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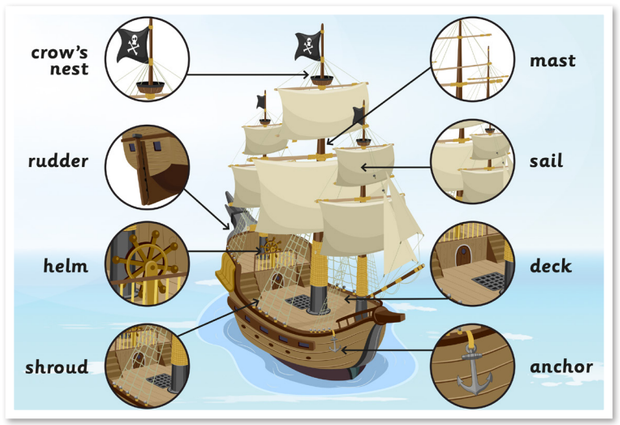
Land Ahoy!

UK seas and oceans

The United Kingdom has four seas and oceans around it. These are the North Sea, Irish Sea, Atlantic Ocean and English Channel. The English Channel is part of the Atlantic Ocean.

Boats and ships

There are many types of boats and ships. They can be different shapes or made from different materials. In the past, there were large, wooden ships called galleons. They were powered by the wind that blew into their huge sails.



Parts of a galleon

Pirates

The Golden Age of Piracy lasted between 1650 and 1730. Pirates were sailors who robbed other ships and stole their precious cargo.

Edward Teach (1680–1718)

Edward tied burning ribbons in his beard to scare his enemies. He was given the nickname Blackbeard. His ship was called *Queen Anne's Revenge*.

Bartholomew Roberts (1682–1722)

Bartholomew was given the nickname Black Bart as he was a tough, cruel fighter. He sailed a ship called the *Royal Fortune*.

Jack Rackham (1682–1720)

Jack was given the name Calico Jack because he wore bright clothes made from a material called calico. He sailed a ship called the *Ranger*.

Anne Bonny (1700–1782)

Anne was a strong, fearless female pirate. She sailed with Calico Jack and was given the nickname Anney.

The dangerous sea

Grace Darling

Grace Darling lived in a lighthouse with her family. In 1838, she risked her life to rescue the survivors from a ship that had been wrecked off the coast of Bamburgh, Northumberland.

Lighthouses

Lighthouses are used to guide ships to the shore and warn them about dangers. Many modern lighthouses have lights controlled by a computer. Others have people inside them to look after and operate the light.

The RNLI

The RNLI is a charity that was created in 1824. They provide a lifeboat search and rescue service and lifeguards at the coast. They also teach people about water safety. Over 8000 people are helped by the RNLI every year.

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Sea explorers' timeline

1271	Marco Polo was one of the first people to travel from Europe to China.
1492	Christopher Columbus sailed west to the Americas.
1498	Vasco da Gama was the first person to sail from Europe to India.
1577	Sir Francis Drake was the first person from England to sail around the world.
1578	Sir Walter Raleigh sailed to America and tried to set up a colony there.
1606	Willem Janszoon was the first European to land in Australia.
1607	Henry Hudson tried to find the 'Northwest Passage' between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
1769	Captain James Cook travelled to New Zealand.
1903	Roald Amundsen discovered the Northwest Passage that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
2005	Dame Ellen MacArthur sailed around the world alone in 71 days and set a new world record.

Captain James Cook

Captain James Cook was a famous English sea captain, navigator and explorer. He was born in 1728 and died in 1779. He joined the Royal Navy in 1755 and learned navigation and map drawing.

First voyage

In 1768, Captain Cook and his crew went to explore the Pacific Ocean and look at the planet Venus. They sailed a ship called the *Endeavour* and visited Tahiti, New Zealand and Australia.

Second voyage

In 1772, Captain Cook sailed on a ship called the *Resolution* with another ship called the *Adventure*. He visited Tahiti and New Zealand again. He sailed closer to Antarctica than anyone had been before.

Third voyage

In 1776, Captain Cook went on his final voyage. He sailed on the *Resolution* again and the *Discovery* travelled with him. He was looking for a route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. He visited the Hawaiian Islands, where he was killed.

Resolution and *Discovery* in the Pacific Ocean

Glossary

cargo	The goods that are carried by large types of transport, such as ships and aircraft.
coast	The place where the land meets the sea or ocean.
explorer	A person who travels to places where no one has been before to see what is there.
lifeboat	A specially made boat that is used to rescue people at sea.
lifeguard	A person who works at a beach or swimming pool and rescues people who are in danger in the water.
lighthouse	A tall tower, close to the shore, with a powerful light at the top that flashes to warn sailors about rocks and other dangers at sea.
navigator	A person who uses maps or special instruments to plan and direct the route of a ship, aircraft or other form of transport.
ocean	A very large area of sea. There are five oceans on our planet called the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern.

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