins. Include student registration forms.

**CHURCH NEWSLETTER.** Print quick, catchy announcements aimed at parents and kids. Include registration forms in the monthly newsletter. Include specific information for date, time and place. Motivate them with fun details to spark their imagination.



**AHOY MATEY!** What lad or lassie hasn't wanted to be a pirate? Find buried treasure? Discover an island? Meet Captain Hook? Well, maybe not that last one! **YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS** is our One Day Vacation Bible School high seas adventure where your Motley Crew searches for Jesus and His Treasure. Hoist yer sails ye landlubbers and get ready to swab the decks, warble sea shanteys and search for golden doubloons.

**SHIVER ME TIMBERS!** It's time for **YO HO HOLY...A PIRATES GUIDE TO JESUS**. Take time to join our One Day Vacation Bible School. There's a King's Ransom waiting for you Scallywags back at Treasure Trove Lagoon. If ye're lucky, ye might find a message in a bottle!

**WORSHIP SERVICE GREETERS.** Greet people coming into church for worship. This is a great reminder that One Day VBS is coming. Dress in Pirate costume. Distribute Registration Forms. Speak "Pirate-ese" while in costume!

**LOCAL NEWSPAPER.** Take black and white photographs of people in costume or ask the newspaper photographer to take pictures before **YO HO HOLY**. Send a news release several weeks before the event to insure publication. Invite a reporter and photographer to visit **YO HO HOLY** while in progress.

**COLORING CONTEST.** Sponsor a coloring contest in Sunday School. Choose one picture. Award prizes and create excitement for ONE DAY Vacation Bible School.

**VISIT THE PULPIT.** Wear a Pirate costume and visit the pastor during announcement time. Give this real flair so the congregation becomes excited about **YO HO HOLY!** Announce the date, time and ages of eligible students.

**LOCAL TELEVISION.** Ask a local television station to tape a feature news story. This is great publicity and encouragement. Do not assume a crew will NOT come. Call and ask.

**DENOMINATION NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINES.** Does your denomination have a communication network? Send pictures and a well written article. You may be surprised to find your church featured in the next edition.

**SIGNS AND POSTERS.** Although considered the least effective, placing signs and posters in stores, offices and well traveled spots brings attention to your program. Attach tear off sheets stating basic information.

**CHURCH SIGN.** Place a large sign at the church announcing date and time. Use the Pirate theme to draw attention by flying banners and lighting the sign at night. Just for fun, design the sign in the shape of a pirate ship!

**YO HO HOLY  
...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS**

**ONE DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**DATE:                      TIME:**

**AHOY MATEYS!**



# PHOTOGRAPHY

Pictures are a unique way to remember the work and the rewards of a visual ONE DAY program. Ask the church photographer to wear a colorful Pirate costume. Assigning a person/team to take pictures is not necessary to the success of **YO HO HOLY**.



Think about using photography as a connection for people who would not ordinarily be involved and think about the memory making possibilities.

**ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO BRING CAMERAS.** Amateur photographers usually stand at one side to take pictures and should not disrupt events. This is a good way to involve parents and church members who visit each decorated area.

**ASSIGN A PHOTOGRAPHY CREW** to take pictures for the church. Underwrite the cost of film and developing from One Day VBS resources.

**35 MM COLOR PRINTS.** Take staff and student pictures. Facial close ups are the most popular shots.

**VIDEO.** Assign someone to video all events. Some things can be staged for filming but it is fun to record as events are taking place.

**SELLING PICTURES.** Be prepared to quote a video price. Do you want to cover the cost of the tape or help defray One Day VBS costs? Prepare a sign up sheet including the cost. Keep a copy in the church video library!

# DRESS LIKE A PIRATE!



Part of the fun of YO HO HOLY is bringing the Pirate theme to life with props and costumes. This is not difficult or expensive. Teachers, helpers and activity leaders should dress as pirates. Follow a few tips and let your Scoundrel imagination run wild! Check with costume shops.

The same outfits can be worn by male and female pirates. Wear outfits that are fun and funny—over the top!

**Essential accessories:** Wear a black eye patch and moustache. Paint the moustache with black marker or eyebrow pencil. Add one large, hoop earring. Make a hook for one hand and a peg leg (works well for seated story teller). A shoulder parrot tops off the look.

**Hook:** Cut a slit I in the bottom of a plastic cup.  
Cut a hook shape out of cardboard, wrap with foil and slip it through the slit in the cup.

**Shirts/Vests:** White, puffy sleeves look terrific but plain white shirts work just as well. Add a short vest over the top of the white shirt. Also fun is a loose fitting tunic or large t shirt tied in the middle with rope or long scarf. Wear red and white horizontal striped t-shirts. Check out [www.veggiegear.com](http://www.veggiegear.com) for terrific Pirate t-shirts.

**Pants/Shoes:** Wear frayed black pants or ragged, cut off jeans. Wear a rope belt or long sash/scarf belt. Add black boots or sturdy black shoes. Place large buckles on each boot. Buckles can be homemade cardboard covered in foil.

**Hats:** Wear a bandana tied to one side with a knot. Over the bandana wear a black, tri corner hat (available in Oriental Trading). Instead of the tri corner, make a homemade paper hat. (See the instructions.) Design an alternative symbol to the jolly roger. We include a sample heart and cross pattern that can be reduced or enlarged, cut in felt and glued to the center of any hat.

**MOTLEY CREW:** Follow instructions from the REGISTRATION TEAM information to make dressing like a pirate fun for each child.

**Add anything you desire to our suggestions.  
Be creative while having fun!**



# TREASURE TROVE LAGOON

## ...THE OPENING



**TREASURE TROVE LAGOON** is a thirty minute event designed to introduce the day's events, pray, make announcements, collect offering, spark enthusiasm and sing, sing, sing! The Pirate Skit establishes two scoundrel characters. Add a short Christian music video or group game if desired. As students are registered and assigned a group, seat them and incorporate them into the activities as quickly as possible. It should appear that they are joining a party already in progress.

If there are "early bird" students—and there always are—consider starting ahead of time with Christian music videos (VEGGIE TALES' "We Are The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything" is a video that can be played several times throughout the day.). Crazy games of "Simon Says" and a huge beach ball toss accompanied by music makes a great start to the day. Be sure to provide some *loot* for winners of the games. If an early morning breakfast has been served, gather the group as quickly as possible to begin the formal portion of the day.

**CAPTAIN KIDD:** The One Day VBS Director becomes the all knowing Captain of the ship who oversees all events of the day. Lead the events at TREASURE TROVE LAGOON and maintain a "hearty" pirate attitude throughout the day.

**DECORATE:** Concentrate decorating efforts in the sanctuary or large meeting room. See the Decoration section for ideas. Here are a few suggestions to get you going:

**Backdrop:** A backdrop is optional. Use cardboard or rolled paper. Draw the ocean, sand and palm trees. A ship in the distance can be added.

**Furniture:** Lay a huge open beach umbrella on its' side. Under the umbrella place beach balls, lawn chairs and a picnic basket. Add an open treasure chest overflowing with junk jewelry and sparkly items. Brass or silver jugs, vases and pots can be added to the booty.

**Boat:** Place a rowboat and oars on stage. Add life preservers, anchors, real sails and other boat accessories.

**Palm Trees:** Make large palm trees by using carpet tubes available for free from carpet stores. Spray paint the tubes brown or black. Add large construction paper palm leaves to the top. Hold the leaves in place with straightened wire hangers. Scatter a few real coconuts on the floor.

**Island Accessories:** Add anything available to enhance the tropical island ambiance. Real pineapples, fake parrots (See Oriental Trading Catalog), sand, silk ferns and brightly colored silk flowers make the area look tropical.

**Flag:** Hang a large Christian flag at the lagoon. This represents the flying of the colors for any self respecting Christian Pirate. Add other flags (jacks) as desired.

**BACKGROUND MUSIC:** Check out the local music store to find collections of Sea Chanteys. Many are available. Check the internet too.

**COLLECT OFFERING:** Collect GOLD DOUBLOONS in a unique container. Consider metal or wooden buckets or fabric bags tied with ropes. Ask teen leaders or students to hold the containers as people enter **TREASURE TROVE LAGOON**. Students contribute their offering before they find their seat. Decide where to donate the offering and if a special cause is designated, let families know. There may be worthy ministries the church could support.

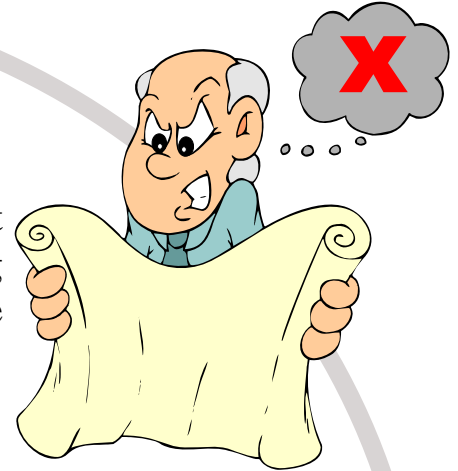
**CHAIRS OR NO CHAIRS:** If meeting in a gymnasium or fellowship hall, consider allowing groups of students to sit on the floor. Mark the seating area with separate jacks (flags) in group colors. Students enjoy the different look and position. Allow student groups to carry their jacks with them throughout the day.

**SYNCHRONIZE YOUR WATCHES:** Begin on time even if students and staff are still gathering. Plan to welcome the group, sing a few songs, make announcements, perform the skit and dismiss. End on time to guarantee groups move to their first activity on time. Direct latecomers to their first activities as they arrive.

# TREASURE TROVE LAGOON SKIT

## Featherhead's Lost Treasure

Rehearse the skit before **YO HO HOLY** begins. The skit may be performed in two sections. Begin during the Opening and complete it at the end of the day. Do not memorize the parts. Speak loudly and clearly. Dress in Pirate costume.



### **FEATHERHEAD THE PIRATE AND CAPTAIN CUTLASS**

This pirate skit features Featherhead The Pirate, a clueless pirate who has lost the ship's treasure. He knows he's going to be in big trouble with Captain Cutlass so he tries to talk his way out of big trouble. Captain Cutless is a strong but fair Pirate Buccaneer. He knows the truth and is convinced the truth will make you free. Hilarity reigns as these two pirate characters try to outsmart each other. A war of words...pirate words, that is...ensues. In the end they discover that doing things God's way is the true treasure.

One or both characters may carry treasure maps, spyglasses, long walking sticks and fake parrots. Do not be shy when delivering lines. The characters should be loud, self assured and pirates through and through. Use microphones whenever possible.

This skit can be performed by puppets if desired. Dress the puppets as pirates for best results.

JUST FOR FUN! FEATHERHEAD IS AVOIDING CAPTAIN CUTLASS THROUGH THE DAY. ASK FEATHERHEAD TO MAKE CLASS ROOM/ACTIVITY CENTER APPEARANCES IN CHARACTER ASKING IF THE KIDS HAVE SEEN THE CAPTAIN. WHEN HE LEAVES, CAPTAIN CUTLASS ARRIVES TO ASK IF THE KIDS HAVE SEEN FEATHERHEAD!

# FEATHERHEAD THE PIRATE AND CAPTAIN CUTLASS

## FEATHERHEAD'S LOST TREASURE—PART ONE



FEATHERHEAD: *(Walking down the aisle from the back of the room....Singing...)* “Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of pop!” Hey, where is everybody? Ahoy! Where be ye?

*(Turning to audience...)* Perhaps ye might be helpin’ a poor pirate in his hour o’ need. Have ye seen me Cap’n? *(Gesturing....)* He be about this tall and this wide. He wears a grin on his face most times. Maybe not on this fine day...but most days.

Who am I, ye ask? Featherhead’s me name and cheatin’ be me game. I’m a mighty bad pirate, don’t ya know. Been one nearly all me life. Arrgh! The bad just might be catchin’ up ‘t me on this very day. I buried Captain Cutlass’ treasure and sink me if I can find it again.

Me Cap’n won’t believe me. Not that he should, mind ya. I been a cheatin’ scoundrel all me life but this time I didn’t steal the booty. I hid it somewhere on Treasure Trove Lagoon. But...where?

Me treasure map ain’t helping a bit. I forgot to mark the X. Now, thar be an unforgivable sin for a pirate. Ya always gotta mark yer X for treasure finding.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: *(From the back of the room, shouting...)* Featherhead! Featherhead, ye worthless scurvy dog, where be ye? Ye better have me treasure, ye old bilge rat, else I be makin’ ya walk the plank!

FEATHERHEAD: *(Cringing and trying to find a place to hide)* Oh no, he’s coming. Where can I hide? I need more time to search for the pirate booty.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: *(Running down the aisle....)* Stop right there, ya rascally scallywag! I found ya. You didn’t think you’d escape yer old Cap’n, did ye?

FEATHERHEAD: *(Nervously...)* Aye, aye captain! Has me other mates mentioned how good yer’s lookin’ on this fine day? Lost weight? Took a bath?

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Big changes in me life, mate. I be a fearsome Buccaneer but last night I met me match. Now, this might be a surprise, so hold to the mizzenmast....I now be a Christian!

FEATHERHEAD: (*Laughing....*) Nah! Ya don't say! A true Jesus believin'Christian? Now that's hard to believe as truth. Cap'n Cutless is known far and wide across the high seas as the blood thirstiest, dark hearted, low down, mean, jack tar privateer ever been born. Why, ye can hornswaggle the spots off a tiger fish.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Well, ya got me there, Featherhead. I been a hard hearted Buccaneer. But I plan big changes. This is one captain that is going to be patient and kind to me hearties. I been going On the Account....

FEATHERHEAD: (*Aside to audience...*)He means "living the life of a pirate".

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: I been going On the Account many a year and been a mean scoundrel by all reports. Today I be different. Me heart is strangely warmed.

FEATHERHEAD: (*Aside to audience...*) This here could be me lucky day. Me Cap'n might not make me walk the plank for losin' his booty. Should I confess? (*Let audience respond.*)

Well, Maybe I should be thinkin' about it for a bit. Ye never know if the change to Christian took yet. Cap'n Cutlass might be weak in the knees with love for the gold doubloon and pieces of eight. He never could pass up a bit of the twinkle.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Where's me treasure, Featherhead? I gave you the treasure chest, the shovel and the pirate treasure map. Were ye worthy of me trust?

FEATHERHEAD: Me? Worthy of ye're trust? (*Saluting....*) Oh yes, Cap'n. I be a trustworthy swab. Yer treasure's safe with old Featherhead. Yes-siree. That treasure's as safe as safe can be. Couldn't be safer if I had it in me own pocket. Yes-siree, that treasure is SAFE!

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Well, go get it matey. I be needin' it right away.

FEATHERHEAD: Right. I'll be going along right smartly. But...the thing is...I hurt me back somethin' fierce. I need to rest before diggin' up a heavy treasure. I'm sure you can be waiting another day or two.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Not really. I need that treasure today. So, get to it lad. Find me treasure!

FEATHERHEAD: Oooo-kay.....Let's see. I'll dig over here and see what the sand dregs up.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: You seem uncertain of where to dig, Featherhead. Just check the X on yer treasure map and that be where ya dig.

FEATHERHEAD: Check the X on the map. Yep, there she be. Great big X. Right there in the middle of the old map. Here we go. Diggin' fer sure this time.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Wait, I want to tell you something. You can dig in a minute. I just got to thinking you never heard about Jesus and how he can save your scurvy soul.

FEATHERHEAD: (*Relieved...*) Right on, Cap'n. Talk about Jesus. I never did hear 'bout Him and all this dirty diggin' can wait. Talk to me.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Jesus came from heaven to be a right friendly bloke. God's Son, don't ya know. Came as a baby and grew up to be a savin' man. Died for me and you, Featherhead.

FEATHERHEAD: Some bilge rat made 'im walk the plank?

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Worse. He died on a cross but that's not all bad. He had to do it so's we pirates could go to heaven to be with Him when we die. It's a grand and glorious tale! And all I had to do was pray a prayer. I prayed it and now I'm a Jesus believin' Christian. I'm changed I tell ya. I'm changed!

