

Mission Cheese - To Caerphilly and Beyond!



MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

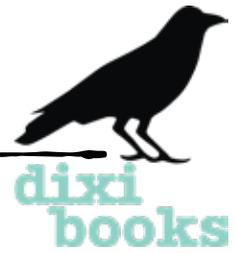
Introduction:

Pirates are popular and topical, and cheese is extremely delicious and educational. Put the two together and you have the perfect combination for fun with a universal appeal.

This story is aimed at pre-teenagers and young adults featuring the fictional / factual adventures of a band of pirates from Wales led by One-Fist Phillips who go around the world gathering a treasure trove of traditional well-known, or unusual weird cheeses. Each new country brings a new cheese and new adventure for the pirates. They are chased from beginning to end by Admiral Branston and the cruel Captain `Mad Dog` Monmouth.

It takes place in more than 20 different European countries, where readers will be exposed to cultural experiences connected with the fascinating social history of piracy and smuggling. The writer has inter-twined historical facts, myths, folk tales and legends of world literature: Hans Christian Andersen's Steadfast Tin Soldier; the Bremen town musicians; King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table; Mabinogi tales from Wales; the Spanish Armada La Girona shipwreck; Don Quixote; the Bayeux tapestry; Count Dracula; Alkmaar Cheese Festival; book and film locations etc and these snippets can be further explored by readers and teachers if they so desire.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

Teaching Materials:

These are literary resource materials which teachers can incorporate into study plans for schools. The writer has taught children and young adults within the target age group for more than twenty years, and trialled the activities with secondary school students in Murmansk.

Curriculum Subjects

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English, Science, History, Geography, PHSE, Mathematics, Music, Art, Design, Technology, Computing and Foreign Languages.



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TEACHING MATERIALS

Design Technology

 Design and make a new flag for the pirates.



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TEACHING MATERIALS

- ① Design a logo for an I Love Cheese / I Love Pirates fridge magnet.



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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Use junk modelling materials to make your own pirate ship.

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- Design and make traditional card games such as Snap, Happy Families, Donkey, Find the matching pair, Top Trumps etc using piracy or cheese as the themes.

- Think up a new type of beverage and logo with a name connected to pirates or smuggling.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Design and build a ship that can detect and defeat One-Fist Phillips and his crew.

- Design t-shirts with some of the piracy or cheese slogans from the list at the rear of this book, or invent your own.

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- Design and make a treasure chest to store cheeses.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- 1 Plan a treasure hunt around Europe / the rest of the world to find different cheeses by following clues.

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- 2 Create your own set of clues to help some friends find treasure hidden around your classroom/ school

- 3 Build a large-scale Battleships game consisting of different sized models of pirate, trader and navy ships, islands where there is cheesy treasure etc. then play the game.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Practice tying different types of sailing-related knots with ropes. Which work best in different situations?

- Create some models of monsters that the crew might encounter while at sea.

- What mythical creature would terrify you? (such as the Kraken, Medusa, Jabberwock etc). Invent your own and create a scary-theme for Halloween.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Watch part of the TV mini-series featuring Conor Woodman, *Around the world in eighty trades*. He gave up his job in London in 2008 and set off with 25,000 pounds which he intended to use to buy and sell things at a profit and fund his voyage around the world. What would students trade to do the same passing through different countries?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

English

- Look at the first page of the first Mission Cheese book – To Caerphilly And Beyond! What words, phrases and techniques are used to appeal to the reader to continue with the story? Can students predict what the adventure might be about.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

What were highwaymen? Do you know any famous ones? (Dick Turpin, Zorro, Robin Hood, The Three Musketeers...). Watch the YouTube video of Adam and the Ants singing Stand and Deliver as a good example of a fictitious highwayman.

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Pirates are usually described in negative terms, such as being 'baddies' or 'evil beasts'. Why might this be? Can you think of any positive words that might be used to describe them?

Read and discuss A Smugglers Song Poem (1906) by Rudyard Kipling.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

-  Discuss what 'crafty' means. Can you think of any famous historical figures that were crafty? What tricks might pirates use to trick their enemies in order to capture boats? (e.g. dressing up as women, pretending they were ill or injured, having problems with their boats...)

