



# The Curse of the Black Shell



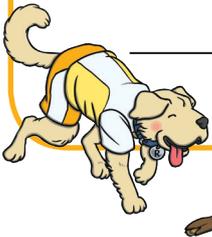
The pirates had landed on the beach just after 12 o'clock. The weather was hot. They had not had fresh water to drink for days and food was running low. Captain Jones had ordered the pirates to begin digging up the sand. He was searching for a chest full of buried treasure.

**Q1:** What was the weather like on the beach?

Tick **one**.

cold  hot   
rainy  cloudy

**Q2:** What were the pirates looking for?



After hours of digging, Jack the cabin boy hit something hard with his spade. He scooped away the sand with his hands until he could see an old, wooden treasure chest.

“Captain Jones, I’ve found it!” shouted Jack with joy.

All of the pirates on the beach ran over and made a circle around Jack and the chest.

“Open it, boy,” shouted Captain Jones.

**Q3:** Q3: What did Jack the cabin boy use to dig with?

**Circle** two answers.

his hands

a shovel

a spoon

a bucket

a spade



**Q4:** Find and copy **two** words which describe the treasure chest.

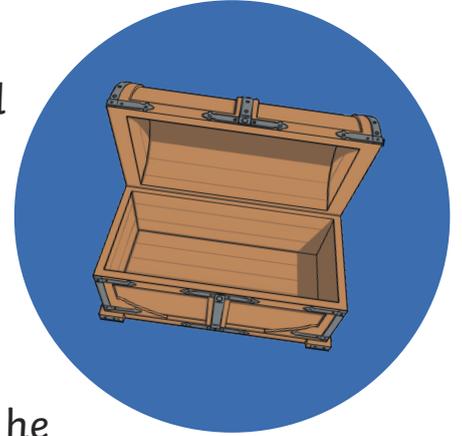


Jack the Cabin Boy tugged and tugged until the lid finally came loose. As he began to open it, a cloud of glittering grey smoke came out of the box.

“What is that?” asked Captain Jones, covering his mouth and coughing.

Jack leaned in for a closer look. As he got closer, he listened carefully and he could hear a quiet, evil laugh.

“It’s a curse!” cried Jack.



**Q5:** Was the lid easy to open?

Yes

No

How do you know?

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**Q6:** What do you think that Captain Jones and Jack the cabin boy will do next?

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# The Curse of the Black Shell Answers

**Q1:** What was the weather like on the beach? Tick **one** answer.

- cold  hot   
rainy  cloudy

**Q2:** What were the pirates looking for?

**Accept the following answers only:**

- a treasure chest
- a chest full of buried treasure.

**Q3:** What did Jack the cabin boy use to dig with? Circle **two** answers

his hands   a shovel   a spoon   a bucket    a spade

**Q4:** Find and copy **two** words which describe the treasure chest.

**Accept 'old' and 'wooden' only.**

**Q5:** Was the lid easy to open?

Yes  No

How do you know?

**Accept answers which relate to the text, such as the following:**

- It wasn't easy because Jack had to tug and tug on it.
- It says the lid 'finally' came loose which means it took a long time to open.

**Q6:** What do you think that Captain Jones and Jack the cabin boy will do next?

**Accept any reasonable predictions based on the text, such as:**

- **The pirates will leave the chest and run away.**
- **All of the pirates might run away except Captain Jones because he is greedy.**
- **Strange things might start to happen because of the curse.**
- **A genie might appear from the treasure chest.**