FEATHERHEAD: I don't see the point in believin' in a guy who got sent to Davy Jones' Locker.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Shiver me timbers, Featherhead! Jesus didn't stay dead. He rose up from the dead as happy as ya please and that's how Jesus became our Savior. He's sittin' in heaven right now, watchin' us. You can be a Christian too, Bucko. All ya have to do is say yes and pray a little prayer.

FEATHERHEAD: Uhhhhhh, Cap'n, I got somethin' to tell ya. I don't know quite where to begin. It's about yer treasure.... It's me X on the map. I can't, I can't.....(*Run to the back of the room and disappear.*)

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Blimey, I didn't mean to upset him. Where do ya think he ran off to? I bet he's findin' me treasure. We'll catch up to you mateys later. Enjoy your day running the ship's and islands as pirates. Let the Buccanner pirates guide you straight to Jesus.

Featherhead, Featherhead! Wait fer me. I got more words to say. (*Walk to the back of the room and disappear.*)

# FEATHERHEAD'S LOST TREASURE—PART TWO

Perform this portion of the skit at the end of the day. It is a fitting conclusion to the story.



FEATHERHEAD: (*Sneaking in from the back of the room....*) Have ya seen him? Captain Cutlass? He's gonna keelhaul me fer sure. I still can't find that treasure. He'll never believe this old scallywag. I forgot to put the X on me treasure map and I could dig all day and all night without a clue to where it be.

Me Cap'n says he be a Jesus believin' Christian but how can he forgive this old scurvy dog? He'll make me walk the plank for sure! I'm such a dunderhead.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: There you are, Featherhead. Where did you go? I looked high and low all day! Hand over me treasure, mate. I have need of the gold doubloons.

FEATHERHEAD: (*Nervously....*) Ummmm, Cap'n? I have such a pirate tale to tell ya. It's funny really. I know you'll get a kick out of it. Ye got a grand sense of humor, ye bein' a Christian and all!

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Featherhead, where is me treasure? Did ye spend all me gold doubloons? Did ye hide it on yer own so's I can't find it? Fess up, pirate. The time is now!

FEATHERHEAD: (*Desperate confession*) Ye know I been a faithful matey all me days. I'd climb the highest mast and swim the roughest seas fer me Cap'n. Ye know I would. I served under yer Jack nigh these many years. And I hid the treasure, just as ye commanded. I really did. But....

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: (*Shouting....*) But.....But what? Where is me treasure?

FEATHERHEAD: Now, now, cap'n. Like I said, it be an accident. Don't be mad at yer favorite mate.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: (*Calming down, speaking slowly through clenched teeth*) I am not mad. I want to understand where me treasure came to lay. Speak now, Featherhead, or I swear....

FEATHERHEAD: Oh Captain, I don't think Jesus believin' Christians is supposed to "swear". I remember hearing that someplace. Yep, yep, no swearing. It's one of the rules.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Featherhead....

FEATHERHEAD: I know, I know. Where be ye treasure? Well, it was like this. When we landed near Treasure Trove Lagoon, twas a dark and stormy night. I drug that heavy chest step by step to a secret spot. It was a hard job, but I did it fer love of me Cap'n. I buried it deep and I covered it over so's nobody would find it...ever. And then.....

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: And then?

FEATHERHEAD: Oh Captain, don't make me walk the plank. Did I mention I can't swim? I didn't mean it. I'm just a scallywag of a pirate, not meanin' any harm. And then....I fergot to make the X on me treasure map. I plain fergot.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: (*Quietly....*) You forgot? Tell me, Featherhead, what is the first rule of being a pirate?

FEATHERHEAD: (*Head down*) The First Rule of being a pirate is "always mark yer X on the treasure map." I'm sorry, Cap'n. I'm just plainly sorry.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: (*Walk back and forth silently, in deep thought.*) Well, bloke, it's time to live up to yer sin. There's nothing I can do, except....

FEATHERHEAD: Oh Cap'n, surely you don't mean....

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Yep, I will take the blame fer you with me hearties on board ship. I'll tell 'em it was MY fault the treasure got lost. It's me own fault for losin' their hard earned wages. Twasn't stolen pieces of eight, but cargo won fair and square.

FEATHERHEAD: I cannot allow you to do that, Cap'n. T'was me that failed the crew. T'was me that lost their pay. Tell 'em the truth. I'll take me punishment like a pirate.

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Featherhead, I must tell you about Jesus. He took me own punishment. I tried to tell you before that Jesus died in me place. I deserved it but He took it from me. His dyin' did the same for you. None of us pirates get what we really deserve. I can do something for you that nobody else can do. I aim to do it with all my heart. All I ask is that you take Jesus as your own Savior. Become a Jesus believin' pirate. You can do it, Featherhead, if you will.

FEATHERHEAD: You showed me true enough, that Jesus took me own sins on himself. I'm sorry for my sins. I will live for Him from this very day. Thank ye, Cap'n. What ye did fer me is a true treasure but what Jesus did for me is worth a King's Ransom!



CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Don't thank me, thank Jesus. I can only be one pirate guiding another pirate to God but Jesus did the hard work. He is waiting for every man and lad, wench and lass to ask Him to be forgiven.

**To audience:** Ask Jesus to be your Savior this very day. Don't wait. Pray this prayer with me quietly.

Dear Jesus, I know I sinned. I want to change and become Your child. Forgive me and come to live in me. I trust You to make me clean. I will follow You the rest of my days. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FEATHERHEAD: Amen! I prayed that prayer and now I'm a Christian. I have a lot to learn but there's time to learn it all. I'll go to church, I'll talk to friends who know Jesus and can help me grow. I'll keep from sinnin' in the future and best of all, I can look forward to heaven in the by and by!

CAPTAIN CUTLASS: Let's talk to the crew. Maybe there's a way we can find that buried treasure after all. After all, they'll be eager to help and when they hear about a scurvy old pirate finding Jesus, they will want to know Him too.

**FEATHERHEAD AND CAPTAIN CUTLASS LEAVE THE AREA ARM IN HARM, WAVING TO THE AUDIENCE AND SHOUTING PIRATE FAREWELLS.**

ARRGGH, FARE-THEE-WELL, MATEYS!  
YO-HO-HO! HOIST YER SAILS FER JESUS!  
ANCHORS AWEIGH FOR HEAVEN, BUCKOS!

# SEA CHANTEYS ...SONGS OF THE SEA

Sing to the Lord a new song..." Psalm 33:3a

SEA CHANTEYS is a 30 minute music session held just before lunch. Students and staff meet as a whole to sing a variety of praise songs. Combine familiar choruses with a few new songs. YO HO HOLY's schedule provides time during TREASURE TROVE LAGOON OPENING and CLOSING for singing.

Choose upbeat songs that are easy to learn in a short time. Plan several more songs than you can teach in 30 minutes, just in case the students learn the choruses quickly. Keep the session moving with enthusiasm.



**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:** **What Is A Sea Chantey?** Chanteys (Shanties) are the work songs that were used on the square-rigged ships of the Age of Sail. Their rhythms coordinated the efforts of many sailors hauling on lines. Much loved by modern sailors and folk musicians, they are rarely used as work songs today. This is because modern rigging doesn't require many people to be working in the same rhythm for long periods.

Traditional shanties can be grouped into three types: *short haul* shanties, for tasks requiring quick pulls over a relatively short time; *halyard shanties*, for heavier work requiring more set up time between pulls; and *capstan* shanties, for long, repetitive tasks requiring a sustained rhythm, but not involving working the lines.

Printed from [shanty.rendance.org](http://shanty.rendance.org)

**DECORATION.** Meet at TREASURE TROVE LAGOON. No additional decoration .

**PIRATE PRAISE TEAM.** Form a team of costumed pirates who stand with microphones and music stands. They become song leaders. This appealing contemporary style is enjoyed by children and youth and is a great help to the main song leader.

**MUSIC.** Purchase our music collection GREAT BIG PRAISE FOR A GREAT BIG GOD, Books 1 and 2 with cassette and CD options or create your own slate of songs. VEGGIE TALES offers a whole Pirate series of songs for kids. Order online at: [www.veggiegear.com](http://www.veggiegear.com)

**GREAT BIG PRAISE FOR A GREAT BIG GOD, Book 1 Younger Kids, 117**  
Fun, Exciting, Singable Songs for Younger Kids, Lillenas Publishing Company, Kansas City, MO 64141.

**This Is The Day, 3**

**Ho Ho Hosanna, 6**

**O How I Love Jesus, 8**

**Hallelu, 10**

**All Night, All Day, 36**

**God Is Bigger Than the Bogeyman, 37**

**Every Word of the Lord Is True, 44**

**When I Am Afraid, 46**

**The Wise Man and the Foolish Man, 51**

**This Is My Commandment, 53**

**Fishers Of Men, 56**

**I Am a "C", 60**

**Seek Ye First, 78**

**O How He Loves You and Me, 93**

**+ Many More Songs!**

**GREAT BIG PRAISE FOR A GREAT BIG GOD, Book 2 Older Kids, 100** Fun, Exciting, Singable Songs for Older Kids, Lillenas Publishing Company, Kansas City, MO 64141.

**Lord, I Lift Your Name on High, 1**

**Awesome God, 2**

**What a Mighty God We Serve, 3**

**Bless That Wonderful Name, 4**

**Great and Mighty, 7**

**Step By Step, 8**



**Christian words to familiar Sea Chantey melodies.  
Sing Acapella. Write your own verses too!**

**POPEYE THE SAILOR MAN**

I'm Christian, the Sailor Kid!  
I'm Christian, the Sailor Kid!  
I'm strong to the "Finich"  
With Jesus, I'm in it!  
I'm Christian, the Sailor Kid!

**BLOW THE MAN DOWN**

I'm a deep water sailor just come from Hong Kong  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.  
I've learned how to pray and I'll sing you a song.  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.

Come all ye young fellows that follow the sea  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.  
Now please pay attention and listen to me,  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.

Come all ye fair lassies that wait on the shore.  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.

Follow the Savior and He'll give you more.  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.

Now listen up pirates, you sail in the morn  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.

Study the map and His treasure is yo'm.  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.

Pay attention to orders, now, you one and all  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.

Start living for Jesus, and stay on the ball.  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.

There's tinkers and tailors, shoemakers and all  
Way Hey, Jesus is King.

We'll soon meet in Heaven whenever He calls.  
Give Him your life, 'Cause Jesus is King.



## EARLY IN THE MORNING

(Tune: *What Do You Do With A Drunken Sailor?*)

What shall we do with a tired Christian?

What shall we do with a tired Christian?

What shall we do with a tired Christian?

Early in the morning!

**CHORUS:** Yo-Ho, up she rises Yo-Ho, up she rises, Yo-Ho, up she rises! Early in the morning.

2. Put him in the long boat 'til he's trustin'
3. Pull out the Bible, read it often
4. Heave him by the leg and get him to church
5. Love him with hugs and love him with patience



## JESUS LOVES PIRATES!

(Tune: *Jesus Loves Me*)

I'm a pirate! That I be! I sail me ship upon the sea!

I stay up late, 'til half past three! And that's a peg below me knee!

**CHORUS:** Jesus loves pirates! Yo-Ho-Holy pirates! Jesus loves pirates!  
I know that He loves me!

I like to fish, I like to fight, I like to stay up half the night!  
When I say "starboard" ye go right! Me ma, she says, "Ye look a fright!" **CHORUS**

I've got no hand but that's me hook! I pillage stuff but I'm no crook.  
Me booty's in this chest I took. They'll write about me in a book! **CHORUS**

That's all there is to this fine song. I hope it hasn't been too long.  
A pirate's life might just be wrong. So grow up nice and kind and strong! **CHORUS**

## SING FOR MY SAVIOR ALL DAY

(Tune: *My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean*)

I travel along God's great Ocean. I float above water all day.

I increase my spirit's devotion and find I can serve him today.

**CHORUS:** Sing now, sing now, I sing for my Savior all day—all day.  
Sing now, sing now, I sing for my Savior all day!

My Jesus has given me peace. My Jesus has given me bliss.  
My Jesus has given me treasures. My Jesus I thank You for this. **CHORUS**

# WALK THE PLANK!

## ...PIRATE GAMES

This is a 30 minute small group recreation time. Decide what games your leadership team feels comfortable playing. Use active, fast paced games that encourage running, jumping, laughing and comradeship.

**DECORATION.** Choose an indoor or outdoor area large enough for running, jumping, ball playing, relay races and circle games. If outdoors, select a grassy spot away from traffic. Fill the area with colorful “Jacks” (flags) and brightly colored pennants. (Available in Oriental Trading Catalog.)

**COSTUMES.** Game leaders become swashbuckling pirates dressed in traditional pirate costume. Follow the event suggestions.

**EQUIPMENT.** Organize individual game supplies before Vacation Bible School. Choose age appropriate games. Play gentle games with the preschool group. (Young children develop attachments to balloons. They will definitely cry if asked to break their balloons during a game. Avoid this when possible.) Older students love rough and tumble activities. Adjust event rules for your group. Keep a few simple first aid items on hand: Band-Aids, fresh water, ice pack.

**PRIZES.** Award colorful stickers or tattoos to winning teams. Cheap plastic jewelry is an attractive prize too. At the end of each session, give something to everyone. Soft candy is popular. Choose small treats that will not become lodged in throats: Chocolate kisses, Twizzlers, Candy Corn or gummy worms. Do NOT use peanut based candies due to allergies.



# WALK THE PLANK GAMES

*Play preferred traditional games.  
Purchase a game book for more ideas.  
Use our pirate favorites!*

## WATER CANNONS

**Equipment:** Containers filled with lots and lots of pre-filled water balloons! One Treasure Chest (*Rubbermaid container or Styrofoam chest containing a variety of treats and rewards.*)

**How To Play:** Divide the pirate players into two teams. Teams stand on opposite ends of the treasure chest. The goal is to capture the treasure chest before the other team gets it. Toss water balloons to keep the enemy away. The first pirate to drag the chest across their finish line wins the treasure for their team. **The challenge?** The capturing pirate must not be wet from balloons in any way. If he/she is soaked in the process, the other pirate crew gets the treasure chest. So, each team must have a strategy before using all their cannons. Soak the person who grabs the chest!



## TREASURE HUNT

**Equipment:** Small treasures. (Inexpensive plastic gold coins, balloons, coins, cheap plastic jewelry, candy) Scatter the treasures in a wide area. Zip lock bag for each treasure hunter. Option: blind folds for each player..

**How To Play:** Before the Treasure Hunt, scatter lots of small treasures in as big an area as possible. Make it challenging by throwing treats as far as possible. On your signal, treasure hunters rush to capture as much of the treasure as they can. **The challenge?** To make the hunt more interesting, blindfold each player before they search! Show off the treasures when everything has been found.

## TREASURE CHEST PINATA

**Equipment:** One Pinata for each group. (Treasure chests are available but any pinata works), stick, treats inside pinata, bags to hold treats, blindfold.

**How To Play:** One student is chosen at a time to try to hit and break open the pinata. Blindfold that student. He/she gets 3 swats with the stick. Next student takes over and so on until the pinata is finally broken. Everyone scrambles to grab treats.



## PIN THE “X” ON THE TREASURE MAP

**Equipment:** Make a large treasure map with an outline of an X. (Enlarge pattern we have included.), tape, crayons, blindfolds.

**How To Play:** Tape the X shaped treasure map to a wall or tree. Blind fold students before they are spun 3 times. They approach the map with their crayon and place one X as close to the center of the treasure map as possible. **OR**, Pin the eye Patch on the Pirate. (Enlarge graphic shown on page one of the YO HO HOLY curriculum.) Each student receives one black paper eye patch and attempts to place the patch as close to his eye as possible.

## MUSICAL ISLANDS

**Equipment:** Hula Hoops (one per student). CD/cassette player and music.

**How To Play:** Set as many hula hoops on the floor as you have guests and play music. Pirates must walk around the hoops until you turn off the tunes, at which point they must be standing inside one of the “islands” or they’re out. Every few minutes take away a hoop until only one seafarer remains..

## WALK THE PLANK

**Equipment:** Two long, flat boards. Two large water jars. Two large spoons. Two buckets of water. Prizes.

**How To Play:** Divide pirates into two teams. Players must place water on a spoon from the bucket at one end of the plank and carefully walk the plank. They place their water in the jar and give the spoon to the next player. The team with the most water in their jar, wins! Play several times so players get good at the game and enjoy walking the plank!