-  Imagine that you were friends with a pirate. What adventures might you like to have?

-  What do you think the really rough, tough pirates dream about when they are asleep?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Look at the back cover illustration of Mission Cheese – To Caerphilly And Beyond! showing One-Fist Phillips and the pirates being held hostage by the Casu Marzu bandits. What might be going through their minds?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Make a list of persuasive arguments to discourage the pirates from making their captives walk the plank.

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- Write a diary entry from the point of view of a pirate. What does he/she do each day? How does he/she feel about his/her profession?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Write a list of code of honour rules that pirates should agree to abide by, and a list of punishments if they disobey them. Examples include; swearing an allegiance oath on crossed cheese knives, keeping weapons ready to fight, sharing out the cheese fairly, no deserting, lights out at dusk, no betting, no fighting with each other...

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- Create a newspaper report about the theft of cheese by the pirates

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TEACHING MATERIALS

● Perform the Black Spot scene from Treasure Island. Look at using tension, fright, resignation of Blind Pew to make it as dramatic as possible. Ask students how they would feel if they were handed a Black Spot.

● Play traditional games about cheeses and piracy such as I-Spy, Who am I? (About specific pirates), Two Truths and a Lie (about pirates or cheeses), Battleships, What's my name? (about specific cheeses)

● Imagine you are a talk show host and the guests are One-Fist Phillips and Mad Dog Monmouth. What probing questions would you ask that the audience would love to hear? But remember to be tactful because Mad Dog can attack at any time when he gets angry!

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Learn about specific cheese days: January 20th Cheese Lovers Day; April 11th Cheese Fondue Day; April 12th Grilled Sandwich Day; June 1st British Cheese Week begins. June 4th National Cheese Day; July 25th Wine and Cheese Day; July 29th Lasagne Day; July 30th Cheesecake Day; October 9th Melted Cheese Day... What events usually happen?

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- Invent a new type of cheese and give it a great name. then pretend to be sales people and encourage people to try it and buy it.
- Invent a horrible combination menu featuring cheese, e.g. boiled cheese and cornflake dumplings.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Write a recipe for a meal that you like which has cheese as the main ingredient.

- Write instructions to teach someone how to make a simple meal such as cheese on toast.

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- Have a Mastermind competition about pirates and cheeses after giving topic to be studied to each contestant. They come back with their specialism they have revised and are placed on the hotspot and asked questions as in the BBC TV series.

- Read and discuss The Parable Poem (1898) by Arthur Conan Doyle.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Read and discuss the poem by Lord Byron – The Corsair (a romantic story about Conrad which was a commercial success and sold 10,000 copies on day of publication. It also inspired Giuseppe Verdi to write the opera Il Corsaro).

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- Write some activities (and answer sheets) such as; ten true or false questions about pirates and cheese; odd one out where students have to circle or underline the rogue word from four choices; match the words from Box A with their definitions in Box B; find all the pirate and cheese-related words hidden in a long piece of rope; write eighteen words in a box and students have to write them in the corresponding box below relating to Cheese, Piracy and Ship terminology.

- Can you think of questions you would like to ask the author if he came to visit your class?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

Geography

-  Research the effects of tides and the lunar calendar and seasons on the seas. What is the best or worst time for pirates to sail and attack other ships or evade capture?

-  Maritime piracy is still prevalent in certain parts of the world. Research and mark these areas on a global map. Why might this be? What cargoes are targeted for theft? What steps are governments / ship owners taking to minimise risk of such occurrences?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

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- Wales has a long history of smuggling and piracy-related incidents related to its rugged coastline. There is a walkable coastal path route that has a number of significant points on its route, such as Ynys Mon (Anglesey), Morfa Bychan beach and caves near Criccieth, and the islands of Lundy, Flat Holm and Sully. Visit the smuggling.co.uk website and see if you can discover anything interesting connecting pirates / smugglers including William Owen, John Lucas, John Callis, John Knight, Harri Morgan, John Evans and Howell Davis to places on the coast and why their local knowledge of land might have been beneficial to their activities.

