



The Pirate Treasure

Contributed by Anne Pitcher

Once upon a time there was an old pirate dog and a pirate cat.
The dog's name was Captain Bones and the cat's name was Captain Kit.

Now one day Captain Bones found that he didn't have any clean socks - all his socks were lying about the house and they were all dirty. Your room isn't like that is it? Of course not! Then he remembered his grandfather's old sea chest and he thought to himself

'My grandfather was a clean living man - I wonder if he had some clean socks in that chest?'

So he looked and he looked until he found his grandfather's chest. It reminded him of his grandfather with his great big moustache and long beard and twinkly eyes and his great big smile. Slowly he opened it up and sure enough there were some socks inside. He picked one sock out and he smelled it - 'Phew!' it was very smelly, so he threw that out and then he found another, but that too was smelly, and then another all of them were smelly! But what was that thing he could see at the bottom of the chest? It was a roll of very, very old paper, with brown spots and some old writing on the outside. He looked more closely and read *Ye Treasure Map*.

'A treasure map - whoopee!' shouted Captain Bones, jumping up and down with joy. He unrolled it and discovered it was the map of an island.

'It's a treasure island - ah harr! I see that a big X marks where treasure is buried. It's inside a big cave beside a big palm tree. But what a strange map - it's got two paths which both lead to the treasure [show map to audience]. What shall I do? I know, I'll need to divide my pirate crew into two - one group can go one way and the other can go the other way.' So Captain Bones divided his crew in two. [Do this with Captain Bones' crew]

'Oh, yes and I'm going to have to make have to copy the treasure map - won't I? I'd better get drawing'.

So he got his pen and his ink and a piece of paper and drew another map.

'I'm really tired now after all that hard work, I think I'll have a wee snooze' said Captain Bones and put the map down beside his grandfather's map in the chest and fell asleep.

'Snore, snore' he went, 'Snore, snore.'

But what he didn't know was that, Captain Kit's spy bird, Pirate Pete was watching him, from high up on the mast of Captain Bones' ship

'Awk, awk Captain Kit likes treasure – diamonds, emeralds, gold! Captain Bones is fast asleep - I'll steal that treasure map and take it to my master, awk, awk' And Pirate Pete flew down and stole the copy that Captain Bones had drawn.

Pirate Paul flew to his master Captain Kit and gave him the map

'What's this my trusty spy?' he asked Pirate Pete.

'Awk, awk, a treasure map – my captain – I stole it from Captain Bones while he was asleep.'

Captain Kit unrolled the map and his eyes lit up with delight when he saw that it was a treasure island.

'Whoopoe!!! Well done, well done – a treasure island and X marks the spot where the treasure is buried. Right my pirates, we must get there before Captain Bones - to the boat - we sail for the treasure island!'

But when they got to the boat there was no wind so they had to row [Captain Kit's crew take up oars]

[To the tune of Row, row your boat]

Row, row, row the boat

Fast as fast can be

Treasure, treasure, treasure

It's a pirates' life for me ah harr!

When Captain Bones woke up he looked down to his grandfather's chest where he'd put the maps and shouted:

'What! Somebody's stolen one of my treasure maps! Did anyone see who stole it? Where's that spy bird of mine? Gary Gannet, Gary Gannet where are you - are you sleeping??'

'Awk, awk ..I was a little bit master.'

'Bad bird – sleeping on the job!'

'Sorry master but I think I saw Captain Kit's spy bird fly off with something a minute ago'.

'What and you didn't tell me! He took the copy of my treasure map. Bad, bad bird, falling asleep indeed! We must sail to this treasure island straight away- to the boats - me hearties!'

But when they got to the boat there was no wind, so they had to row

'We'll have to row, really fast – we must get to the treasure before Captain Kit and his crew!'

[To the tune of Row, row your boat]

*Row, row, row the boat
Fast as fast can be
Treasure, treasure, treasure
It's a pirates' life for me ah harr!*

'Put your backs into it me hearties' said Captain Bones as they journeyed towards the island.

Captain Bones and his crew arrived at the island together.

'Woof, grr!' said Captain Bones and his crew angrily. 'Meow, hiss!' said Captain Kit and his crew angrily.

But then they thought a bit and they decided they might as well split the treasure rather than have no treasure at all. So Captain Bones followed the path to the north and Captain Kit and his crew followed the other path to the south.