## CANNONBALL POP

**Equipment:** Use black balloon with prize slips inside them. Prizes.

**How To Play:** Pirate players toss the black balloons in the air, back and forth to each other without knowing there are prizes at stake. At your signal, players keep and break the balloon they are holding. They win the prize listed inside the balloon.

## SUNKEN TREASURE

**Equipment:** Child’s pool filled with water. Plastic treasures. Kitchen utensils.

**How To Play:** Pirate players must get one treasure out of the pool without using their hands. They can hold their breath and dive for it from the side of the little pool or use any utensil available.

## MAROONED

**Equipment:** None.

**How To Play:** A game of tag where the person chasing everyone is a “Shark” and the marooned pirates can go to the “Island” (Home Base) one at a time. When the shark catches a pirate he becomes a shark too and tries to catch pirates. The last remaining pirate wins the game!

## SINK THE PIRATE SHIP

**Equipment:** Two refrigerator boxes, 2 dozen ping pong balls.

**How To Play:** Divide pirate players into two teams and put each team in their box. Give Team #1 2 dozen ping pong balls and see how many “cannon balls” they can toss into Team #2 ship to try and sink it. Team #2 can catch the balls and toss back into Team #1 ship but they cannot pick cannonballs up off of the floor. After Team #1 has used their 2 dozen balls, give Team #2 a try, then count the cannonball successes to see who sunk who’s ship!

## PANNING FOR GOLD

**Equipment:** Gold spray painted small rocks, small wading pool, water, 25 lb bag of sand, metal pie plates.

**How To Play:** Spray paint some rocks gold. Fill a small wading pool with water and add a 25 lb bag of sand and the gold nuggets. Give the pirate players metal pie plates and show them how to pan for gold treasure!

## PRIZES/TREATS/REWARDS!

Check out S&S arts and crafts catalog for some great, inexpensive pirate rewards! [www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com) is an easy and fast way to order!

CHOCOLATE COINS. 144 count tub of 1 ½" gold foil wrapped chocolate coins. 25 oz.  
RME-SL874 \$14.50 per tub

CANDY BRACELETS. 48 count box of individually packaged candy bracelets. 14 oz.  
RME-SL696 \$4.80 per box

TWIZZLERS. 180 individually wrapped berry twists per display box. 63 oz.  
RME-SL59 \$8.50 per box

GUMMY WORMS. 240 count display of festive multicolor gummy worms. 63.5 oz.  
RME-SL726 \$12.50 per tub

RING POP LOLLIPOPS. 36 count display box of assorted fruit flavored .5 oz ring pops. 18 oz.  
RME-SL885 \$14.00 per display

# SHIP'S MESS

## ...A PIRATE FEAST!

YO HO HOLY students and staff can hardly wait to eat at the SHIP'S MESS! Make an adaptable food area where enjoyable pirate meals are enjoyed. Serve simple foods and enjoy the company of your MOTLEY CREW.



Choose the meal option that best fits your situation:

1. **Serve breakfast and lunch to students and staff. Add families and congregation for a celebration picnic at the conclusion of the day's activities.**

2. **Serve lunch to students and staff. Prepare an evening family ice cream social.**

3. **Serve lunch to students and staff. Serve an evening family picnic tureen dinner.**

4. **Serve lunch to students and staff.**

**Host an adventurous visit to a ship's mess where pirates meet to eat.** Prepare robust meals appropriate for strong, scurvy pirates. Make foods fun by naming them appropriately for the pirate theme. Serve local fare that are proven kid favorites.

**DECORATION.** Create a ship dining hall. Set long tables with canvas or burlap covers. Place old lanterns on the tables. Scatter seashells and pirate hats along the centers of each table. Sprinkle the centerpiece area with sand. Add treasure maps. The maps can be used as place mats or can be rolled and placed along the tables. Place messages in bottles!

Adorn walls with round life preservers (real or made from cardboard). Print encouraging messages on the preservers: GOD LOVES PIRATES! YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS! AHOY MATEYS, COME TO JESUS!

Lean planks of old wood along the walls. Make cardboard port holes, wrapped in rope and hang denim jackets, pirate hats and parrots on pegs. Stack iron pots in corners. Rolled canvas with rope wrapped around it make great sails. Open a chest and fill it with brass and silver treasures.

Anything that fits into the nautical theme will fit in the **SHIP'S MESS**.

Check your attic, basement and garage for fun items.

**COSTUMES AND SERVING.** Follow costume suggestions in the curriculum. Add full

aprons for each kitchen worker and server. Everyone should be wearing the pirate hat of their choice and eye patches. If possible, set tables with plates, silverware, napkins and cups before the entire group arrives. Since everyone eats at the same time, be sure to provide enough seating.

**1. Greet pirates with the sharp ring of a metal spoon hitting a metal pot. Shout "Avast ye scallywags! Eat yer fill! 'Cause if ye don't, I got rats what will! Arrrrggghhhh!"**

"Well, me hearties, let's see what crawled out of the Bung Hole!" **Sound terrible? Victuals on a ship were stored in wooden casks. The stopper in the barrel is called the bung and the hole is called the bung hole. That's all. It sounds a lot worse, doesn't it? You'll make quite an impression when you make that statement!**

**2. Serve food family style on simple trays or platters. Leaders help their group.**

**3. Place pitchers of cold drink on each table. Add baskets of popcorn, potato chips or pretzels or a mixture of these "salty" snacks. Add some freshly cut fruit. Leaders assist with serving.**

**5. Pray before serving the food. "Dear Lord, Who loves the scurviest of pirates, we be coming before Ye with open heart and hungry stomachs. Bless this mess and make it do a body good. For that we'll be a thankin' Ye. In Captain Jesus' Great Name, Amen."**

**6. Provide garbage bins and communicate that student groups are responsible for cleaning their eating area with the help of leaders.**

**A LITTLE LUNCH MUSIC.** Play a CD of sea chanteys in the background. Or, find some kid's praise choruses to play softly. The musical mood should not overwhelm meal conversation.

**TABLEWARE.** Use simple paper products. Paper plates, cups, napkins and plastic ware work best. It is easy for clean up too! Have fun with pirate colors by purchasing a variety of paper products in black, red and yellow. Add ship stickers to cups and napkins.

**MENU.** Give **SHIP'S MESS** food an authentic pirate touch by naming each dish. Use the simple recipes suggested or search your own cook book for appropriate dishes. Have fun with the food and the preparation.

#### **GENTLE SUGGESTIONS TO THE SHIP'S MESS CREW**

**Do not provide alternative "safe" snacks for students who refuse to try unique menu items. Most students are willing to try a "no thank you" helping. Refill when students want more. Do not be held hostage to bad attitudes. If students refuse to eat what is served, they can eat when they get home. Complainers become enthusiastic, proud that they tried something new if you hold the line. The only exception should be fore students with health concerns and those concerns will be listed on their registration form or verbally communicated by a parent.**

# STOWAWAY BREAKFAST

This is a terrific way to keep early arrivals busy while others are registering. Greet students cheerfully and make sure they have registered. Serve buffet style as each one arrives. Encourage them to find a seat. When finished, they dispose of dishes at the kitchen. When they finish eating, move them quickly into TREASURE TROVE LAGOON OPENING.



**MENU:** Choose a variety of breakfast menu items popular with kids. Simple foods work best for quick preparation and easy clean up. Choose from our list or design your own menu.

**Boxed cereals with milk and sugar**  
**Fruit (Apples, oranges, bananas, grapes)**  
**Doughnuts/Muffins**  
**Scrambled Eggs and Toast**  
**Bacon With Scrambled Eggs**  
**Pancakes and Syrup**  
**French Toast and Syrup**

Everyone loves to be treated special. Since this is a grand One Day event, go all out and start the day with an amazing array of foods! These recipe ideas will get you started!

## FLAP “JACK” BREAKFAST

Serve pancakes or waffles with plenty of butter and syrup. Add sausage links or bacon and scrambled eggs. Adjust portions according to size of guest. Serve cold milk and orange juice.

## BANANA BOAT WAFFLES

Move these homemade treats directly from the freezer to the toaster and serve with SCALLYWAG SYRUP or fruit for a fantastic SHIP’S MESS breakfast. Top waffles with sliced bananas and syrup.

**2 ripe bananas, mashed**

**4 cups water**

**1 cup uncooked quick cook oatmeal**

**4 cups whole wheat flour**

**4 t. baking powder**

**2 t. cinnamon**

**2 t. nutmeg**

**Vanilla extract to taste (Optional)**

Mix mashed bananas and water in a large bowl. Add remaining ingredients and mix, leaving lumps in the batter. Cook on waffle iron. Cool on wire racks. Place waffles in freezer bags and freeze up to 2 months. Makes 8 waffles.

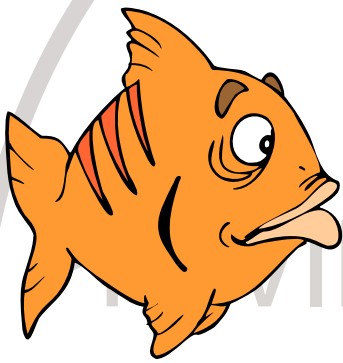
# LANDLUBBER LUNCH

Even if no other meal is served, this meal is necessary. Make it a special time of food, fun and fellowship. Serve foods known to be popular with your students and staff. Seat students and leaders at long tables in their group. This provides leadership/organization during the half hour lunch.

**MENU:** Simple recipes are always best. Much of the food can be donated by church folks. See this list for menu suggestions. Add your own ideas!

## FISH BAIT

Place baskets filled with potato chips, popcorn, Swedish fish and goldfish crackers on each table.



## SCURVY “DOGS” WITH DAZZLIN’ GEMS

Serve a simple lunch that includes hot dogs with a variety of toppings and brightly colored jello cubes. Serve the jello cubes in several colors mixed together on one bowl so they look like “gems” to be chosen as a treasure. Potato chips on each table complete the lunch. If desired, cut hot dogs in half for younger students.

## GOLD NUGGETS

Bake trays of chicken nuggets. Place bowls of dipping sauces on each table. Ranch dressing, honey mustard, ketchup and mustard. Serve with cold drink and fruit.

## CHICKEN OF THE SEA WITH WHALE BRAINS

What better treat in a pirate ship than the catch of the day! Purchase frozen fish sticks to bake in the church oven. Serve with ketchup and mild tartar sauce or mayonnaise and pickles. Add baked macaroni and cheese, fruit and potato chips. Serve a cold, fruity drink.

## BILGE WATER SOUP

Make large pots of vegetable beef or chicken soup. Add lots of fresh vegetables and noodles. Add cornbread or homemade bread. Serve with a cold beverage.

## WALK THE PLANK CHILI WITH POLLY WANTS A CRACKER

Make your favorite MILD chili recipe. If several people are donating chili, they can be combined for easier serving. Provided grated cheese and sour cream as toppings. Add celery and carrot strips and saltine crackers. Serve with a cold beverage.

## SCARY FISH CANNONBALLS

Make a scary fish out of a watermelon. Cut small V's at one end of the watermelon to resemble a mouth with teeth and scoop out the insides into little melon balls. Then fill the fish mouth back up with the melon balls, grapes, strawberries, etc.



## OCTOPUS OCEAN

Make individual clear plastic cups filled with blue jello. Suspend gummy octopuses in the middle. Top with Cool Whip to represent ocean foam.

## PIRATE CUPCAKES

Ice cream cone cupcakes decorated like pirates—including a wedding band earring and licorice eye patch.

## SHEET CAKE

1. **Sailing Cake.** Frost with chocolate frosting. Use frosting tube to design small white sails on each piece. Edge the cake with a design. Use fish on the sides. Colorful small candies (M&M's) look great as jewels around the bottom edge.

2. **Island Cake.** Rectangular cake decorated with wavy blue butter cream frosting. Make islands out of upside down muffins decorated green to make islands. Decorate with pirate toys.

3. **Pirate ship cake.** Bake a cake mix in two round pans. Cut each in half. Use icing to stick the four layers together. Cut a small bit off the rounded end and stand the cake up to look like the hull of a boat. Ice it with chocolate icing then stick broken pieces of chocolate bars to the sides to make the hull look wooden. Place a bamboo skewer into the top for a mast to fly the Jolly Roger (make from construction paper). Place a few toy pirate figures on top of the cake. When serving, place crumpled blue cellophane around the base of the cake for an ocean. A toy shark or dolphin in the "ocean" makes a nice finishing touch.

# SHIVER ME TIMBERS SUPPER



Publicize this evening meal to follow the Closing program. Invite student families and the church congregation to participate. After the wonderful events of the day, this is a perfect way to end the celebration.

**MENU:** Plan a SHIP'S MESS Dining Hall experience. Simple, inexpensive meat, leftovers from LANDLUBBER LUNCH and pot luck/tureen dishes carried in by the participating families make a perfect ending to a perfect One Day VBS celebration!

Hot Dogs/Hamburgers  
Jello Salads  
Sandwiches  
Vegetable Dishes

Potato Chips  
Melons  
Relish Tray  
Desserts

Potato/Macaroni Salads  
Baked Beans  
Lasagne

Beverages: Coffee/Tea/Cold Drink

## DEEP SEA ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Consider a fun evening celebration by preparing an Ice Cream Social. Use the YO HO HOLY Pirate theme for table decor. Offer homemade or "store bought" ice cream, homemade cakes and pies and beverages of choice.

**USE THESE IDEAS TO SPARK YOUR OWN IMAGINATION!**

**JUST BECAUSE WE'RE PIRATES  
DOESN'T MEAN WE STOP EATING WELL!**

# AARRGH!



# CANNONBALL CRAFTS

## ...CREATING A MEMORY



Give **YO HO HOLY** pirates an opportunity to make a keepsake of their **One Day Vacation Bible School** experience. Offer a craft project that can be finished in thirty minutes. If the project takes less than thirty minutes to complete, consider offering two separate projects at activity tables. Choose from our suggestions or design your own Christian keepsakes.

*Include **CAPTAIN'S KIDDS** Preschool pirates but use craft projects they can successfully complete. If desired, **KIDDS** can meet separately with their leaders to work on their project.*

Crafts are suggested from **S&S arts and crafts** catalog. Prices may change. See the current catalog supplied with **YO HO HOLY**. To receive a free Master Catalog call toll free, 1-800-9232. Order online at: [www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com) **CLOSE ENCOUNTERS MINISTRIES** can expedite your order. Call us toll free 1-888-236-5433 to order projects of your choice at current catalog prices. **PLEASE ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS!**

**FISH BOOK KITS.** Use your own wiggly eyes, yarn, glitter and more (also available through S&S) to decorate the fish shaped cover of these books. When complete, your kids can discuss the meaning and importance of the fish in Christian symbolism. They can use the ten pages for writing down special prayers or favorite Bible passages. Includes precut pages, precut covers and rainbow lacing. 6 3/4" x 4 3/4". RMC-GP1528 \$11.99 per pack of 24. 50 cents/project

**CATCH THE FISH TAIL.** Brightly colored fish make excellent wind socks or wall hangings. This fun pack includes kite cord, non toxic glue and paint, glitter, assorted colored bags, tissue paper, brushes and instructions. RMC-GP1363 \$14.99 per pack of 28. 54 cents/project

**BEADED FISH KEY CHAINS.** Thread beads onto chenille stems to create individual fish shaped key chains. Includes assorted tri-beads, chenille stems, bead key chains and instructions. 2" x 4" RMC-RE129 \$10.99 per pack of 24. 46 cents/project

**FISH BEADS.** These fun, chunky beads are easy to string, fun to wear and come in assorted bright colors. Mix with other beads for a unique look. Approximately 1 1/2" long. 50 pieces per

pack.

RMC-BE913 \$8.39 per pack

**FISH NET WINDOW HANGING.** Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men". Includes jumbo craft sticks, white nylon netting, multi cultural people figures, non toxic glue and broad tip markers, kite cord and instructions. Size: 5 ½" x 6".

RMC-RE437 \$7.99 per pack of 24. 33 cents/project

**FOAM FISH MAGNETS.** Use these colorful foam fish magnets on the fridge. Assorted styles. 4 ¾"

RME-CE54 \$6.99 per pack of 12. 58 cents/project

**FISH NAPKIN HOLDER.** Fun foam fish will hold napkins and letters. Complete with wiggly eyes and iridescent "bubble" beads! 6" x 5 ¾" x 2 ½".