- Look on a map to find the location of different cheeses made near where you live. Can you arrange a visit a cheese producer on a field trip?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

Disputes between governments and treasure hunters/explorers over shipwreck ownership when found in International waters have taken place for a long time. The main reasons given for leaving these nautical archaeological sites undisturbed are; to leave people buried inside the ships, and the modern-day ransacking of artefacts with lucrative treasure trove at today's prices. Robert Ballard and his company (Odysseymarine.com) found and explored Titanic in 1985. They are involved in the exploration to find the El Dorado of sunken ships: The San Jose Galleon, The Merchant Royal, Flor de la mar, Las Cinco Chagas and Nuestra Señora de Atocha. The Odyssey crew found Nuestra Señora de la Mercedes near Gibraltar and eventually recovered 594,000 minted gold and silver coins which are now on display at Cartagena Underwater Exploration Museum (Museoarqua.mcu.es). Investigate the history of some of the ships mentioned above and try and pinpoint their perceived locations when sunk.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

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- Imagine you are a treasure hunter / underwater explorer. Make a list of resources you would need to begin your quest to find a shipwreck. Helpful sources include: *Ships and Shipwrecks of the America's* by George. F. Bass, research papers by Professor Carla Rahn Phillips from the University of Minnesota, the *Mariners Mirror* journal, treasuresalovors.inc (Mel Fisher -USA), and explorers Jacques Cousteau famous French diver, Graham Hawkes the inventor of underwater remote operating vehicles, explorer Robert Stenuit and photographer Franck Goddo
 - Barry Clifford discovered the Whydah off the coast of Cape Cod and then claimed he had found the Adventure Galley (William Kidd's ship) off Madagascar and remains of Columbus's flagship The Santa Maria near Haiti but this has been disputed. Why might this be the case? Why might authorities be reluctant to accept treasure trove claims?

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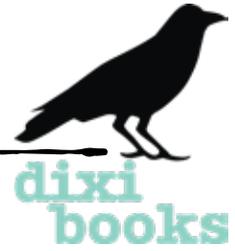
TEACHING MATERIALS

- Around the coasts of European countries where can you find shipwreck clusters from the 16th-19th centuries? What ships and important treasure artefacts etc have been found at these shipwreck sites?

History

-  Research famous pirates of the past, and their ships, real and invented, such as Blackbeard (Edward Teach (Eng), Sir Henry Morgan (Wales), Sir Francis Drake (Eng), Nicholas Brown (Eng), William Kidd (Scot), Edward England (Ire), John Ward (Eng), Anne Bonny (Ire), Mary Read (Eng), Black Bart / Barti Ddu - Bartholomew Roberts (Wales), Calico Jack – John Rackham (Eng), Madame Ching (China), Koxinga (China), Barbarossa Brothers (Arouj and Kheir-ed Din (Turkey), John Paul Jones (US), Francois L'olonnais (Fr), Juan Corso (Sp), Laurens Boudewijn Cornelius de Graff (NL), Michel de Grammont (Fr), Long John Silver, Captain Hook, Jack Sparrow etc. What made them infamous? How and why did they become pirates?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- What were/are the best ways for pirates to attack and capture other ships? How could this be prevented by the attacked ships? (What weather conditions are best? What direction is best to attack? (Frontal, from behind, pulling alongside etc.). What times of day? Locations?

- In what parts of the world were pirates most prevalent? From which countries did they originate? What goods did they steal? What happened to the treasure troves?

- Who were the main piracy protagonists, males or females? Why might this be? What was their average life expectancy?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

Discuss piracy from different viewpoints of age/class/gender and nationality.

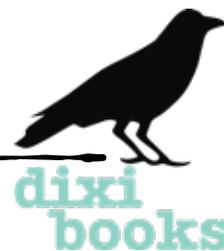
Was piracy ever legitimised or tolerated? Who authorised buccaneers to plunder ships?

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Elizabeth 1st of England addressed Sir Francis Drake as My Dear Pirate. Do you think she condoned or encouraged his seafaring activities?

Why did rich people in particular complain about the effects of piracy?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- How were wounds treated if pirates became injured when fighting enemies? What diseases were rife for pirates and how did they try and cure them? What happened to pirates when they died?

- How did pirates occupy their spare time to prevent boredom? (Playing cards, dominoes and dice, games such as darts, drinking beer and rum, dancing, singing, playing musical instruments...)

