



Brain Beats Music

Oh, I am a Pirate



Take a trip to the high seas and join the shanty with a band of pirates. Children cross their bodies making an X to mark the treasure and experience all the fun of being part of a pirate gang.

Learning Opportunities:

- Engaging with music.
- Encouraging participation with music
- Movement in space (proprioception)
- Crossing midlines
- Following instructions

Teaching Notes:

- Before playing the song, ask the children to share what they already know about pirates
- Show images of pirate ships, costumes and treasure and discuss them together.
- Talk about the meaning of "X marks the spot". Encourage them to make an X with their arms, and also with their legs.
- Have the children stand up and encourage them to follow the instructions of the captain as the song plays, including making an X with their arms or legs as the song directs.



Lyrics:

Oh, I am a pirate, sailing the seas.
Searching for a special chest that opens with a key.
And when I find some treasure, I'll hide it in the ground.
I'll mark it with an X to keep me booty safe and sound.

Put ye arms together, and shape 'em like an X.
That's where we dig for treasure, who knows what we'll find next.
Put ye legs together, and cross 'em like an X.
Singing yo ho ho, drop the sails and swab the decks.

Grab a mop and swab the deck. Keep it nice and clean.
Line the master, mend the sails. Don't fall down and scream.
And take the helm and steer the ship in search of sandy shores.
Grab an oar and row the boat to treasures, adventures galore.

Put ye arms together, and shape 'em like an X.
That's where we dig for treasure, who knows what we'll find next.
Put ye legs together, and cross 'em like an X.
Singing yo ho ho, drop the sails and swab the decks.

Drop the anchor overboard. We're safer in the bay.
Wind the crank to raise the sail, so we don't blow away.
And baton down the hatches, to keep our cargo dry.
We'll be off in no time under the clear, blue sky.

Put ye arms together, and shape 'em like an X.
That's where we dig for treasure, who knows what we'll find next.
Put ye legs together, and cross 'em like an X.
Singing yo ho ho, drop the sails and swab the decks.

Oh, he is a pirate, sailing the seas.
Searching for a special chest that opens with a key.
And when he finds his treasure, he'll hide it in the ground.
He'll mark it with an X to keep his booty safe and sound.

Put ye arms together, and shape 'em like an X.
That's where we dig for treasure, who knows what we'll find next.
Put ye legs together, and cross 'em like an X.
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Planning for Further Learning:

Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show children what a letter X looks like. Talk about how it was used to mark where to dig for treasure on maps. Make the letter X together in as many different ways that you can think of. Don't be restricted to just using pens and paper – write with sand, sticks, rope, your bodies, etc.• This song features words such as 'scallywags', 'booty', 'ye', and 'put yer back into it', which are no longer in common use. Discuss the meanings of these words and phrases. Consider the way language changes over time and with technology.
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about the geometry of sail shapes. How have they changed over time? Why do different sail shape suit different conditions.
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experiment with making sails that catch the wind like the sails on a pirate ship. Use paper bags with string attached, or pieces of cloth.• Observe the weather conditions and cloud patterns. How do we know if a storm is coming?
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although some pirates used maps and compasses, most were unable to read or count well enough to make use of these technologies. Provide compasses for the children to look at and explore. Show the children nautical maps, street maps and topographic maps etc. and compare their similarities and differences.
Social Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pirate ships had elected captains and codes of conduct that helped them to work together. Pirate captains were skilled leaders who had to balance firmness with fairness and make decisions that benefitted the whole crew. Discuss what rules you might expect if you were a band of pirates.
Health and PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pirates were known for being both proud of who they were and fearless of stormy seas. What are the children proud of about themselves. What are they fearful of? What helps them feel brave or courageous?
The Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compare pirate flags with other flags. How do we show our identity or give information using flags? Design a flag to represent yourselves.• Design and make telescopes, pirate hats, treasure chests and costumes together.• There's a sense of danger with piracy that is exciting and inspires imagination. The freedom to sail the oceans, exploring the world, and discovering buried treasure. Role-playing with pirate dress up lets children go on daring adventures full of thrills and mystery.

