

# Talk Like A Pirate Day on September 19

[NationalDayClassroom.com](http://NationalDayClassroom.com)

## The Mystery of Captain Bluefin's Bottle

The clock on the wall in Ms. Anya's classroom went *tick... tock... tick... tock*. Cal stared at the math problems on the board, but his mind was sailing on a big, puffy cloud he could see out the window. It was just a normal Wednesday morning.

Or so he thought.

Suddenly, from under Ms. Anya's big wooden desk, there was a strange sound.

*Crrreeak... thunk.*

Everyone looked up. A small, dusty-looking bottle, sealed with a cork, rolled out from the shadows and stopped right by Ms. Anya's shoe. It wasn't a normal water bottle. It was green glass and looked very, very old.

"Well now, what's this?" Ms. Anya said, a twinkle in her eye. She picked up the bottle and showed it to the class. "It looks like we have a mystery on our hands."

The whole class leaned forward. Inside the bottle, they could see a tiny, rolled-up piece of paper. With a little wiggle, Ms. Anya pulled out the cork. A puff of air that smelled like the salty sea and old paper filled the room. She carefully unrolled the note. It looked like a tiny treasure map.

She read it aloud in a low, mysterious voice:

*Ahoy, me hearties!*

*This be a message from the ghost of Captain Bluefin. I've hidden me treasure somewhere in this very room! But only a true pirate crew can find it. To prove yer worthy, ye must learn the language of the sea.*

*When your captain gives the signal, every scallywag must shout a proper pirate greeting! Let me hear yer best 'Ahoy, Matey!' or 'Shiver me timbers!'*

*Do this, and your next clue ye shall find!*

*Signed, Captain Bluefin*

The classroom was buzzing. A real treasure hunt!

Cal raised his hand. "Ms. Anya, what's a 'hearty' and a 'scallywag'?"

Ms. Anya smiled. "Excellent question, Cal! Today isn't just any Wednesday. It's a special day celebrated all over the world. It's [Talk Like a Pirate Day](http://NationalDayClassroom.com)! It's a day for having fun and talking like old-timey pirates from stories."

She turned to the board and wrote down a few words:

- **Ahoy, Matey!** = Hello, friend!
- **Me** = My
- **Ye** = You
- **Hearties** = Friends or crewmates
- **Shiver me timbers!** = An exclamation of surprise, like "Wow!"
- **Scallywag** = A playful name for a rascal or troublemaker.

“So,” Ms. Anya said, putting her hands on her hips like a true captain. “Captain Bluefin wants to know if this crew is worthy. Are ye?”

A loud “YES!” filled the room.

“Alright then!” she boomed in her best pirate voice. “On the count of three, give me your best pirate greeting! One... two... THREE!”

The classroom erupted.

“AHOY, MATEYS!” Cal yelled, cupping his hands around his mouth.

His friend Maya stood up and shouted, “SHIVER ME TIMBERS!”

Everyone laughed and tried out the different phrases. For a minute, the classroom didn't sound like a classroom at all. It sounded like the deck of a pirate ship sailing the seven seas.

Just then, the corner of the pirate note Ms. Anya was holding started to glow. Written in invisible ink that was now appearing were new words:

*Blimey, ye sound like a proper crew! Look for yer next clue where tales of adventure are stored.*

Where were tales of adventure stored? The whole class looked toward the cozy reading corner, filled with books. Tucked inside their favorite book about a brave knight was another clue.

And so, for the rest of the day, Cal and his classmates weren't just students. They were Captain Anya's pirate crew, solving clues, counting gold-coin-shaped math problems, and drawing maps in art class.

Cal decided that Talk Like a Pirate Day was the best day ever. And it all started with a mysterious bottle from the ghost of Captain Bluefin.



# Writing Prompts for a Pirate Crew

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**Ahoy, writers!** Now that ye have proven yerselves a worthy crew, it's time to write yer own tales of the high seas. Choose one of the prompts below for yer next adventure.

## 1. Narrative & Creative Writing

- **The Next Clue:** The story ended when the class found the clue in the reading corner. Write the next part of the story. What was the next clue? Where did it lead them? What was the final treasure Captain Bluefin left for the class?
- **A Pirate's Pet:** Every pirate captain needs a first mate. Imagine your pet (or an imaginary animal) is your pirate sidekick. Write a short story about a funny adventure you have together on your pirate ship.
- **Your Pirate Name:** Create your own pirate character. What is their name (like "Calico Cal" or "One-Eyed Maya")? What do they wear? What is their ship's name? Write a paragraph introducing your pirate to the world.
- **Message in a Bottle:** You are walking on the beach and find your own message in a bottle. Who is it from and what does it say? Write the message that you find.

## 2. Descriptive Writing

- **My Treasure Chest:** Describe your own personal treasure chest. Don't just say what's inside! Use your senses. What does it look like on the outside? Does it have a rusty lock? Does it smell like old wood and saltwater? What treasures make clinking or crinkling sounds inside?
- **The Secret Island:** You are the first person to discover a secret island. Describe what you see, hear, and feel as you step off your boat. Are there strange plants, colorful birds, or mysterious caves?

## 3. How-To & Informational Writing

- **The Pirate Code:** Every pirate ship needs rules, called a "code of conduct." Write three important rules for being a good pirate in Ms. Anya's classroom crew. (For example: *Rule 1: Always share yer treasure (snacks).*)
- **How to Make a Treasure Map:** Write a set of step-by-step instructions for a younger student on how to draw a great treasure map. What are the most important things to include, like a compass rose, landmarks, and a big 'X'?

#### 4. Persuasive Writing

- **The Best Treasure:** What is the best kind of treasure to find? A chest full of gold coins, a map to a secret waterfall, or a magical compass that always points to what you want most? Write a paragraph persuading your classmates why your choice is the best.
- **More Pirate Days!:** Write a letter to Ms. Anya or your principal trying to persuade them to have a "Talk Like a Pirate Day" every single month. Give three good reasons why it would be good for the students.

#### 5. Fun & Quick Writes

- **Pirate Poem:** Write a short, rhyming acrostic poem using the word **PIRATE**.
  - P...
  - I...
  - R...
  - A...
  - T...
  - E...
- **New Pirate Slang:** Make a list of three new, silly pirate phrases and write down what they mean. (Example: "*Scrub the poop deck!*" actually means "*Time to clean your desk!*")

Happy writing, me hearties!