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- Research types of ships used by pirates and analyse which were the fastest, sturdiest, most stable and seaworthy, easy to manoeuvre in combat, most likely to sink/ life span of ships made from wood, iron, steel and modern materials etc. Was there a difference between preferred choices in different nations/centuries/ sea territories? Why might this have been?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

Find out all you can about John Paul Jones, who is acknowledged as the founder of the US Navy but was also a pirate/buccaneer/smuggler and his ghost is believed to haunt Caldy Island near Wales - One of his men was a lookout called Leekie Porridge! (Tenbymuseum.co.uk)

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What were the differences between Corsairs and Pirates, if any?

What did the pirates' main diet consist of? (Hardtack biscuits, Salmagundi salad (a hodgepodge of whatever ingredients the cook had available). Were these tasty considering that they could have been contaminated with weevils and maggots etc?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Research pirates, sailors and explorers from long ago, such as Vikings, Berbers, Romans, Greeks, Phoenicians, Carthaginians etc.
- Research the history and design of traditional pub names and signs in Britain. Here are some examples (a lot of which are still open and trading); Golden Hind (Sir Francis Drake's Galleon); The Noose and Gibbet (Sheffield); Smugglers rest; The ship and smuggler; The Jolly Sailor; The Old Ship/ Ship Inn; Admiral Benbow at Penzance; Jamaica Inn, Bolventor on Bodmin Moor; The Smugglers Den Inn, Cubert, Newquay; The Captain Kidd, Wapping; The Stein Inn, Isle of Skye; The Ship Inn, Saltburn, North Yorkshire; The Mermaid, Rye, East Sussex; The Captain's Wife, Penarth, South Wales; The Pilchard Inn, Burgh Island, Devon; The Jolly Sailor, Looe, Cornwall; The Mariners Tavern, Robin Hood's Bay; The Smugglers, Robin Hood's Bay; Hangman's / Strugglers; The last drop; The Highwayman, The Dick Turpin; Black Horse (after Turpin's horse Black Bess); Ye old Cheshire Cheese - built in Fleet Street 1667 (year after Great Fire) and visited by many famous writers over time; Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese, Castleton, Derbyshire; The Stilton Cheese Inn - Somerby Leicestershire, and Stilton in Peterborough. Can you find some more of your own?...

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Some of the earliest pirates to invade Britain were Vikings. Where did they come from? What did they take back to their home countries? What cultural heritage did they leave behind, especially in Yorkshire and the north of England?

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- Research the history of the annual Cooper's Hill Cheese Rolling event in Gloucestershire (cheese-rolling.co.uk) and look at other interesting cheese rituals and traditions such as La Ruzzula de Formaggio in Italy.

- Three thousand year- old crumbs similar to Kafir cheese were found on Chinese mummies in the Taklamaken Desert. This is reported to be the world's oldest cheese. What other old cheeses can students find out about?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Cheese comes in many shapes (bells, wheels, logs, spindles, rounds, slices, triangles, blocks, pyramids, wedges, in bowls, cones, novelty shapes (ships?) are there any known historical reasons for this? i.e. pressure to squash, storage, soften...)
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- Research famous explorers, navigators and adventurers, such as; John Cabot, Captain James Cook, Ferdinand Magellan, Amerigo Vespucci, Erik the Red, Christopher Columbus, Sir Walter Raleigh, Jacques Cousteau, Henry Hudson, Leif Eriksson, Thor Heyerdahl, Zheng He, Marco Polo, Charles Darwin, Hernan Cortes, Henry Morton Stanley, and fictional ones such as Captain Nemo, Jason and the Argonauts etc. What did they discover? Where did they travel to? Do a presentation about their deeds.
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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Research mythical monsters such as; Kelpie and the Loch Ness Monster, mermaids and sirens, Afanc, Poseidon/Neptune, Creature from the Black Lagoon, Kraken, Hydra, Jaws, Orca / Jonah and the whale / Moby Dick / Leviathan etc. When did they first become known? What scary attributes are they said to possess? Any truth in the legends or myths?

