

First Steps

Discuss strategies children can use if they get stuck on a word or sentence (e.g. re-reading, using context, sounding out).

Session 1: Reading (Pages 4–14)

Before Reading

Ask children if they have seen the film and talk about any other films or books that they know of about pirates. Ask what they would expect a pirate to look like.

During Reading

Children consider the main question as they read to page 14.

Main question: **How do the pictures and backgrounds contribute to the overall theme of the story? (Y3 t1, Information Retrieval)**

Additional prompts

Pages 4–5: How do the irregular edges and textured backgrounds indicate the story setting?

Pages 8–9: How does this background fit the theme?

Page 12: What information about the characters do the photos give the reader?

After Reading

- Discuss the main question, checking that children understand how the photos and backgrounds all relate to the pirate theme.

Follow-up: before Session 2, children read to page 17 and make notes about what they think will happen next.

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