



Seaside News



Pirates Come to the Outer Banks!



Pirates came to the Outer Banks for many reasons. The islands were a good place to hide. In the late 1600s there were few people living here. There also was little form of government. Pirates walked freely among the people.

Because pirates felt safe, they chose the area to make repairs on their boats. They scraped the bottom where barnacles formed. Barnacles slowed down ships. Fast ships helped pirates escape quickly.

The Gulf Stream is off the Outer Banks. It moves fast. Sailors came from far away to catch a ride on the stream. It made their trip quicker. This busy shipping lane attracted pirates. There were lots of ships to rob.

The coastal area had shallow water. The water was filled with sandbars. Pirates used boats that could sail through the shallow water. They sailed out to deeper water to rob ships. Then they sailed back to their island hideout. The larger ships they robbed could not follow them. They would get stuck in the shallow water and on sand bars.

The people did not always mind the pirates being on the Outer Banks. Trade was not as busy here as it was in other places. The islanders liked having the things the pirates brought to sell. They also liked the money they spent.

In 1718, a lot of pirates came to the North Carolina coast. They were kicked out of the Bahamas and other areas. This was done under orders of the king of England.

The pirate Blackbeard hid on Ocracoke Island. In late 1718 he was killed when the governor of South Carolina sent war ships to arrest him and his crew. Blackbeard was killed in battle at Ocracoke Island. (Source: The Carolina Pirates and Colonial Commerce, Shirley Carter Hughson)

WORD SEARCH

Pirates of the Outer Banks

C	G	O	V	E	R	N	O	R	R	S	E	L	L
E	N	G	L	A	N	D	I	M	O	N	E	Y	O
E	O	U	T	E	R	B	A	N	K	S	R	S	E
K	L	E	T	U	O	E	D	I	H	C	R	E	W
O	S	H	A	L	L	O	W	O	E	L	T	O	R
C	R	R	T	D	P	I	R	A	T	E	S	S	B
A	A	L	K	B	A	H	A	M	A	S	E	E	B
R	B	N	I	H	D	R	R	U	A	O	R	A	L
C	D	E	N	O	S	E	L	C	A	N	R	A	B
O	N	Y	G	C	S	E	N	E	S	C	A	P	E
E	A	M	S	G	U	L	F	S	T	R	E	A	M
P	S	S	D	R	P	E	D	E	L	L	I	K	A
S	R	O	L	I	A	S	H	L	T	R	A	D	E
S	H	I	P	P	I	N	G	S	H	I	P	S	O

- OUTER BANKS
- KILLED
- SAILORS
- GULF STREAM
- ROB
- ESCAPE
- KING
- SHIPS
- ARREST
- BAHAMAS
- HIDEOUT
- OCRACOKE
- SELL
- CREW
- SHALLOW
- GOVERNOR
- PIRATES
- TRADE
- ENGLAND
- MONEY
- SHIPPING
- BARNACLES
- SANDBARS

Questions

1. Who was killed in battle at Ocracoke?
2. Why did pirates come to the Outer Banks?
3. What made sailing Outer Banks waters difficult?
4. Why did pirates scrape the bottom of their boats?
5. Who ordered pirates to be kicked out of the Bahamas?

5. The king of England.

4. They had to scrape off barnacles that slowed them down.

3. Boats could get stranded on sandbars in shallow water.

2. Because the Outer Banks made for a good hideaway.

1. Blackbeard

Answers

JOKE OF THE MONTH



Why do fish like to eat worms?

Because they get hooked on them!