RME-CE64 \$9.99 per pack of 12. 83 cents/project

**FISH TREASURE BOX.** Perfect for holding little treasures of the deep! Cardboard fish boxes are preprinted for results that shine. 5" x 2". RME-CE204 \$9.99 per pack of 12. 83 cents/project

**AQUARIUM CRAFT KIT.** Bring a bit of the ocean indoors with tropical foam fish, craft sticks and all the colorful trims you need! 7 ¾" x 5 ¾".

RME-CE60 \$8.99 per pack of 12 75 cents/project

**SPARKLING TILE CROSS.** Colorfully adorn decorative crosses to hang anywhere. Includes assorted acrylic pieces, glitter, precut cross shapes, non toxic glue, string for hanging and instructions. 5" x 8"

RMC-RE312 \$23.99 per pack of 24. \$1.00/project

**NAIL CROSS NECKLACE.** All of your kids will understand and appreciate the symbolism of this contemporary cross kit. Decorate with assorted metallic paint. 2" x 2 ½".

RME-RE291 \$17.99 per pack of 36. 50 cents/project

**NO NAIL WOOD PROJECT-TALL SAILING SHIP.** Woodworking has never been more affordable than with this economy wood kit. Kit includes precut pine and luan craft wood pieces, sandpaper, dowels and instructions. 2" x 7" x 10"

\$2.99 each

**PAPIER MACHE LIGHTHOUSE.** This ornament is easy to decorate with acrylic paint and is sure to be a favorite project for everyone. Comes with a gold cord for hanging; or use as a table decoration. 6" H x 2" W.

RME-PS1183 99 cents each

**SAND CASTLE LIGHTHOUSE.** Lighthouses decorated with natural sand and shells create a rustic nautical display.

RME-GP1369 \$23.88 per pack of 24. 99 cents/project

**CRAFT STICK TREASURE CHEST.** Contains craft sticks, non toxic glue, all other materials needed and instructions to make 25. 4" to 6".

RME-CS507M \$24.99 for 25 \$1.00 each

**KALEIDOSCOPIES.** One of the most magical visual toys ever. Simply rotate to create endless patterns of spectacular color! Includes everything needed to construct kaleidoscopes with break proof parts for safety. Paint and markers sold separately. 6 3/4"

RME-GP50 \$17.99 per pack of 25. 72 cents/project

**CELESTIAL TELESCOPES (SPYGLASS!).** Examine the world with a refractor telescope that really works—you never know what you might discover! Easy to assemble project includes cardboard telescope tubes and non breakable plastic lenses. Decorating supplies sold separately. 7 3/4".

RME-GP948 \$23.88 per pack of 12. \$1.99/project

**SUPER FOAM PARROT.** Soft to touch foam parrot looks like he just flew in from the tropics! Precut pieces fit together in a snap. 8" L x 10" W x 2" H.

RME-GP1451 \$6.99 per pack of 12 58 cents/project

**SHELL TREASURE BOXES.** This mini keeper of special treasures will have all your kids reliving their favorite pirate memories. Folding cardboard box is easy to assemble and fun to decorate. 3 1/4" x 3 1/4" x 2 1/4".

RME-GP993 \$18.99 per pack of 24. 79 cents/project

**SHELL FRAMES.** Seashell frames make the perfect display for personal pictures. Use as a conversation starter, treasured collections, a picture of Jesus, or mysterious sea life. 2 1/2" x 3 1/4".

RME-GP931 \$17.88 per pack of 18. 99 cents/project

**SAND TERRARIUM PACK.** Bold, multicolored layers of sand make an easy, satisfying project. 3 1/2".

RME-GP113 \$24.88 per pack of 25. 99 cents/project

PREVIEW PROOF ONLY  
NOT FOR USE  
PLEASE PURCHASE

## **FOR THE LOVE OF HOMEMADE PROJECTS!**

There are many wonderful craft projects that can be made with items found around the house and embellished with supplies from your local craft shop. Try one of these ideas or dream up your own Pirate Treasure!

### **PIRATE'S TREASURE CHEST CRAFT**

You will need an empty kleenex box, some black and yellow construction paper, a printer, scissors, glue and something to color with.

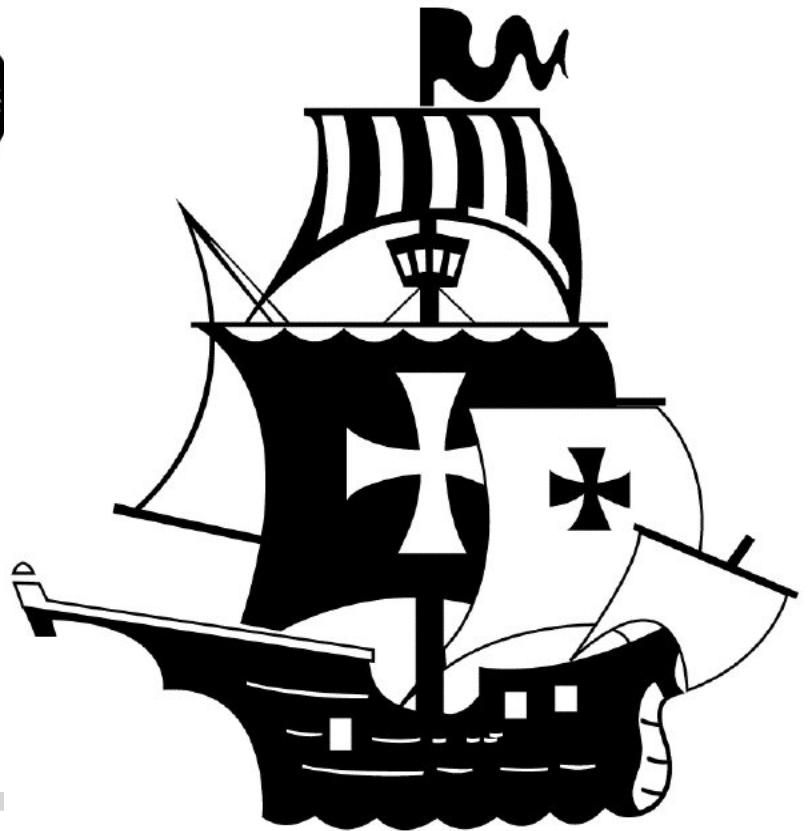
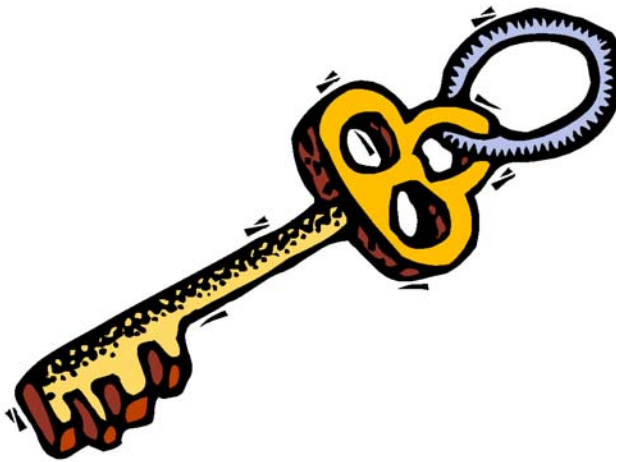
1. Cover the box with black construction paper (all sides). Use enough glue that when the top is slit open the paper will stick.
2. Using sharp scissors, have an adult cut around 3 sides of the box, about an inch from the top (so the Treasure Chest opens). You will need to bend back the cardboard on the remaining attached side so the chest opens and closes nicely.
3. Glue a piece of yellow or red construction paper, felt or tissue paper to the inside of the "lid" and chest (so it looks like a nice velvety lining).
4. Print out the picture of choice. Color the pieces as needed and cut them out.
5. Glue the KEEP OUT warning to the lid of the chest.
6. Cut ½" strips from yellow construction paper and glue them to all the edges of the chest.
7. Glue the lock to the front of the chest.
8. Glue handles onto the sides of the chest.
9. OPTIONAL: Glue sequins, fake jewels or painted rocks/tiles onto the lid for a jewel encrusted treasure chest.
10. OPTIONAL: Print the key template to have a key for your treasure chest. You may wish to glue the template to some cardboard before cutting to make it more durable.
11. Fill with gold coins (chocolate coins are the favorite! see [www.ssw.com](http://www.ssw.com) for a supply. RME-SL874 \$14.50/tub.

# TREASURE CHEST TEMPLATE

Make one copy for each pirate!

Color, cut, glue onto chest.

# KEEP OUT!



## SHIP IN A BALLOON CRAFT

Let's be honest! As cool as they are, ships in bottles are a bit much for kids to make. But, a ship in a balloon is a snap and it's just as neat!

**CLEAR BALLOONS!** ORIENTAL TRADING COMPANY–Diamond Clear Latex 11" EP-17/10511 \$12.95 Gross

**SMALL TOY SHIP.** Shop in craft stores or party stores to find the perfect toy ship.

1. Shove the toy ship through the opening of the balloon. Adult help will be needed. If you are doing this for a large group of children, pre-do this step.
2. Put about 1-2 cups of water (depending on the balloon size) into the balloon. Use a small funnel or make a funnel from a cone of paper.
3. Blow up the balloon and knot it. Set you balloon on a holder. Margarine or yogurt containers work well depending on the size of the balloon.
4. If desired, paint the holder for a nicer look, wrap it in yarn or cover it with construction paper.

**If toy ships cannot be found make copies of this ship, let students cover both sides with clear contact paper. Cut to proper size and insert into balloon.**



## PIRATE'S SPY GLASS

You will need a paper towel or gift wrap roll (cut in 1/2), some yellow construction paper or gold foil, glue or tape and a little imagination.

1. Wrap the roll in gold foil or yellow construction paper (glue or tape it) and use it to spy for other ships on the horizon.
2. Cover the end with plastic wrap first if desired so it looks like it has glass at the end but we prefer it without as it obstructs the view a bit.

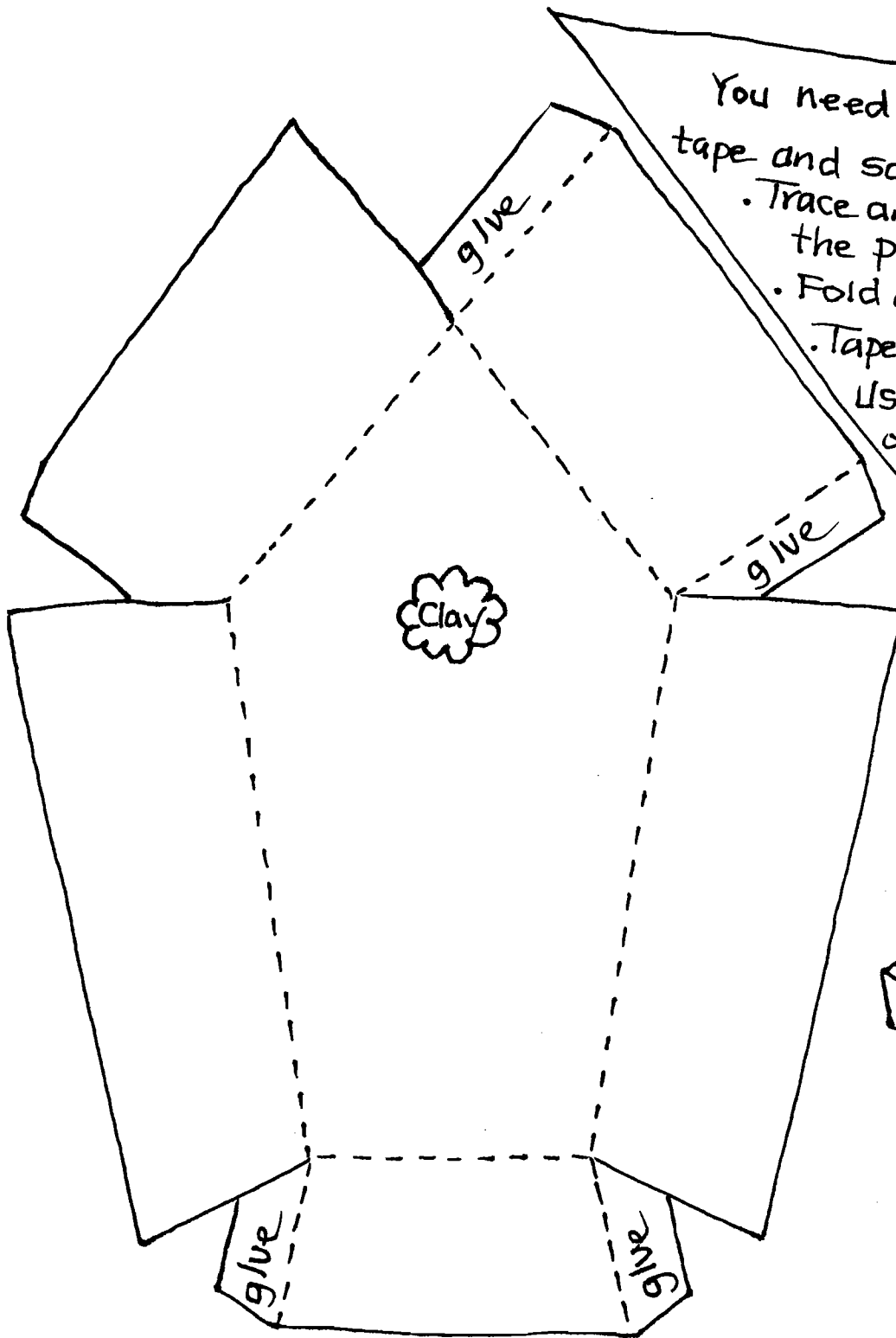
## PIRATE'S TREASURE MAP

A favorite scripture verse can be printed on the map once it is complete. You will need cold coffee or tea (½ cup), piece of white paper, blow dryer, a little imagination and markers.

1. Take a piece of white paper and rip off all the edges. (No scissors, rip them!) If a bit more paper is ripped than desired, it's not the end of the world.
2. Crumple the paper up as tightly as you can into a ball.
3. Flatten the paper and put onto a plate or cookie sheet. Pour coffee or tea over the paper. Swoosh around with your hands to make sure it covers everything.
4. If time is an issue, get the map to this point and dried before class. Just demonstrate the dying procedure.
5. Let it sit for 5 minutes...often 2 minutes is enough to give it some color.
6. Pour the coffee off into the sink.
7. Blow dry with a hand held dryer on high for about 5 minutes. Leave it sitting on the plate while drying or it will tear to pieces. When it is pretty dry and starts to lift, switch the dryer to low to finish (another 2 minutes).
8. Take markers to draw the map and print scripture verse. There should be a big X in the middle, a dotted line trail that winds around and a title that says **YO HO HOLY...A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS** and a North, South, East, West arrow in the corner.

**OPTION:** Brown craft paper or grocery bags torn into shape and dunked in water and wadded up work great too! Squish awhile and half heartedly smooth out and let air dry. They become almost leathery. It is very easy to write on and really look old.

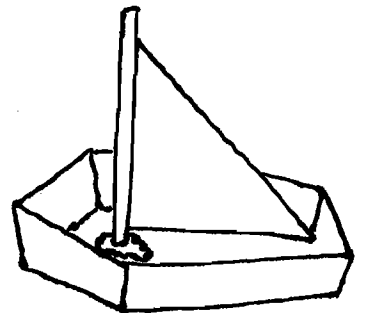
Provide red satin ribbon @1" wide to tie rolled maps together for a real pirate look!