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- Research the fascinating historical connections between Oak Island Canada which is believed to contain Captain Kidd's treasure down an impenetrable tunnel with links to the Knights Templar Crusaders, Royston in Hertfordshire cave inscriptions dating from around 13th Century.
- What differences are there between the carbon footprints of 17th century ships and modern ones?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Research the use of trees cut down in ancient woodlands to build ships in 16-18th century. What effects did this have on the environment? Have they been replenished? What varieties of trees were most commonly used to fabricate ships, and why might this have been?
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- The world's oceans are more congested now than in the past. How do ships dispose of their wastes? Was it much different in the past? Look at the ways in which shipping companies recycle, re-use or reduce their waste and its impact on the environment.
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- Research different types of weapons and armaments: (daggers, swords, sabres, cannons and cannonballs, axes, blunderbuss, pistols, spikes...).

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Look at fictional castaways: Ben Gunn, Treasure Island, Robinson Crusoe (the true story of Alexander Selkirk, a buccaneer), Swiss Family Robinson, Jack Sparrow. What items would you like to have with you if you were marooned on a deserted island? What would be your plan of action to stand a good chance of being rescued?

Languages

- How would the pirates have been able to converse with people in the countries they visited if English was their only spoken language? Think of creative ways to overcome any language barriers, such as miming...
- Invent a new language between pirates or smugglers to help them carry out their profession and evade capture by the authorities.
- Find out how to ask for cheese in various languages.
- Navies have used flags and Morse Code for a long time as a means of sending and receiving messages. Look at the flags used and Morse Code system and write short messages down and then pass them to a partner to decode.

Maths

 On average it takes 10 litres of milk to make 1kg of cheese and a 3kg cheese can feed about 30 people. A cow produces approximately 25 litres a day, a sheep produces 4 litres and a goat 6 litres. If 500 guests were invited to a wedding, work out how many days it would take each type of animal to produce the amount of milk required to produce a sufficient number of 3kg wheels of each type of cheese to feed all the guests

 Do a class survey about cheese likes and dislikes, types of cheese students have tried or not tried yet and then compose various types of graphs to present the findings.

 Research the sizes and weights of different types of cheeses sold in the shops or on street markets.

 Do a grid reference treasure cheese map with ten questions about what things are contained in the squares.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

-  Look at the following websites; Londonstockexchange.com, Bonhams.com, christies.com and Sotheby's.com.
Conduct research into the share prices of companies listed on the stock market which supply the raw materials to make cheese, cheese producers, and also auction house sales of treasure trove sold at auction.

-  Imagine that you were given £1,000 in cash to purchase cheeses from a wholesaler and sell on to customers. Which cheeses would you buy with the cash in order to make the most profit? Look at sites such as cheeseunlimited.co.uk and smartfoodservice.com for wholesale prices.

-  Compare prices of cheeses in supermarket chains in different countries – For example, Norway, Russia, Spain, France, Poland, Armenia, USA, Argentina and UK.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- 40
- Imagine that you have one hundred pounds to spend. Find the cost of six 1kg identical or similar cheeses from some of the retailers' websites below and make a chart (or visit them in person to conduct your research if this is possible or convenient). Which retailers are the cheapest / most expensive? – (sainsburys.co.uk, morrison.com, tesco.com, asda.com, marksandspencers.com, lidl.co.uk, aldi.co.uk, iceland.co.uk, and a specialised cheese shop advertising on the net)
 - Using the information gained from the activity above, create a price list for a cheese shop. Estimate the cost price of the cheeses and how much customers might be prepared to pay. Look into the overheads that a business owner needs to pay; rent of premises, rates and taxes, electricity, salaries, wholesale cost of cheeses from suppliers, wastage, profit margins etc. How many customers per day do you think need to purchase cheese to make the business a success?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Do a chart of calories per 100g for different types of cheeses.

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- Look at the annual Coopers Hill cheese festival in Gloucester (cheese-rolling.co.uk) and establish who usually wins the race down the 1:3 gradient to the bottom, the human runners or the cheeses. Why might be this be? Does rain or inclement conditions ever affect the result?

Music

Listen to and discuss *The Turpin Hero* by Ewan MacColl. It recounts the tale of the highwayman Dick Turpin and his horse Black Bess and their epic ride from London to York

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Can you find and sing some traditional sea shanties? (A pirate went to sea, sea, sea etc.) – listen to shanties sung by groups such as The Chieftains, Dubliners, The Rambling Sailors, The Pogues, Flogging Murphys...

