

**IT'S A FACT!**

Real-Life  
Reads

The Life of a Caribbean  
**PIRATE**



by Ruth Owen

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The Life of a Caribbean  
**PIRATE**

by Ruth Owen

**Series consultant:**

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Recipient, Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching

Ruby Tuesday Books



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# The Black Flag

The year is 1700. It's a hot afternoon on a calm sea. A **merchant ship** loaded with treasure is heading for Spain from the Caribbean Sea.

Suddenly, the ship's lookout sees something in the distance. Is it another merchant ship? Or is it a ship carrying a crew of men who will fight, torture, and murder to get their hands on treasure?



That question is soon answered.  
The distant ship raises a black flag.  
Pirates!

The large, heavy merchant ship tries  
to escape, but it is doomed. It will never  
outrun the sleek, fast pirate ship....

# The Lure of the Americas

Pirates have sailed the world's oceans for thousands of years.

For around 300 years, large numbers of pirates terrorized ships in the Caribbean. They also hunted for merchant ships around the coasts of North and South America.

Pirates became interested in the Americas in the early 1500s. At this time, explorers sailed from Europe to South America and the islands of the Caribbean. These explorers found vast quantities of gold and jewels in Peru. In Bolivia, they discovered a mountain that contained enormous amounts of silver. The explorers worked for the Spanish royal family, so they claimed the land and its treasures for Spain.





**NORTH  
AMERICA**

Atlantic  
Ocean

Pacific Ocean

Caribbean Islands

**SOUTH  
AMERICA**

Peru

Bolivia

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## Read More

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## Learn More Online

To learn more about pirates, go to  
[www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/pirate](http://www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/pirate)

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# The Life of a Caribbean **PIRATE**

It is the year 1700. The Caribbean is a very dangerous place. Pirates sail the warm waters hunting for ships loaded with treasure. Armed with pistols and swords, the pirates are ruthless. They will stop at nothing to satisfy their greed for jewels, silver, and gold.

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