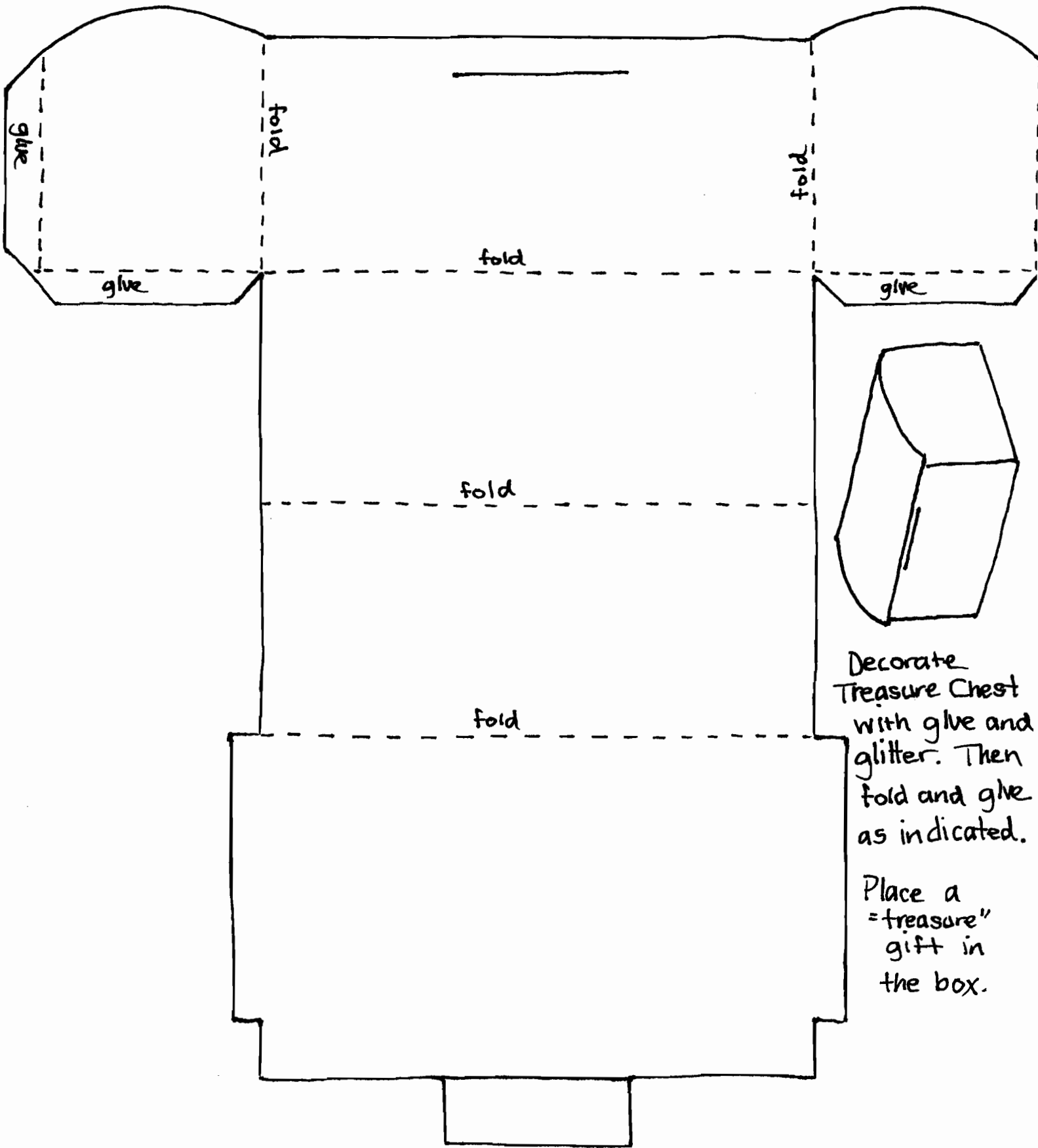
You need clay, one straw,  
tape and scissors.

- Trace and cut out the patterns.
- Fold and glue boat.
- Tape straw to sail.

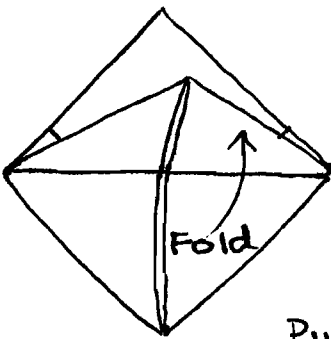
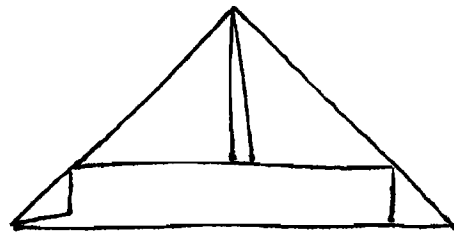
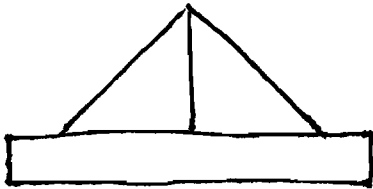
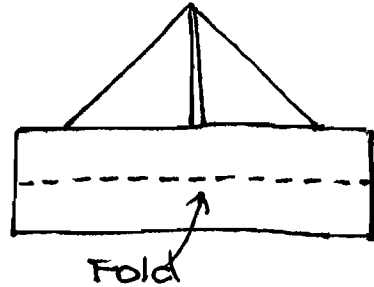
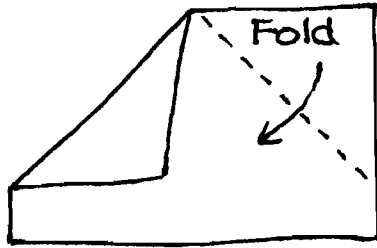
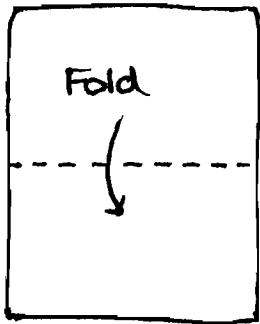
Use a small ball of clay to mount sail in the boat.



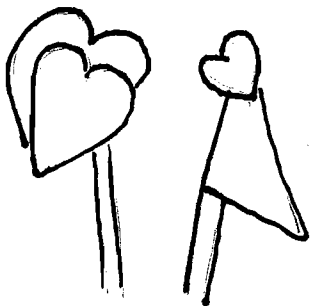
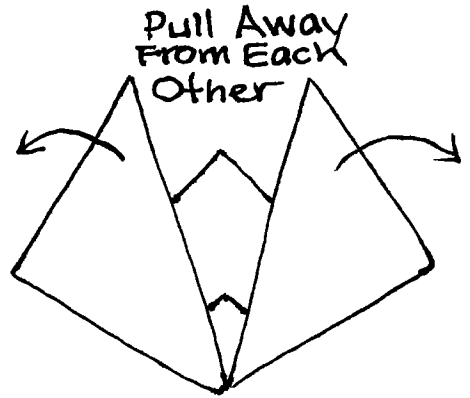
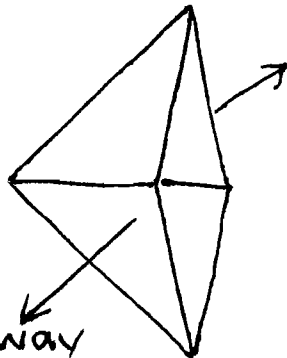




# Paper Folded Boat



Pull Away From Each



For Sail, glue felt hearts to a tongue depressor or short dowel rod. Fill boat with treats.

# DAVY JONES' LOCKER! ... BIBLE THEATER

Enthusiasm for Christ is contagious. Has anyone caught it from you?

**This 30 minute activity is a skit performed by a team of teens and adults in costume. Lead the group into a clear understanding of what it means to obey God.**

**PREPARATION:** Decorate a small, dark room to resemble an under sea area. *This theater performance could be performed for the large group if Director CAPTAIN KIDD changes the basic schedule.*



**Seat students on the floor in the audience area.** Darken the space with lighting focused toward the players. Play upbeat Christian music (Veggie Tales' "In The Belly of the Whale" from the movie Jonah) while students enter the theater area. Give the group a few minutes to find a seat, chat and eat popcorn or goldfish crackers.

**SIGN UP!** Display fun wall signs. Print messages on bright blue construction paper mounted on paper covered in aluminum foil. Trim with glitter, sand and/or shells.

**DAVY JONES' LOCKER—SUBMERGE SLOWLY  
WHERE IS JONAH?  
FISH ARE OUR FRIENDS  
OBEY GOD—IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND BREATH**

**LIGHTS UP!** Shine lights up the walls from the floor to enhance a deep ocean appearance. Use spot lights, small lamps without shades placed behind barriers to protect eyes from the glare. Turn off all other lights.

**FIX UP!** Follow a few simple tips to create an underwater atmosphere. Drape blue crepe paper streamers along the ceiling like waves in the ocean. Draw colorful posterboard fish and hang them at intervals from the ceiling and attach them at various levels on all the walls. Glitter fish so they sparkle and look wet. Draw a cardboard fish hook and drop it from the ceiling to represent a fisherman above, hoping for a catch!

Fill the floor with green plants in the corners and shells scattered at the edges of the walls. Green construction paper can be turned into long waving underwater leaves stretching up the walls like seaweed. Sand, rocks, pebbles and plastic undersea creatures (See Oriental Trading catalog) add to the ocean floor theme.

**And more!** Place a floor fan in one corner running low. This gently moves fish and plants to create water motion. Place an old treasure chest in one corner filled with old bottles, metal boxes and junk jewelry. Play an Ocean Sounds CD in the background.

**ACT UP!** Choose a small team of teens and adults. **DO NOT MEMORIZE.** Hold a copy of the skit. Mark individual parts with high lighters for easier viewing. Choose separate individuals to portray **Jonah, Whale, Davy Jones** and **The Narrator**. Actors may be male or female.

**THE NARRATOR:** The Narrator is the bridge between the audience and the characters. He/She is also the leader of **DAVY JONES' LOCKER BIBLE THEATER**. Dress as a deep sea diver, wearing a swimming mask, fins, breathing apparatus and diving suit (if available). Become the friendly diver introducing Jonah's dilemma to visitors and encourages students to learn to trust in God to avoid Jonah's fate.

**PLAY IT UP!** Rehearse the basic skit before **YO HO HOLY** begins. Practice the lines aloud. Use microphones if available. Take time to speak loudly. Enunciate! Become the character and by all means, have fun!

**Act in an exaggerated fashion.** Enjoy telling this humorous version of Jonah's adventure in the deep sea.

**If mistakes are made, so what?** Be casual and yet aware of the spiritual message being communicated. The short skit is designed to help students understand how important God's Word is. Told in a modern, fun style, the students will understand the message.

**EAT UP!** Fill paper cups with popcorn for each audience member. Serve the snack as each group enters. Be generous throughout the event. Fill cups again at the end of the session if there is enough time. Provide a waste can for paper cups at the end of the show.

# AT THE BOTTOM OF THE DEEP BLUE SEA!

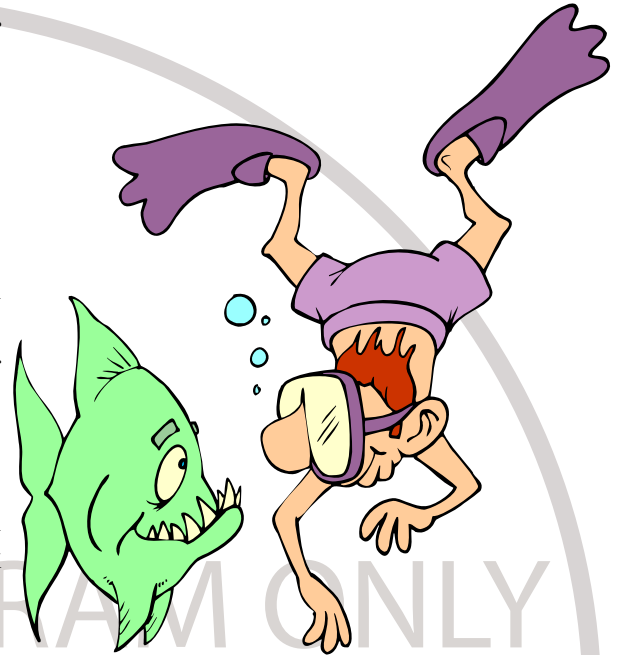
“Then God assigned a huge fish to swallow Jonah.  
Jonah was in the fish’s belly three days and nights.” Jonah 2:1

A Bible story from Jonah 1-2 told for today’s kids. No Holy Land costumes needed unless desired.

## CHARACTERS

**JONAH:** Wet, upset and looking for answers. Dress in wet clothing, with garlands of ivy or other green leaves wrapped around arms, legs, neck, stomach and head. Soak hair so that it is dripping. Spray water on face.

**BIG FISH:** Satisfied, self assured, argumentative. Wear soaked shorts and shirt. Wet hair and face. Wrap green leaf garlands around belly. Attach a large sign to your back **I’M THE BIG FISH!**



**NARRATOR:** The Voice of Reason! Dress as a deep sea diver, wearing a swimming mask, fins, breathing apparatus and diving suit (if available). Become the friendly diver introducing Jonah’s dilemma to visitors and encouraging students to avoid Jonah’s father by learning to obey God.

ALL THREE CHARACTERS MOVE PHYSICALLY AS IF TREADING WATER.  
MOVE ARMS AND BODY AS IF BOBBING IN THE OCEAN CURRENT.

**NARRATOR:** We don’t have time to waste AT THE BOTTOM OF THE DEEP BLUE SEA! . Most folks who visit DAVY JONES’ LOCKER never return to land but you have been given special permission to visit safely and leave safely. The reason? I think you may want to meet one of our guests.

(Bowing...) I’m the Narrator, of course. I know all. I see all. Nothing gets by the Narrator. So, sit back and relax. Trust me to guide your deep sea tour.

Let’s face it. People do not always obey God when He speaks. Why? Oh, they may be afraid to follow the Lord or maybe they don’t believe God means business when He speaks. Can you believe I once met a fellow who did not obey God because he was too busy? **Too busy!** That’s the worst excuse I ever heard!

Jonah decided not to obey God . God said, “Jonah, go to the big city of Nineveh! Preach to them. They are in a bad way and I can’t ignore it any longer.” The people in Nineveh lived bad lives and didn’t want anything to do with God. Jonah decided he knew more than God. They didn’t deserve God’s love. He was not going to tell them. Nope! In fact, Jonah hopped a ship going in the opposite direction. He would show God who was boss!

Things didn’t turn out great Jonah. Let me introduce you to...well, here he comes now! I hate to say it but our friend Jonah has been swallowed by Big Fish, the biggest, meanest, trickiest fish in all the ocean.

JONAH: (Soaking wet and angry.) Get away from me. I mean it. If you don’t spit me out right now, I’m going to do something you won’t like.

BIG FISH: (Follow close and directly behind Jonah to give the appearance that Jonah is attached.) Quit wiggling! That tickles. I have never eaten a fish that is more mouthy than you. Maybe you’re a big mouth bass! Give me a little time so I can digest you and we can all get some peace.

JONAH: Oh, no you don’t. You are not going to digest me! I am not a big mouth bass. I am a human being. I’m getting out of here. (Push Big Fish).

BIG FISH: (Bobbing back toward Jonah....) A human bean? I never ate a bean. Ooo, I have a stomach ache. I wonder if it’s something I ate.

JONAH: Of course it’s something you ate, you dimwit! You ate me! Let me out of here!

BIG FISH: (Smiling, squirming and standing closer to Jonah...) Mm, that’s better! Ah, I had a gourmet lunch today. I swam to the surface of the world and there, floating in the sea, was a spicy meatball.

JONAH: Spicy meatball! That spicy meatball was me! Are you listening to me?

BIG FISH: I can hear you. I’m just not listening to you, you spicy meatball. I never listen to my lunch. What a bunch of whiners. (Whining) “Let me go.” “I have to get back to school.” “I’m not a food fish.” Why, if I listened to everything my lunch said, I’d starve!

JONAH: (Calmly) Let’s go at this from another direction. I have places to go and people to see. I cannot be your lunch. Listen to my story and then you can make your decision.

BIG FISH: (Thoughtfully) Well, I’ll listen to your story but don’t get your hopes up. I love my lunch.

NARRATOR: Now, if any of you are feeling queasy, let me reassure you that Jonah is feeling no pain. Pay attention and you will hear Jonah's story. I hope he can convince Big Fish to spit him out soon.

JONAH: Thank you. It all started one day when God showed up and told me to head for Nineveh. "They're in a bad way and I can't ignore it any longer." That's what He said. I couldn't believe it. After all the evil things those people did, God still loved them.