Could you compose your own pirate sea shanty?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Can you compose a new song for the pirates to sing while they are celebrating their capture of more cheesy treasure? (YouTube - I love cheese song by Bigdude 33, The Cheese Rap by Rhett and Link; Yo ho, yo ho a pirate's life for me theme from Pirates of the Caribbean).
- Listen to Big cheese by Nirvana. What does big cheese refer to in the context of this song?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Listen to Message in a bottle by The Police (also recorded by Thirty seconds to Mars) and study the meaning of the lyrics. What would students write in theirs? Imagine where it gets to and how, who finds and reads it? Look on sources such as Wikipedia for a list of famous examples.

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- What Should We Do with a Drunken Sailor? This is a traditional song. Can you think of any more punishments to add to the list?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

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- The pirates' manners were 'rough and rude'. Were all pirates uneducated and ill-mannered, dirty and unkempt? Can you make a list of good manners to help the pirates be more pleasant to others?

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- Play a game of pirate actions; walk the plank, climb the mast, hoist the sail, tie a knot, scrub the decks, man overboard, Captain's coming, Fire the cannon, Captain's wife (curtsey), Lookout for the navy! port, starboard, bow, astern, Land ahoy! Man the boats, swim to shore, catch a fish...
- How would students feel if one of their friends chose to follow an unusual career option such as a pirate? What would they say to them? Would they encourage or discourage it?

-  Discuss modern piracy; downloading books, software, music and films for free from internet, fake goods such as football shirts, trainers, bags, sunglasses, watches, even Colgate toothpaste! cigarettes, bootlegging of alcoholic hooch / moonshine, counterfeit drugs... Geographic danger areas - Somalia, South China Sea, Malacca Strait Indonesia, Red Sea, Indian Ocean. How high seas piracy is carried out (72% of ships attacked at anchor, rest on high sea); holding hostage and ransom of crew, links to organized crime, the use of automatic weapons and rocket launchers to attack ships. the estimated loss - 10.5 to 13 billion Euros per annum). What shipping companies are doing to protect their ships, crews and cargos (hiring security, but they are not allowed weapons aboard in international waters). Environmental pirates who attack whaling or seal culling vessels for moral means not for profit.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- What routine maintenance tasks would be regularly carried out by pirates while at sea, and which ones needed doing in a port or dry dock?

- What skills or professions were valued by pirate captains? (ability to read charts and sextants, good at close-combat fighting, excellent sea skills to understand currents, tides, weather, star constellations, carpentry, sewing to repair sails, medical skills, cooking ...).

- Nutrition and health – what types of cheese are beneficial for our health / have possible dangerous or negative side effects for some people?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Look at the different tools used to cut cheese: prong knife, chisel knife, twin-handled knife, narrow bladed knife, wide blade knife, cutter, wire, slicer, grater, spreader, cuber, curler, scraper, scoop, griole... Ask students which they have in their homes and do they know how to use them correctly?

- Explain the Morse Code S.O.S system and make up a short message about cheese and then pass it to another student to decode.

- Epoisses is banned on public vehicles in France. What other foods are banned on public transport? Why might this be?

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Play Hangman game with cheese or piracy themes
- Do some life-skills activities, such as finding recipes to make cheese-based meals and estimate quantities needed within a certain budget, go and buy ingredients, learn about personal health and hygiene and storage of ingredients, prepare and cook foods and eat together.
- What ingredients would students add to traditional cheeses to make them even tastier or different? E.g. the current trend for colouring additives to make them look more visually appealing; adding chilli to paneer to give it more of a 'kick'; cottage cheese and pineapple; garlic in Boursin; fruits into Stilton or Wenselydale etc.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- Mariners are quite superstitious due to the hazards they face at sea. In relation to sailing there are a number of omen that are believed to bring good or bad luck. Are they likely to have some factual basis or are they old wives' tales? The following lists some of the most well -known.
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- **Good luck omen:** spotting cormorants or dolphins; St. Elmo; tattoo talisman; pigs and hens can't swim, so god won't drown them; in 1543 Nicholas Copernicus the Polish astronomer discovered the relationship between the Earth and planets, especially the North Star which mariners use as a navigational aid; crossing the Equator – strange initiation ceremonies for first timers such as wearing clothes inside out or back to front.