Captain Bones and his crew marched through a lovely meadow full of wild flowers and tall grass with palm trees and colourful tropical birds flying in the sky. Then some of the grass began to look really burnt in front of them. Before they could work out why, a great big green dragon appeared with great big wings and he was looking straight at them with his big fierce red eyes.

'Who dares enter my land?' he roared.

'We're only passing through, we're going to find the treasure on the other side of the island!' said Captain Bones bravely.

'You shall not pass -I shall barbeque you and eat you for my lunch – hot dogs - delicious!'

Captain Bones was a brave pirate and he decided that it was too wonderful a creature to kill so he got his secret weapon out – his tickling stick and he began to boldly tickle the dragon.

'Stop! Stop! I'll die laughing ..stop!' roared the dragon wriggling and laughing. 'You may pass...just stop tickling me!' So Captain Bones stopped tickling him and they marched on, following the map.

Meanwhile Captain Kit and his crew crossed a little river and started to climb a steep hill. At the top of the hill there was a great big castle. Then they heard a thunderous voice

'Who's that traipsing over my land – I'm going tae catch you and cook you and make you into a stew!' Then they saw a great big ogre coming towards them.

But Captain Kit was a brave pirate and he too had his secret weapon - his tickling stick and he started to tickle the ogre.

'Stop! Stop! I'm going to die laughing ..stop! Go on, go on, you can pass... just stop that tickling Jock!'

So Captain Kit and his crew marched on, following the map.

And so it was that both pirate crews reached the great big palm tree beside the cave where X marked the spot in the deep dark cave at the same time.

'Woof, ah harr!' said Captain Bones and his crew. 'Meow, ah harr!' said Captain Kit and his crew.

'We shall all go in together' said the two captains.

It was a dark and scary cave and as they went further and further into it, it got darker and darker. They were a little bit scared but tip-toed on until they saw a pile of earth where X was marked on the map. Quick as a flash Captain Kit winked at his men and they threw a net over Captain Bones and his crew.

'Woof, woof grrr!' they barked angrily, unable to get free.

'Meow – the treasure is all ours ah harr!' said Captain Kit

'Ah, harr - get out your spades and dig me hearties!'

They dug and they dug and they dug until they heard a clunk.

'Ah harr, it's the treasure me hearties!' said Captain Kit

'Woof, woof grrr!' barked Captain Bones and crew, struggling under the net.

Captain Kit lifted the treasure box and opened it up slowly and screamed.

'Arrrgh!! It's horrible, it's ghastly! Flee, run, run, back to the boat!' He dropped the chest and they ran away screaming.

Meanwhile Captain Bones and his crew got free from the net. Bravely Captain Bones picked up the treasure box and slowly opened it and said 'Whoopee! Treasure me hearties!' For in the chest was full of delicious bones which after all, are treasure for dogs. So they all had a party and celebrated and ate the treasure.

Meanwhile, as Captain Kit and his crew were running past the ogre's castle towards their boat, they heard a loud voice shout 'Get out of here you wee beasties, stop eating my cheese, come back with that sausage! If only someone would get rid of all these mice I would be so happy!'

At the sound of the word 'mice' the cats' ears pricked up. Captain Kit boldly knocked on the ogre's door

'Oh, you've come back to be my snack eh?'

'No! But we can get rid of your mice.'

'Oh well, I'll not eat you then – come away in!'

And the cats caught so many mice that the ogre had to carry piles of them to their boat. So the cats were happy because after all mice are treasure for cats and they too had a party and ate their treasure.

And Captain Bones and his crew 'Woof ah harr!' and Captain Kit and his crew 'Meow ah harr!' went on to have many more pirate adventures but they never forgot the adventures they had on treasure island.

Preparation

This tale involves participation and actions so prepare your group beforehand by dividing them into two crews, those of Captain Bones and those of Captain Kit. Choose one person to be the Captain of each crew. Practise saying either "Woof ah

harr” or “Meow ah harr” with each group which they say every time they hear their Captain being mentioned. You will need two copies of a treasure map to use during the story. You can either print the copy provided with the resources or you can create your own old map following the ‘How to create an old map’ instructions.

What you will need

Two treasure maps

A big feather or a feather duster

A big box

Socks

Optional – two pirate hats – one for Captain Bones, one for Captain Kit

Anne Pitcher
familypitcher@hotmail.co.uk