BIG FISH: Sounds like a mighty fine God you serve. What happened when you got to Nineveh?

JONAH: Ummmm.....

BIG FISH: Maybe you can't hear me in there. WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU GOT TO NINEVEH?

JONAH: I didn't go to Nineveh. I booked passage on a ship headed for Tarshish, Spain.

BIG FISH: Ah, Tarshish. I've had some of the best shish-kabob of my life in Tarshish. Go on.

JONAH: I never made it to Tarshish either. The seas grew rough and the waves towered over the ship. When it was about to break in pieces, the sailors decided to throw everything overboard to lighten the load.

BIG FISH: I bet your muscles were sore. You know...all that lifting and toting.

JONAH: Ummmm.....

BIG FISH: You did lift and tote! You did try to help the sailors save the ship!

JONAH: Not exactly. I took a nap in the bottom of the boat. I was sound asleep when the captain found me. "Wake up," he shouted. "Pray to your god! Maybe your god will see we're in trouble and rescue us."

BIG FISH: You're not coming off as a great guy here, Jo.

JONAH: The sailors said, "Let's get to the bottom of this. We'll draw straws to identify the bad guy on this ship. We'll find the one responsible for this disaster." And that's exactly what they did. Can you believe I drew the short straw?

BIG FISH: I'm beginning to believe a lot of things about you, Jonah. Wherever you go, trouble follows. I'm getting a stomach ache again.

JONAH: The sailors were terrified. They said, "Confess. What is your work? Where do you come from?" I was honest. I told them I was a Hebrew. I worship God, the God of heaven who made sea and land.

BIG FISH: I bet that thrilled the crew.

JONAH: You would think! They were so afraid. They said, "What on earth have you done?" I told them my story about Nineveh and God and Tarshish and running away. They realized I was running away from God.

BIG FISH: Oh, you're a winner. You probably should have kept your big mouth shut!

JONAH: They were nice guys. They didn't want to hurt me. In fact, when the storm raged even wilder they tried rowing back to shore. They made no headway. In fact, the storm got worse and worse, wild and raging.

BIG FISH: I remember that storm. I had a lot of fun surfing on the waves!

JONAH: It wasn't quite that much fun for the rest of us. The sailors finally prayed "O God! Don't let us drown because of this man and don't blame us for his death. You are God. Do what you think is best."

BIG FISH: They threw you overboard, didn't they?

JONAH: Yep! And immediately the sea quieted down. The sailors were so impressed with God that they offered a sacrifice and made vows to Him.

BIG FISH: Let me guess...this is where I came in.

JONAH: (Jumping up and down and poking fish.) Good guess! I tried to warn you but.....Noooooooooooo.....you just had to eat me!

BIG FISH: (Groaning....) I really have a belly ache now. And I'm dizzy! Stop acting up. Stand still. I hate throwing up. I never throw up unless there's nothing else I can do.

NARRATOR: This is where I come in. God's Word says that Jonah had time to think about his disobedience. He changed his way of thinking while he was in the belly of the big fish for 3 days and nights.



JONAH: Hey, Narrator, let me say it. After all, it's my story.

NARRATOR: Go for it. By the way, you could use a bath. Whew! Stand down stream.

JONAH: In trouble, deep trouble, I prayed to God. I cried "Help"! God answered me and threw me into ocean's depths. With ocean waves, ocean breakers crashing over me I said, "I've been thrown away, thrown out, out of your sight.

My head was all tangled in seaweed at the bottom of the sea. I was as far down as a body can go. When my life was slipping away, I remembered God and my prayer got through to you. I'm worshipping you, God, calling out in thanksgiving! And I'll do what I promised I'd do!

BIG FISH: Ohh, I feel really sick. Are you sure you are ready to obey God?

JONAH: I'm sure. You can throw me up any time. I prefer to be upchucked on dry ground if you don't mind.

BIG FISH: Let's go. I know just the place. Ohhh, Jonah, I'm going to lay off the spicy meatballs from now on. Hang on!

BIG FISH AND JONAH TAKE OFF TOGETHER AND MOVE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE OUT OF THE UNDER SEA AREA.

NARRATOR: God's Word says, "Then God spoke to the fish and it vomited up Jonah on the seashore."

**And now for the rest of the story:** Jonah hurried his messy self to Nineveh and obeyed God's orders. He preached. He taught. He was a living, breathing ambassador for God.

The people of Nineveh listened and trusted God. Everyone did it—rich and poor, famous and unknown, leaders and followers. Even the King of Nineveh cried for help to God. Everybody became a believer. Wow! That was great!

Do you think Jonah was happy? Nooo, not Jonah! He was furious. He lost his temper. He yelled at God, "I knew it—when I was back home, I knew this was going to happen! That's why I ran off to Tarshish! I knew you were rich in love and ready at the drop of a hat to forgive these people. So, God, if you won't kill them kill me!"

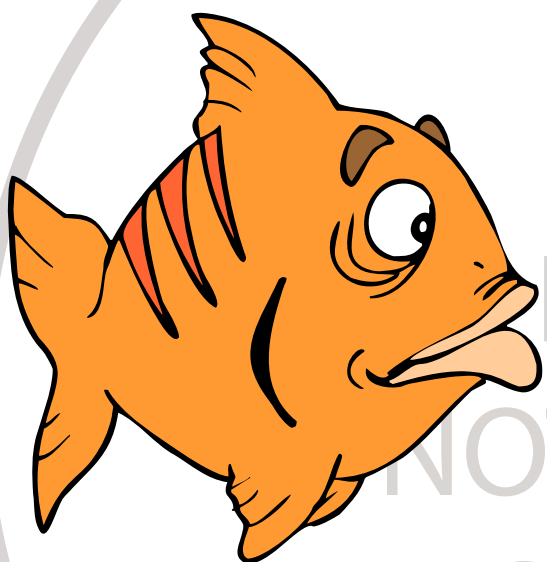
I know, I know. He's not the brightest starfish in the ocean. He went off sulking to the edge of the city. God caused a shade tree to shelter Jonah. Jonah was happy. Life was looking up!

God sent a worm who chomped away at the tree. Soon the shade tree died. Jonah was angry again. God had His hands full with Jonah. He said, “Why are you so upset about this tree? You didn’t plant it or water it. It grew one day and died the next day.

I changed my mind about destroying Nineveh. You should be happy that 120,000 people have been saved along with all their animals.

## NARRATOR’S LESSONS TO LEARN

We like to hear Jonah’s story because he is not a high and mighty hero. He doesn’t do anything great. In fact, when he tries to serve God he keeps goofing it up. Even when he preaches he does it wrong by getting angry at God.



**1. LOVE MY ENEMIES?** Jonah was a prophet of God. He lived in Israel when Nineveh, Assyria was their evil enemy. Who could tell when this awful monster would rise up and ruin Israel? God asked Jonah to tell his enemy to repent or be destroyed. What if God saved them? Then Jonah couldn’t hate Nineveh anymore. And if there was anything Jonah loved, it was hating Nineveh.

**And you?** Are there people in your life that you dislike? Maybe it’s someone who pretended to be a friend and then told lies about you. Maybe it’s a kid at school who stole your lunch money. What would happen if God said, “Enough is enough. Tell that kid about Me! I guarantee that kid will change.” Will you want that kid as a friend?

**2. NOT NOW, LORD!** Jonah tried to run away from God’s command. He hopped a ship going in the opposite direction. It could be that Jonah thought God would change His mind if given a little time.

**And you?** Do you have great thoughts of serving God but...not right now. I’m too busy. What do you think God thinks about your busy schedule?

**3. MAYBE THE LORD WON’T NOTICE ME!** Of course we know we cannot run away from God. The Bible says so! (Read scripture from your favorite translation.)

*Psalm 139:7-9 (THE MESSAGE): “Is there anyplace I can go to avoid your Spirit? To be out of your sight? If I climb to the sky, you’re there! If I go underground, you’re there! If I flew on morning’s wings to the far western horizon, You’d find me in a minute—you’re already there waiting!”*

**And you?** Do you try to hide from God? Jonah didn’t know he couldn’t hide from God—not yet. He had to find out the hard way. Learn to obey without ending up in trouble with God who notices you every moment of your life.

**4. WHAT’S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT OBEDIENCE?** When Jonah obeyed God, great things happened. Sailors worshiped the true God and enemies in Nineveh repented.

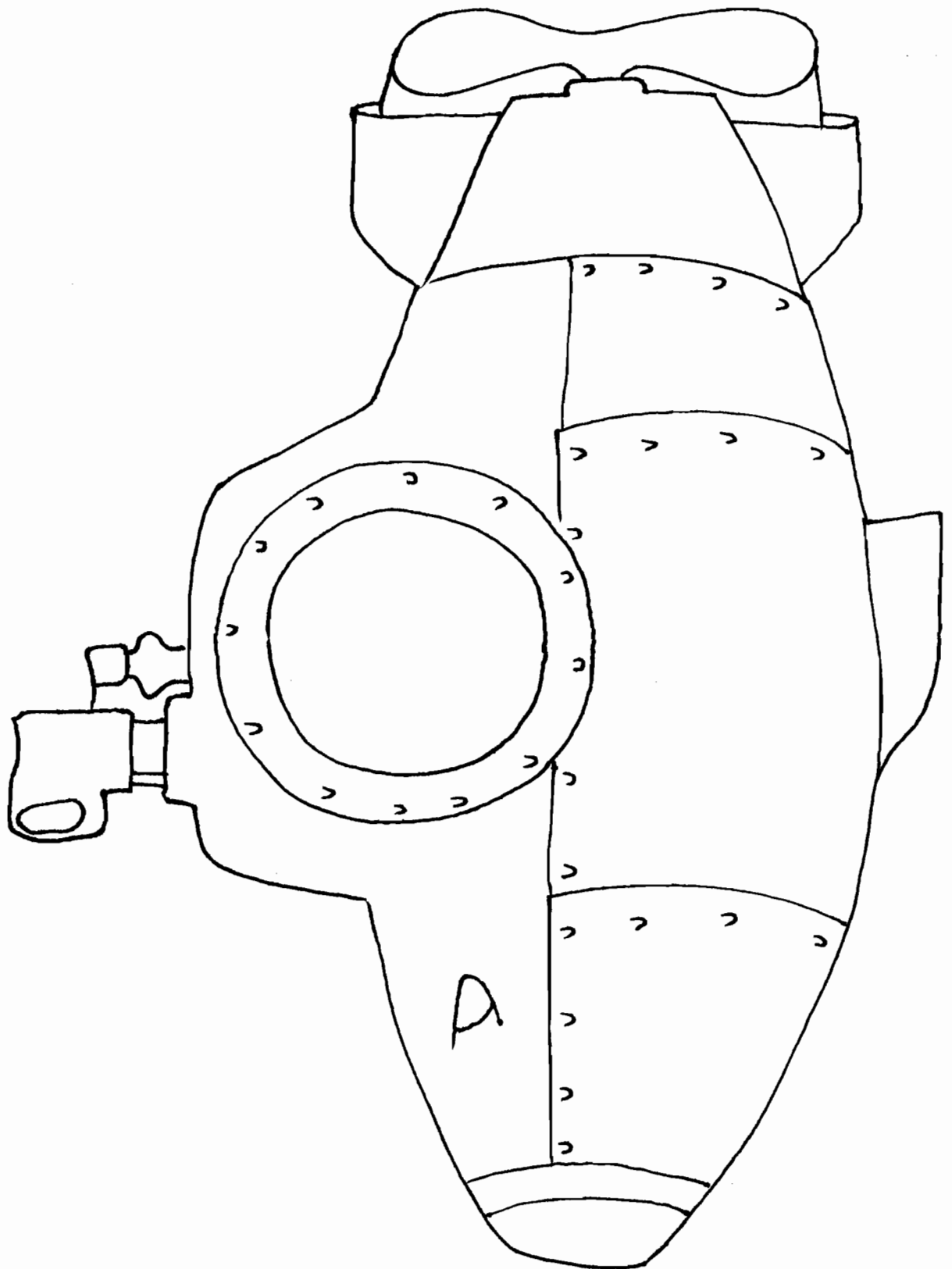
**And you?** Are you looking for big things to happen in your life? Learn from Jonah, obey God and watch great things happen!

The good news is that God kept working with Jonah just like He keeps working with us. God got the job done with a guy like Jonah who had to be taken to the bottom of the ocean in the belly of a big fish and then heated in the hot sun to get over his temper tantrum with God. What will God do with you?

**CONCLUDE THE SESSION BY ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STORY, PLAYING THE VEGGIE TALES SONG “IN THE BELLY OF THE WHALE” OR BY SERVING MORE POPCORN OR GOLDFISH CRACKERS.**







# BIBLE STATION TIPS

Three YO HO HOLY Bible Stations take your Motley Crew on High Seas adventures where pirate teachers guide them to Jesus! Good news about Jesus is loudly proclaimed. The Motley Crew enjoy pirate activities, memorize scripture and hear Bible stories.

Individual student groups visit 30 minute Bible Stations throughout the day. Teachers agree to repeat their activity to each group. Ease the teaching load with two or more team members participating in a small portion of each session.



## A PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS!

### BIBLE STATION 1: TREASURE ISLAND

#### Memory Verse

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Matthew 6:21

**Bible Story:** God's Hidden Treasure and Pearls!

Matthew 13:44-46

### BIBLE STATION 2: MAROONED!

#### Memory Verse

*Trust in the Lord with all thy heart...and He shall direct thy paths.* Proverbs 3:5-6

**Bible Story:** Paul's Shipwreck!

Acts 27

### BIBLE STATION 3: CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS

#### Memory Verse

*Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* John 14:27b

**Bible Story:** Jesus Calms the Sea and Me!

Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

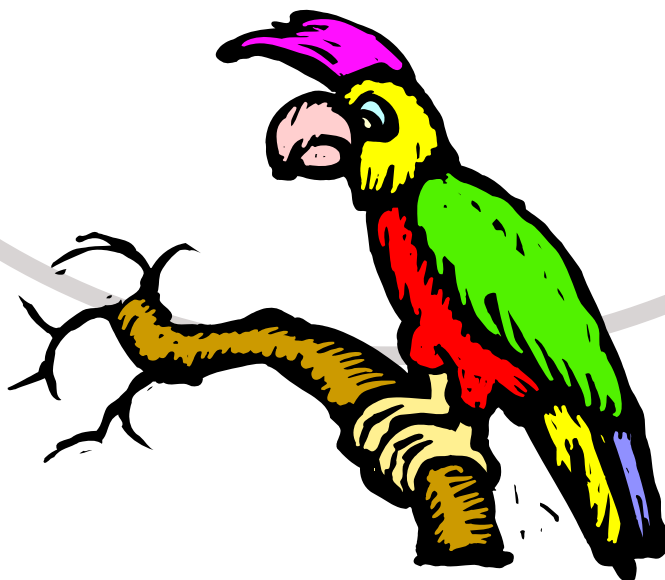
**DECORATE:** Follow our lesson plan decorating suggestions or create your own Bible Station using available materials. Borrow appropriate items from church members, family and friends. Make some items from construction paper, poster board and cardboard. Use lighting to make your area intriguing or mysterious.

**COSTUME AND CHARACTER:** Become an enthusiastic Christian Pirate! Borrow, rent or dig into the back of your closet to dress appropriately. See curriculum suggestions.

**MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:** Teach the scripture verse by using a game, story or fun activity. Shorten the verse to match the age group as necessary.

**BIBLE STORY:** Tell the Bible story seriously. Students must be seated and quiet. Ask questions to encourage active involvement. Simplify material for younger students. Ask older students to read scripture and participate in discussion.

**TIME MANAGEMENT:** Students complete all activities in one session. If suggested activities cannot be completed within the 30 minute time period or if the program has been adapted to shorter time slots, purchase the most important details and eliminate the rest.





# TREASURE ISLAND

**SPIRITUAL THEME:** I am valuable because I belong to God! It's time to search for the real treasure of life.

**DECORATION:** Design an island beach where a treasure chest takes center stage. Follow our basic decorating ideas and add items available from your home.

Gather island items from garages and attics. Wooden barrels, baskets, old logs, rope, green plants, sand, wicker furniture, beach umbrellas and mounds of junk jewelry placed in corners transform a classroom into an interesting island area.