- **Bad luck omen, taboos and portents:** naming ships ending in letter A; encountering a kraken; killing an albatross – as mentioned in the poem *The Ancient Mariner* written in 1797 by Samuel Coleridge; clapping hands brings thunder; whistling aboard (used as a sign by Fletcher Christian to start mutiny on the *Bounty* in 1792 where the mutineers killed Captain William Bligh); bringing bananas onboard ship; sharks circling ship as they are believed to smell death; having a ‘Jonah’ as a crew member; killing a seagull – the noise it makes is said to be voices of dead sailors; setting sail on a Friday or Thursday (Thor’s Day); red sky in morning, sailors’ warning; seeing sirens/mermaids – ballad of Sir Patrick Spens (fictional drowning off Norway where sailors were enticed by siren to the rocks); the number 13 – use 12+1 instead; throwing stones into the sea is a sign of disrespect; a portent of disaster if you step on board with left foot first; losing a hat overboard...

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TEACHING MATERIALS

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- Look at the differences between ancient navigation aids (stars, sextants, mapa mundi, plumb bobs) and modern gadgets that are used to plot and navigate courses, warn of potential dangers, help to dock and set sail safely etc.
- Ask students if they understand what are, and do they believe in, conspiracy theories; The Flying Dutchman ship, The Bermuda Triangle, Oak Island and the treasure of the Knights Templars are some examples.
- Imagine you are a famous film Director; decide which actors and actresses you would like to play the parts in a Mission Cheese story and explain why you want them instead of other people.

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TEACHING MATERIALS

- If you ever found treasure in the sea what would your first instincts be to do with it? And after you have had time to consider the matter, would you have changed your mind at all?

- Make up coded messages with small drawings or stickers and pass them around a class for next small group to decipher; A = Anchor, B = Barrel, C = cheese, D = Dai Galen, E = pistol, F = Jolly Roger flag, G = Dylan the kitten, H = hook, I = Ship's wheel, J = Blackpatch Jac, K = Branwen, L = tattoo, M = Mad Dog Monmouth, N = pirate hat, O = One-Fist Phillips, P = sword, Q = Admiral Branston, R = rum, S = ship, T = sword, U = treasure chest, V = Cai in a crow's nest, W = Cannon ball, X = Peg-leg Pete, Y = Telescope, Z = compass

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- How do you think family members feel when their loved ones set off to sea and leave them behind? How does their daily routine alter? What are their fears and preoccupations?

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- How might sailors overcome seasickness? Ask students if they ever been ill while sailing?
- Ask students for their opinions about the first great sea-bound migrations – the Mayflower taking pilgrims from Britain to America, the Mimosa taking Welsh people to set up a colony in Patagonia, and the current mass migration to Europe from African countries in rubber dinghies etc.

Science

- The pirates leave footprint trails in the sand and these are followed by Admiral Branston and his men. Can you find some shapes and sizes of footprints left by animals? How would you cover your tracks if you were a pirate or animal who was being followed?
-

- Look at the illustration of the Annwn. Can you design a ship that can carry a large weight without sinking? Can you investigate the best shapes / designs to safely hold the largest amount with cargo stacked as efficiently as possible?
 - What could be cooked in a ship's galley? How were food and drink (and sometimes human bodies) stored and preserved? What fresh provisions did pirates take with them or find en-route? (chickens, goats, sheep, fresh fruits and vegetables, fish, turtles, water, rum...)
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MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- What are the effects of melting different types of cheeses? Consistency, smell, taste, texture - stretchy, stringy, elastic, pungency, smooth, runny etc)

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- A number of processed cheese snacks contain additives and flavourings, among them are; Cheetos, Wotsits, Quavers, Cheese and Onion flavour crisps, Cheddars, Ritz, Dairylea Dunkers and Dairylea Cheese strings. Look through the ingredients on each packet and see if you can establish any patterns as to what type of artificial ingredients are contained within them. Also, investigate their calorific values and any potential positive or negative health benefits.
- Research how different types of cheese are made and stored.

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- Airag cheese from Mongolia is fermented by hanging in a bag and tied to horse saddle or left next to entrance to the yurt/ger door so movement agitates it. How easy or difficult is it for nomads to produce cheese on the move?

