

## Pirate role play at nursery: activity guide

Role play is important to consolidate children's learning and implement the knowledge and skills you, as influential adults, teach them.

### Learning aims

- Expressing yourself through role-play
- Making and creating, using recycled materials.

### Resources

- Cardboard boxes of various sizes
- Cardboard tubes
- Crates, tyres, reels, planks
- Old sheets
- Paint and paintbrushes
- Dressing up clothes
- Jewels, gems, glass beads
- Baskets, boxes
- Newspaper
- Cardboard
- Any other items you may need to create a pirate ship and costumes.



### Activity Outline

- Talk to the children about pirates, what pirates do they know? They may watch Jake and the Neverland Pirates, so this may relate to the ideas they have
- What do the pirates live on? What do pirates look like? What do they talk like? Open a discussion to gain ideas for what resources the children would like to use, to make their items
- Use a floor map to mark down all the ideas the children think of and group them so you can see where the themes are
- Plan who is going to do what with the children and allow the children freedom to express their ideas
- Be around to support the creation of pirate ships, costumes and treasure chests to enhance their imaginative play
- Why not create your own treasure maps with tea-stained paper? Provide an example for the children to look at for ideas, but allow the children to use collage materials to make their own designs. They will need maps when they start to sail their ship!
- Talk about swords and guns in their play, using this theme will lead to children wanting to use these items. You can of course discourage this but children are likely to do this anyway.