**Palm Trees:** Tree trunks can be free standing by acquiring cardboard tubing from a local carpet store. Spray paint the tube dark brown. Make palm leaves by cutting huge paper leaves from green construction paper. Tape individual leaves to straightened hangers. Purchase coconuts and place them under the tree. Palm leaves may also be made with bunches of green balloons placed at the top of each tube.

**Rocks and Water:** Place large rocks in central locations. Place green plants around the rocks. Scatter pebbles and sand under the rock collection. Fill a child's pool with water and fill with plastic fish surrounded by greenery.

**Sailboat:** Borrow a real sailboat or rowboat and place it in one corner. Raise the sails if there is room!

**Antique Trunk:** Borrow an **old trunk** which becomes the treasure chest. A **toy box** may be used to simulate an old fashioned treasure chest. It should have a lid that can be opened to reveal mounds of "treasure" inside.

**Treasure:** Scatter brass vases, jewelry, old bottles, silver platters and other shiny objects around the room. The "treasures" can be anything that sparkles.

**Lighting:** Fill the space with bright light. Place lights on the floor near every wall and shine lights from above as well.



**COSTUME AND CHARACTER:** Become a Christian Pirate who guides the Motley Crew to Jesus. The tone of your character should be self assured. Use the Pirate-ese language guide to become an authentic “Old Salt”. Follow costume suggestions in curriculum.

## WELCOME TO TREASURE ISLAND!

I have great news for you! You are God’s Treasure. You are valuable and it is time to search for real treasure in your life. Today we are going to discover where our treasure is. Sometimes we choose good treasure and sometimes we settle for harmful treasure.

**PEARL STORY:** The most famous pearl team divers are Japanese women searching for pearls off the coast of Japan. Men also dive in teams. One person stays in the boat and the other looks for pearls. By holding his breath, the diver drops 100 feet to the bottom of the ocean. He/she fills a basket full of shells for one minute. The person in the boat pulls the basket to the surface. It takes a lot of training to perform this dangerous task.

I bet you think pearls are white. Some are but pearls are also pink and black and bronze and brown and green and sometimes blue. One of the most expensive pearls is black. Pearls are the only gem taken from the sea and it is the only gem made from a living creature, the oyster.

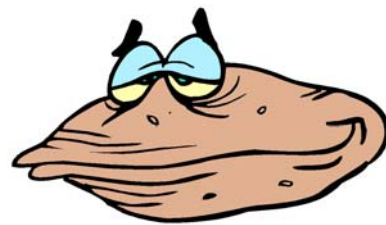
Pearls begin as a speck of sand inside the shell. The oyster is bothered by the sand and covers it with milky substance. Layer after layer, the sand is covered until it finally becomes a beautiful pearl. Sometimes the pearl is round and sometimes it is oval or even looks like a blob.

Ever heard of a pearl farm? Farmers keep a bed of oyster shells and place one grain of sand inside each one. Twice a year the farmer cleans each one of seaweed and sticks. After seven years it is ready to open. One out of twenty shells holds a usable pearl.

People have loved pearls long before the birth of Jesus. Pearls were considered to be more valuable than anything else.

### PIRATE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: PEARL DIVING

*Hide pearls (fake gems or beads) in a mound of sand. Students search for them with their hands. Place treasures in zip lock sandwich bags so students can carry their treasure home. (S&S arts and crafts catalog offers beads of all shapes and sizes. Purchase lots of beads and hide them in the sand. Refresh the supply for each new group.*



Print the scripture verse on posterboard. Trim the board with lots of beads, pearls and gems glued to the edges. Or, print words on separate large “pearls”.

There is a reminder in God’s Word about treasure. Let’s memorize it!  
**“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”** Matthew 6:21

## **BIBLE STORY:**

## **TREASURE HUNT**

*Bible information comes from a variety of scripture featuring information on how to become a Christian and includes Jesus’ story about hidden treasure and the pearl of great price. Ask students who can read to help discover the treasures from God’s Word.*

There is a treasure chest on our island. Let’s peek inside and see what some pirate buried. Help me drag it to the middle of the island.

*Open the lid of an old chest filled with glittering treasures of all kinds. Prepare the chest by loading it with old jewelry, brass, pewter, silver vases and trays, brightly colored bolts of fabric and the following items which you pull out, pass around and discuss.*

**MESSAGE IN AN OLD BOTTLE:** There seems to be a message rolled up in this old bottle. Ooo, this is exciting. Somebody help me get it out!

*Print (or cut and paste) the following message on a rolled piece of paper. Read it aloud or ask a student to read it aloud:*

-----  
**HELP! I’m trapped on a Pirate Ship!**

**If you find this message, come and save me.**

**I’m so lost and alone.**

**Only God can help me now....**

**X**  
-----

**Have you ever been lost?** Where were you? How did you feel? How did you find your way back? *(Let the group respond with personal stories.)*

This sounds like a message from a desperate pirate. There is nothing worse than separation from those we love. We become separated from God when we decide to disobey Him and go our own way. God calls it SIN.

**God's Word warns,** *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23.

**OLD BIBLE:** Ah-ha! I found a book! It's God's Word. Our pirate buried the only item that could help him find peace with God. It's really God's treasure map. To find God's treasure, search with all your heart.

**Matthew 13:44-46:** Our pirate marked a "treasure" story told by Jesus. *"God's kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a field for years and then accidentally found by a trespasser. The finder is ecstatic—what a find! And proceeds to sell everything he owns to raise money and buy that field. Or, God's kingdom is like a jewel merchant on the hunt for excellent pearls. Finding one that is flawless, he immediately sells everything and buys it."* (The Message—Read from your favorite Bible version.)

**What treasure would you give up to receive God's treasure of going to heaven?** Would you give up your favorite toy, video game, clothing....? Would you give it ALL away? The person in Jesus' story was willing to sell everything he owned to buy the field where the hidden treasure was discovered.

**CROSS:** *(Choose a piece of cross jewelry or a large brass cross)* This is truly a golden treasure. No better treasure could prove that God loves us. God's Word says, *"For Christ died for sins once for all...to bring you to God."* I Peter 3:18

The only way you can truly own this unique treasure is to reach out and take it. Looking at it and enjoying how it sparkles in the light is not enough. God has provided a way to get to heaven and each person must make a choice to reach out and take God's treasure by accepting Jesus as their Savior.

**WRAPPED GIFT:** (*Wrap one box in elegant paper or aluminum foil for each group. Fill the boxes with book marks, key chains, pictures of Jesus, erasers or small Christian gifts to give students.*) God's only rule for salvation is that we must reach out and take His gift...Jesus! We cannot be good enough to get to heaven so Jesus did the work, by dying on the Cross, for us. You must open a treasure in order to enjoy it! Open God's treasure by BELIEVING that Jesus is your Savior!

**God's Word says:** "*If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*" Romans 10:9

**How can we enjoy Jesus?** (*Let group respond.*) Go to church, make Christian friends, learn about Jesus, read the Bible, pray and tell other people about this wonderful treasure. As we get to know Jesus, we will depend on Him to be our friend who keeps us from getting lost.

**PICTURE OF JESUS:** The pirate must have treasured Jesus very much. He placed a picture of what Jesus might have looked like, in his treasure chest. Oh look what's sticking to the back of the picture! It's another message from the pirate!

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I received Jesus as my Savior! You can too! Here's how!

1. Admit your need. Say, "I am a sinner."
2. Be willing to turn from your sins. Say, "I'm sorry."
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the Cross and rose from the grave. Say, "I believe in Jesus."
4. Pray and ask Jesus Christ to come in and become the treasure of your life. Say, "Come and be my Savior."

This is the best TREASURE God ever created! X

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**LONG NECKLACE WITH FIVE CHARMS ATTACHED:** There is one more treasure in our pirate’s treasure chest. It’s a beautiful necklace with five special treasures attached. I know what each treasure means! After we become Christian believers, we must grow. To deepen your relationship with Jesus:

1. Read your Bible every day!
2. Pray every day!
3. Tell your friends about Jesus.
4. Go to church where you can worship and serve with Christian friends.
5. Show your love for Jesus by helping people who are in need.

## **CONCLUSION:**

## **PEACE WITH GOD**

*Review each treasure with the group. Let them tell you what each one represents. Allow them to replace the treasures in the chest and then close the lid.*

We have discovered the treasure of Peace with God. Many people do not have what God planned for us but you have all the information you need to know that God loves you and you want to have His peace and life—life that lasts forever.

**God’s Word says:** *“We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*  
Romans 5:1

Jesus said, *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* John 3:16

Is there anything keeping you from receiving God’s treasure of Jesus today? If not, pray with me:

Dear Lord, I am a sinner. Forgive me. I want to change. I’m sorry. Come into my life and help me live for You all of my days. I want to be Your child and enjoy the treasure of You and Your kingdom forever. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

**REVIEW MEMORY VERSE.**

**CLOSE IN PRAYER.**

## BIBLE STATION #2

# MAROONED!

**SPIRITUAL THEME:** I depend upon God when I am in danger.



**DECORATION:** Turn an empty room into a shipwrecked island. Create an air of destruction by darkening the area. Place lights on the floor near every wall hidden behind planks of wood. The entire area should be a mess with everyday items thrown everywhere.

**Shipwrecked Items:** Fill the space with old wooden planks, wooden boxes, barrels, life jackets, ropes, seaweed, broken pottery, treasure falling out of an old box, shells and other evidence of a shipwreck.

**Palm Tree:** Spray paint cardboard tubing from a local carpet store. Make large paper palm leaves from construction paper. Tape individual leaves to straightened coat hangers. Purchase coconuts and scatter them on the floor.

**Rocks and Water:** Place large rocks in central locations. Place green plants around the rocks. Scatter smaller rocks and sand around a water filled child's pool.

**Music:** Play a CD of crashing waves and/or a thunderstorm. This can be played throughout the entire lesson time if the volume is low.

**COSTUME AND CHARACTER:** Wear blue denim shirt, dark shorts/slacks and tennis shoes. Ragged clothing works great. Add a sailor's cap to become a sailor lost at sea.

The entire area should reflect the result of a disaster at sea. Dark, gloomy, dangerous and lonely. Communicate the theme and story with enthusiasm. Become the lost sailor for the entire lesson time.

# MAROONED WELCOME!

Have you brought help? I am desperate to be rescued from this God forsaken place. I will follow you anywhere. Help me escape! I have tried my best to protect the cargo aboard my pirate ship but I can no longer be the ship's keeper.

The storm came at night. We had finished dinner in the ship's mess when the winds blew so violently that all the dishes fell to the floor. We tried our best to save the old pirate ship but we could not. Out of 208 souls about, my ship mate (teacher's helper) and me remain. And to think I was following a dream. I wanted to sail the world, find my fortune and go home a hero! It has come to this! I followed the wrong dream and depended upon the wrong people. I should have listened when I was told to depend on God and not pirates.

**MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:** While we wait to be rescued, let's raise distress flags. Maybe someone will see them and find us.

*Before class, draw four distress flags on paper or white fabric with individual phrases printed on them. Hand individual flags to students. Attach each flag with clothes pins to a rope strung along one wall and learn that part of the verse.*

**TRUST IN THE LORD  
WITH ALL THY HEART  
AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS.  
PROVERBS 3:5-6**

## **BOTTLE WITH MESSAGE:**

**Supplies:** Juice drinks or water in small plastic bottles, markers, paper.

Students drink the juice and then place a message of their choice in the bottle. Young students may draw pictures to place in their bottles. Read or show each message before they are rolled up.

## **Optional Activity**





## BIBLE STORY:

## SHIPWRECKED PAUL

**Acts 27:** Let me spin a yarn about a sailor who got in a similar fix. The man was a mighty servant of God. I found his message in this bottle when I became stranded. I think you might like to see it!

*Copy this message and place in an old bottle. Read it aloud or ask an older student to read it for you.*

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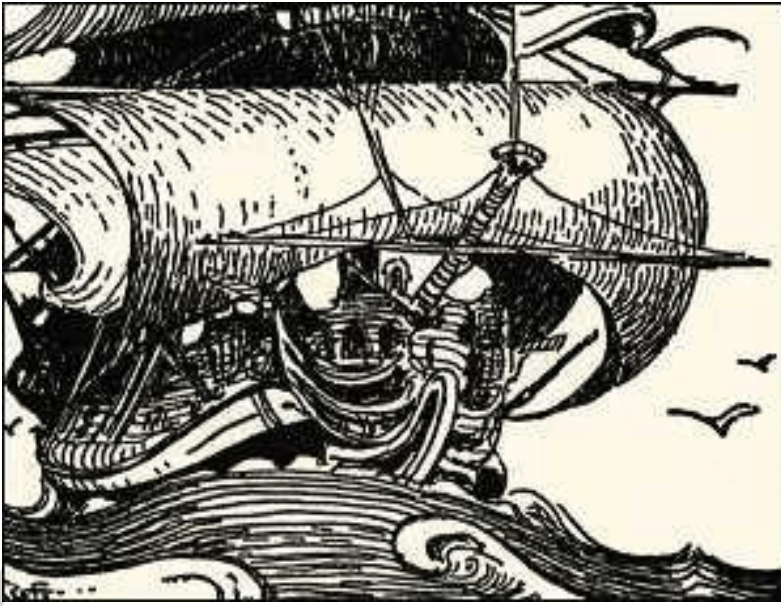
I have been shipwrecked on Malta. I have survived as well as the 275 other souls aboard. Today's date is October, 59 AD. We are spending the winter here before traveling to Rome.

My friend, Dr. Luke, and I have been praying for and healing the island natives. Many have believed in Jesus, the Teacher from Galilee and Savior of the world. I must travel to stand trial as prisoner before Caesar. I am confident that the God who sustained me in the shipwreck will protect me in the courts of a powerful nation.



Until we meet in that land  
where all is light and Jesus is the Sun  
...I remain His faithful servant,

**Paul**



Paul traveled far and wide to tell the world about Jesus. He was the first traveling missionary. He faced danger every day and depended in the Lord for protection. Not everyone was excited about Jesus' story in those days and Paul was arrested.

Guards hauled him aboard a large ship and headed for Rome where Paul was going to trial.

Evidently his friend, Dr. Luke, was with him because Luke tells this story in the book of Acts.

A huge storm tossed Paul's ship around the ocean for days. The 276 people aboard were terrified. Their ship was not strong enough to withstand the force of the gales. The sail ripped, the boat nearly capsized the men were screaming for help.

An angel told Paul that everyone would live but the ship would be lost. Prisoner Paul told the sailors to calm down and depend on God. They refused. After many days of being afraid and not eating, the sailors finally followed Paul's advice and trusted God.

The crew threw their cargo overboard to lighten the load, hoping for the best. Soon they heard waves crashing against land. It was time to act! The ship's captain rammed the boat onto the beach. It came close but not close enough to walk to shore. Strong swimmers dove into the sea and swam for their lives. Non swimmers grabbed boards or boxes and floated to shore. Every single sailor, guard and prisoner...including Paul...made it safely to land just as God promised!

One big problem remained. Paul and other prisoners who were under guard could have run for the hills. Roman law stated that if a prisoner escaped, the guards were to suffer the same fate from the Roman court as the prisoner would have received. The guards wanted to kill the prisoners to save themselves. The ship's captain, who had struck up a friendship with Paul, would not allow the murders in order to save Paul's life. Not one prisoner escaped!

The rag tag band of wet and frightened men rested on an island beach. Paul started a fire using bundles of sticks. Little did he know that in one bundle was a small snake. It bit him and everyone was sure he was going to die—but he didn't! The sailors finally understood that Paul's God was powerful.

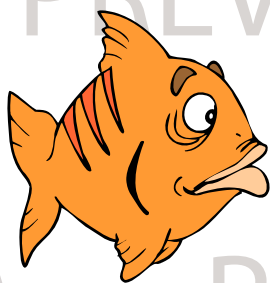
Malta's islanders hosted the sailors for the entire winter. Paul and Dr. Luke visited homes of residents and many sick people were healed. Paul prayed them well and Dr. Luke used his medical skills. People believed in Jesus because of that shipwreck. In the spring, the crew found passage on another ship and Paul arrived in Rome, ready for trial, none the worse for wear. But...that's another tale.