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- Do an experiment by leaving different types of cheese in the open air and recording what happens as they decompose due to mould.
- Research experimental cheeses which aren't yet in mass production, such as Canadian lichen cheese made from caribou's stomach, or Italian Casu Marzu which contains live maggots. What are the risks of quality control/ to public health? How can these problems be overcome by producers?

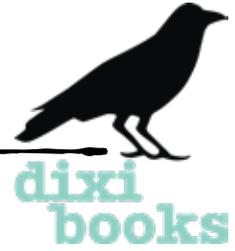
MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- ① Make up a cheese platter and get blindfolded students to taste the samples and try and guess what the cheeses are.
- ① Do an experiment with different cheeses to test how they float or sink; measure how long they float or the time taken to sink in liquids of different densities, to what depth they sink, from what milk these cheeses were made etc.
- ① What breeds of cow, sheep and goat produce best quality milk to make specific cheeses? Is raw milk better than pasteurised milk for making cheese? Why might this be?

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- Look at pairing a combination of cheeses with drinks to make the best cheese board. What effect do certain cheeses and drinks have on the taste buds to give the most pleasurable experience? i.e. blue cheeses and port, cheeses with crackers and chutneys, nuts and fruit and chocolates, certain alcoholic drinks such as beers, ciders, red and white wines, cava etc. Are there any combinations that definitely will not go together?

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- Think about the different materials that are used to make sailing ships. Why don't we make them with other materials? (e.g. aluminium foil, nylon, wool, lead)

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- Make a folded paper boat and float it on a stretch of water in a similar fashion to Pooh Sticks and race on a short stretch of river, canal or stream – look at the currents. Where is the water fastest, slowest, most dangerous, most turbulent etc? Why might this be? Do the seasons affect the times and results?

- What woods are ideal for making sailing boats? Look at strength and durability, floatation, stability, leakage, maintenance, availability of sufficient trees etc.

- Make smell boxes of spices and other valuable commodities that were traded - tobacco, cinnamon, cloves, black pepper, sugar, tea, coffee, vanilla, rum, brandy etc.

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- Can you make some tasty ship's biscuits at school or home and bring them along to a lesson for others to try? What ingredients make them tastier? Why were hardtack biscuits a staple food onboard sailing ships?

Art

- Draw a new pirate outfit for Peg-leg Pete to make him look more fearsome.
- Create a Wanted poster to help catch the pirates. Who might want them caught? Why?

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

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-  Make finger or shadow puppets, invent and tell a pirate story in 99 words or less using your characters.
-  Create and make a tactile picture of another pirate / naval seaman or woman or baddie who you might like to appear in the stories.
-  Design a new flag for the pirate ship.
-  Look at the work of Sarah Kaufmann – a professional cheese sculptor. Sarahcheeselady.com
-  Look at examples of cheese in Art: Clara Peeter - still life with cheese, almonds and pretzels (gouda); Pieter Claesz - basket of cheese; Floris Van Dijk - stack of cheese; Salvador Dali - persistence of memory (clocks based on runny camembert); Mona Hatoum - grater divide; Christian Furr...
-  Look at the illustrations on the first two pages of the story. Can you create your own pictures to show what the places look like in different seasons or climatic conditions?

Computing

-  Design a pirate-themed attraction park.
-  Make a short animation clip of a pirate ship sailing on a stormy sea.
-  Use art software to create an illustration of a fearsome pirate.
-  Design a pirate-themed game in which a group of pirates have to find different cheesy treasure.
-  Use a painting programme to draw a picture of a pirate / ship / cheese-filled treasure chest.
-  Use art software to design a cheese menu for One-Fist Phillip's restaurant.

MISSION CHEESE



TEACHING MATERIALS

- Create an imaginary ocean by placing pictures or models of an island / pirate ships on the floor. Now, can you programme a robot to travel around without crashing into the objects?

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- Write coded messages using flags and send via an email or messenger service to classmates.



Fact.

Some cheeses make you dream.
So, the more cheese you eat,
the more dreams you can have, no?
And what could be better than dreaming
about a life on the high seas
stealing scrummy cheeses?

Aaargh we be pirates!

