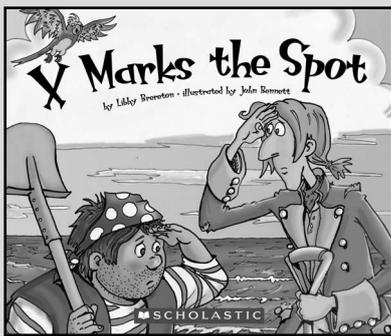


X Marks the Spot



X Marks the Spot Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: Year 1, 7a: Identify the main events and characters in stories

Key words: said, were, looked

Cross-curricular/theme links: Pirates, adventure

Genre: Fiction

NC level: Approximately Level 1C-1B

Assessment: AF2, Level 1: Some simple points from familiar texts recalled

Word count: 251

Getting started

Read the title and blurb together. Ask the children if they have read any other stories, or seen any films, about pirates. Ask: 'What types of things are pirates interested in? What do they do? What do you think might happen in this story?'

Guided reading

Pages 2-3: Encourage the children to use their phonic knowledge to help them tackle any unfamiliar words. Remind them to look out for punctuation as they read, and to read with appropriate expression. Can they make the question in the text really sound like a question?

Pages 4-5: On page 5, ask: 'Who do you think is the cleverest one, out of the three pirates? What clue do we get about this? What do you think will happen next?'

Pages 6-7: Ask: 'Do you think Tuck and Trip will really find gold here? Why not?'

Pages 8-10: Can the children predict what might happen next?

Pages 11-13: Can the children explain why Tuck and Trip are so fed up on page 13? Ask: 'How do you think Mac is feeling?'

Pages 14-15: Ask: 'Do you think the pirates will really find treasure now?'

Page 16: Did the children guess correctly? What do they think the pirates will do with all the treasure?

Speaking and listening

- In pairs, children could put Mac in the hot seat, with one child in role as Mac and the other asking questions to find out what she thinks of Tuck and Trip, why she hangs around with them, and what she hopes to do in the future.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the story.

- Where did Tuck and Trip look for the treasure first?
- What did they find in the second place they looked?
- Where did they find the treasure in the end?

Reading into writing

Children could draw their own pirate map. Encourage them to draw and label a treasure island with lots of different features, and put a cross where the treasure is buried!

Book quiz for children

- 1 Where did Tuck and Trip find the oranges?
- 2 What made the letter X?
- 3 How did Mac feel at the end of the story?

Support for less confident readers

Encourage less confident readers to pay particular attention to the punctuation, and if necessary model how to read aloud taking account of punctuation marks such as exclamation marks and question marks.

Extension for more confident readers

The children could write a new episode for the story, telling about Tuck, Trip and Mac's next adventure.