## CONCLUSION:

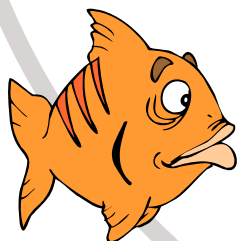
## DEPEND ON JESUS

The only way to be a follower of Jesus is by depending upon Him in every situation. There may be adventures you will encounter in life that are scary or sad or challenging. Learn as much about Jesus as you can so you will be ready for any adventure.

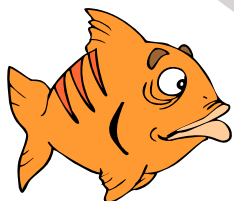
*Place three tropical fish on the wall to explain how to depend on Jesus.*



**BIBLE TROPICANUS: (READ GOD'S WORD)** It is hard to read God's Word when we are young but as we grow older, our reading skills increase. It becomes easier to depend on Jesus by reading the Bible. Start by thinking about one verse at a time. The Bible is God's Message in a bottle. When we depend on Jesus, we know we are pleasing God.



**PRAY FISHIA: (PRAY EVERY DAY)** God created communication better than a telephone or computer. We can talk to God every minute of every day. He is always on board to hear us when we take time to thank Him, praise Him and ask for problems to be solved. People who do not pray never learn to depend on God.

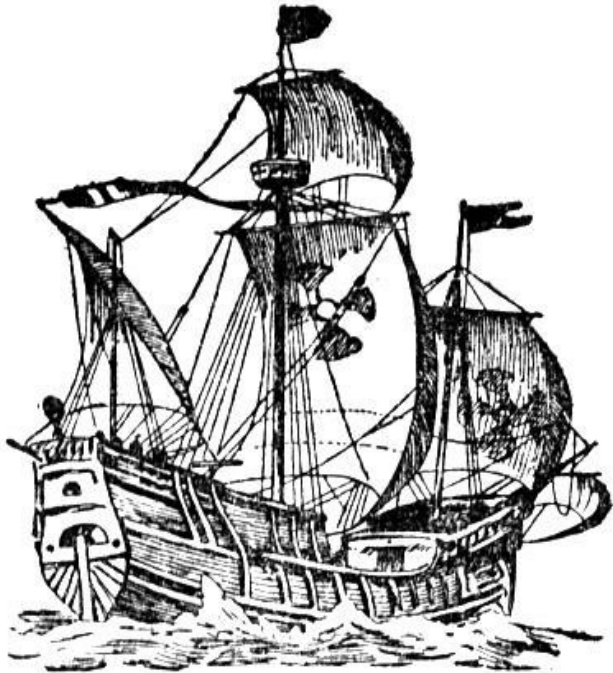


**DO RIGHT SHARKUS: (LIVE FOR JESUS)** Once we learn all we can about depending upon Jesus by reading God's Word and Praying every day, it is time to live like children of the King! Do what is right. That is depending on God.

**REVIEW MEMORY VERSE**

**CLOSE IN PRAYER**

# CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS



**SPIRITUAL THEME:** Knowing Jesus keeps me calm.

**DECORATION:** Fill an empty room with many wooden and brass items to make it resemble a ship captain's quarters.

**Table and Chair:** Usually sparse but yet the most luxurious of ship's quarters, look for a wood table and straight chair as the centerpiece of the room. On the table, place a large feathered pen and inkwell and a tall candle in a candle holder. Lay an area rug under the table.

**Trunk:** Use a toy box as a clothing chest. Place large pillows and several folded quilts on top of it.

**Captain's Bed:** A small cot can be displayed in one corner with comfortable bedding (quilts, pillows, throws).

**Brass Items:** If available, place brass decorative items on the table. A spyglass, lantern, bowls, vases, etc. may be scattered throughout the area.

**Maps:** Roll up colorful road maps tied with bright red ribbons. Open a few of the maps and place them on the captain's table. One or more maps may be attached to one wall.

**Ship or Ocean Pictures:** Hang large pictures of ships or ocean scenes on the walls. Any size or shape works well.

**Ocean Items:** Place a model ship on a nearby bookcase. Decorative lighthouses,

anchors and ship's wheel also look interesting. Any nautical items you can gather can be used in the area.

**No Curtains:** Take down window treatments to make the area appear more sparse.

**Lighting:** Darken the room with only available window light streaming inside. Or, light dimly with small electric candles or lanterns.

**COSTUME AND CHARACTER:** Become a Christian Sea Captain dressed casually for cabin life. Dark slacks, white open necked shirt, open vest, dark boots work well for male or female captain. It is fun to speak "pirate-ese". Use as much of the unique vocabulary as you feel comfortable using throughout the lesson time. Attack the lesson with sure voice, pirate swagger and humor.

## WELCOME TO THE CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS!

Ahoy mateys! Welcome to me humble quarters. Enter smartly...no time to be wastin'. Make yerselves as comfy as ye can in these here bare spaces. No gettin' seasick now. I won't put up with no freebooters up chuckin' in the cap'n's rooms.

Shiver me timbers, I'm a happy Captain. To have such esteemed comrades enter these doors is an honorable day on this ship. We be puttin' off to sea within the day. Before I shove off for parts unknown in search of adventure, I have time to enjoy your visit.



## PYRATE SHIPS OF YORE: Fun Stuff About Ships

I been to sea many a year, a man and a boy, and never saw sailors afraid. To be sure, the Enemy desires to scuttle me crew with fear but we are strong and trusting in Captain Jesus. As an honest seaman I tell you we work hard on board this ship. So now, you that are lazy, lubberly, cowardly dogs, get away and skulk in the hold. And you, that are jolly boys and girls, stand by me and let us give one broadside for the honor of our Savior. Three rousing cheers for Jesus: Hip-Hip-HOORAY! (3x shouts)

One thing to recollect about pirate ships is what to call ‘em. And that ain’t easy. Many a name is tossed around to describe a ship. There is Galleon and Sloop, Brig and Man-O-War, and still Bark and Frigate. Let’s not even talk about Hoys, Yachts and Carracks. Some have three masts and others have four. Still another ship may have only two. And what makes a “ship of the line” versus a “merchantman” all depends on what the ship is designed to do and when it is doing it.

Don’t ye dare call me ship a “boat”. A boat is a wee open vessel used to get from ship to ship or for fishing with yer grandpa.

Before ye can become a top sailor, ye must know every mast and name. Don’t mix up the Foremast or the Mizzenmast or the Mainmast with the Jibs, Spankers or Stay Sails.

Do ye know the difference between the Poop Deck, Forecastle, Spar and Bilge? Awww, ye land lubbers, ye’re such a disappointment. Oh well, I guess ye can learn.

**PIRATE CAPTAIN’S MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: Reading the Map**  
*Print short phrases with black marker on road maps from the scripture verse. Roll the maps and tie with red ribbons. Hand out the maps to students in the group. Ask each student to open their map and see what’s inside. Hold up the maps in the correct order and ask the group to say the verse aloud. Take one map away and repeat the verse. Keep removing maps until the entire verse is said from memory.*

**DO NOT LET  
YOUR HEARTS  
BE TROUBLED  
AND DO NOT  
BE AFRAID.  
JOHN 14:27B**

Ahh, me hearties. This be a good remembering hook for when trouble and storms come into yer life. John says we shouldn’t be troubled or afraid. Why not? It’s Jesus! He’s the One Who calms our seas.

## **BIBLE STORY:**

## **Jesus Calms The Sea!**

**Mark 4:35-41:** I want you to feel a summer storm (*Pull a spray bottle from a hidden spot and spray as many students as possible. Encourage lots of laughing, wiggling and scooting away from the water.*)

You had no idea I was going to create a storm right here in the Captain's Quarters. It was a surprise that caused you to react. Some ran away from the water. Others wanted to get as wet as possible. Others screamed. You all reacted to my "storm".

The Sea of Galilee is famous for storms which come out of the blue. It's common to see terrible squalls even when the sky is perfectly clear. Fishermen and sailors are likely to encounter sudden storms even on peaceful days.

Jesus was riding in a fishing boat, resting in the spot reserved for important visitors. He sat in a little seat at the stern with a pillow. When a huge storm came up, Jesus wasn't disturbed at all. He fell asleep after a long day of teaching and healing the sick. The disciples in the little boat were very afraid. They knew the risks of boating during a storm and they were puzzled that Jesus could sleep.

Evidently the men felt their lives were in danger because they finally awoke Jesus to ask if He cared that they were dying! He woke up, looked at the storm and said, "Hush, Be still!" And it was still. The storm stopped immediately. The wind disappeared. The waves calmed and the boat settled into a gentle rocking.

Jesus asked, "Why are you such cowards? Don't you have any faith at all?" He thought the men should have known that no harm would come to them while they were with him.

The men were so amazed that they became afraid again. They whispered to each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves are at His beck and call."

## **CONCLUSION:**

## **Jesus Calms Me!**

I understand the frightened disciples. My heart can be troubled and afraid when I face problems alone. We do not have to face anything alone. Jesus brought peace to the stormy waters and He can bring peace to my heart too.

*Print theme phrases on pieces of torn maps. Attach them to the wall as you speak.*

*Let students repeat the theme phrases aloud.*

**JESUS CALMS SADNESS:** When sadness comes, Jesus reminds us of life in heaven. He changes darkness into sunshine. He tells us how much God loves us.

**JESUS CALMS TROUBLE:** Sometimes trouble comes and we do not know what to do. There is an answer for trouble: Ask Jesus “What do You want me to do?” The tragedy is not that we do not know what to do; but that many times we do not ask for Jesus’ guidance through our trouble. Ask for His help and follow His advice to be calm in the storm of trouble!

**JESUS CALMS WORRY:** The opposite of peace is worry. We worry about ourselves, the future and we worry about those we love.

Jesus tells us about a Heavenly Father whose hand will never cause His child a needless tear and of love we can never outrun. In the storm of worry, Jesus brings peace along with the love of God.

**REVIEW MEMORY VERSE**

**CLOSE IN PRAYER**





# ME WEE HEARTIES!

## ...THE NURSERY



**WHO SHOULD COME TO ME WEE HEARTIES NURSERY?** YO-HO-HOLY One Day VBS is not designed for students under four years old who do not respond well to high activity so loved by older students. A separate space offers more security. Invite youngsters, birth through age three, who are children of teachers and helpers. It is your decision to open the nursery to the public.

**HOW MANY HELPERS SHOULD WE ASK TO HELP IN THE NURSERY?** Provide one helper per baby in charge of all care from bottles to changing diapers. If that is not possible, ask one adult and a variety of assistants to watch the children.

**SHOULD WE PLAN ACTIVITIES?** *ME WEE HEARTIES* Nursery is a babysitting service but tell a few stories, sing songs, play CD's and Videos, give wagon rides and take walks. Decide how much to do by the ages of the children.

**SHOULD WE FEED CHILDREN IN THE NURSERY?** Ask the parents. They may want to provide snacks from home. If you do feed toddler snacks, be sure the food is safe and healthful. **WARNING:** No popcorn, hot dogs, lollipops or hard candy which could get caught in a tiny throat.

**HOW SHOULD WE DRESS IN THE NURSERY?** Wear washable clothing and shoes that are low and comfortable. The key to being happy in the nursery is to be comfortable. Theme costuming is not necessary.

**WHAT SHOULD WE BRING FROM HOME TO MAKE ME WEE HEARTIES NURSERY A PLEASANT PLACE?** Bring Christian CD's and Videos. Play music at a low, non threatening volume. Bring a small fan if days are hot and humid. Place the fan away from children, preferably on a shelf or high table.

# CAPTAIN'S KIDDS! ...PRESCHOOL

**AGE FOUR THROUGH PRE-KINDERGARTEN.**

Decide whether to include five year old pre-k students in this group or to allow them to become part of the kindergarten group.

**OPTION:** *If your preschool students are fun loving, active and mature, consider including them as one of the major groups and eliminating the special grouping. As we have experimented, it has been a pleasure to discover that preschool children adapt to the normal activities with very little adaptation. The biggest adjustment will involve simplifying Bible Stations. Think about this option early in your planning phase. Save staffing for other areas while enjoying a fun day with the preschool gang.*



**THEME:** CAPTAIN'S KIDDS study the same spiritual themes as older students. Use the curriculum as a guide but provide plenty of rest time, play and simple crafting. At no time should you feel pressured to move the students to activities if they are crying or upset. Cancel or shorten your appearance in favor of free play time if the group needs rest.

**TEACHERS:** There should be one helper for every 2-3 students. Parental help is welcomed. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Make the ONE DAY event fun and relaxing. Students should be able to chatter and sing without being reprimanded. However, run away children or rudeness must not be tolerated.

**HOME BASE:** Choose one room where optional preschool stories, crafts, play and rest can take place. It is wise to have this separate space for criers and other students who need privacy during the day.

Two separate ½ hour sessions (morning and afternoon) are reserved as an optional preschool Home Base time. These times may be reserved for watching Christian videos while resting with large pillows or taking a walk or completing a craft.

**CRIERS:** Sometimes preschool children are unpredictable in behavior. If a few children continually cry, ask helpers to keep them busy separately with play and coloring at HOME BASE. Movement around the building and grounds may be threatening for some younger students.

If one or two children never calm down, it may be necessary to ask a parent to stay with their child or to take them home and try again next year. While we want to accommodate as many young students as possible, crying and temper tantrums discourage teachers, helpers and students. The child may be too young and will do better at a later time.

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# PLANNING A CAPTAIN'S KIDDS DAY



4 ½ hours is a very long day for preschool students. Plan the day around spontaneous rest and free time. Bring beach balls, balloons, bubbles and other outdoor toys to play indoors or outdoors. Purchase small story books from your local Christian bookstore. Use these stories as extra teaching times.

**NATURE WALK:** This may be the highlight of the day. It is not a scheduled activity so insert it into times when a planned activity is not appropriate for the CAPTAIN'S KIDDS.

When taking a walk, go with a nature bracelet. Put a band of duct tape (sticky side out) around each child's wrist. As children walk, let them pick up leaves, sticks and flowers and stick them to their bracelet. Upon return, discuss all the treasures they found. Talk about how our loving God made everything for our enjoyment and to meet our needs.

**TREASURE TROVE LAGOON OPENING:** CAPTAIN'S KIDDS may participate in the Opening if they can sit still, sing and respond. This is an opportunity to organize name tags and motivate the group before the day begins. If there are criers, ask a helper to take them to Home Base to color. This avoids chaos and distraction for older students.

**SEA SHANTEYS:** Encourage preschoolers to participate in music time. Take them to music and stay with them. If the 30 minute session is too long, take them to Home Base for free play or coloring or video time.

**DAVEY JONES' LOCKER BIBLE THEATER:** This area consists of a Narrator directing opening and closing activities accompanying a skit entitled, "At The Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea". It is a wonderful way for preschoolers to become involved in the story of Jonah told in a humorous way. Take them and enjoy the experience.

**BIBLE STATIONS:** Three Bible Stations are presented during the day. Take the group to each station for lessons that are a PIRATE'S GUIDE TO JESUS. They may not understand every concept but they will enjoy the decorations and the stories.

**SHIP'S MESS:** This is the spot where delicious meals are served. Take young students to any meals provided. There may be a breakfast, lunch and supper or any combination of these meals. Sit with your students. Use this time as a bathroom and hand washing break. Everyone in the building eats at the same time so decide if you want to join the older students or eat separately at Home Base.

**REST TIME:** Allow time for unstructured play and rest. Darken Home Base, play music or watch a video while encouraging quiet activity. Rest Time is scheduled as options in both morning and afternoon sessions.

**WALK THE PLANK GAMES:** Take your students to recreation. They are many games these young children will be able to play.

**CANNONBALL COVE CRAFTS:** The perfect preschool craft is one which can be completed with a minimum of teacher help. Provide coloring pictures and crayons for slow times. Modeling clay or Play Doh should be available. Stringing large beads is a favorite activity. Purchase one special craft project to feature as a keepsake.

Keep the process simple and everyone will enjoy the experience. S&S arts and crafts catalog offers many projects for preschool students. Local craft stores have ideas for projects. Speak to the CANNONBALL COVE staff to see what they have planned for your students. Add extra projects to be completed at Home Base.

