

You are invited to rediscover your
Sense of adventure with the
Dangerous Book for Boys
at the Barnes and Noble Book Fair.

Saturday, May 10th
3pm

The Adventure of the Day: Pirates!
You will learn about the golden age of piracy: knot tying, map
reading, pirate flags and more.
You can also make your mom a card for Mother's Day.

Reproducible Activity Sheet

THE GOLDEN AGE OF PIRACY

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THERE HAVE BEEN PIRATES for as long as ships have sailed out of sight of land and law. The period known as "the golden age" of piracy began in the seventeenth century and continued into the early eighteenth. The discovery of the New World and vast wealth there for the taking caused an explosion of privateers—some, like Francis Drake, with the complete authority and knowledge of Queen Elizabeth I.

The word "buccaneer" comes from European sailors who caught wild pigs on the islands of Haiti and Tortuga in the Caribbean and smoked the meat on racks to preserve it. The French *boucaner* means to dry meat in this fashion. The men referred to themselves as the "Brethren of the Coast" and it is from their number that the most famous names came, like Calico Jack Rackham and Blackbeard. Perhaps the most astonishing thing about the golden age is the fact that many pirates were given pardons, sometimes in exchange for military aid or a cut of the loot. The Welsh privateer Henry Morgan was not only pardoned, but knighted by Charles II, made acting governor of Jamaica, a vice admiral, commandant of the Port Royal Regiment, a judge of the Admiralty Court, and a justice of the Peace!

Although the skull and crossbones, or "Jolly Roger," is by far the most famous pirate flag, there were different versions and many other flags that would send fear into the hearts of merchant sailors and their captains. Here is a selection of the most famous, as well as the men who sailed under them.



Walter Kennedy



Bart Roberts



Henry Every



Edward England



Richard Worley



Christopher Moody



Stede Bonnet



Edward Low



Bart Roberts (Red Flag)



Jack Rackham



Blackbeard (Edward Teach)



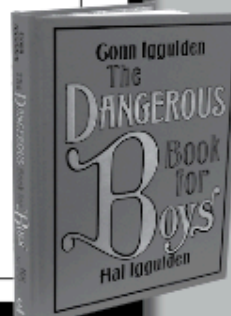
Thomas Wayne



Thomas Tew



Christopher Condent



The Dangerous Boys Club

April

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