

Jake's First Day

Jake was in his pyjamas, playing with his favourite toys.

“Come on, Jake,” said Mum. “It’s your first day and you need to get ready.”

“I don’t think I want to go,” said Jake. “I think I’ll just stay at home today and carry on playing.”

His sister, Holly, laughed. “You can’t stay here, Jake. You have to go to school.”

Holly, Jake and Dad made their way to school.

“But who will I play with?” asked Jake. “Who’s going to help me? What if I have to do really hard work? Will I have to go into the big playground? What about all of the big children in the dinner hall? What about –”

“Trust me,” said Holly. “It’s going to be a great first day.” Holly hugged Jake and went off to her new classroom, excited to be back at school.



Dad took Jake to his new classroom. Jake was sure he’d rather be at home in his pyjamas.

“Here we are,” said Dad. “Say hello to your new teacher.”

Jake frowned.

Miss Fox gave Jake a big smile. “Ah. You must be Jake, our new shipmate.”

“New what?” asked Jake.

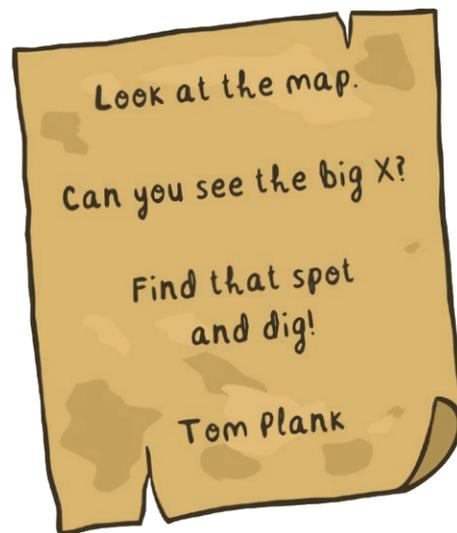
“We need another pirate like you on board,” she said. “Welcome. I’m Captain Fox.”



The pirates all gathered together to listen to their captain.

“We’ve received a message in a bottle,” said Captain Fox. “I need your help to read it and work out what it says.”

Captain Fox and the pirates worked as a team to read the letter together.



Captain Fox pulled the map from the bottle and showed the pirates.

“I think we need to go over there first,” suggested Jaya.

Together, the pirates followed the path, over mountains, through quicksand and between the palm trees.

Finally, they found the spot marked on the map. So, they dug and dug until they found a wooden chest.



“Good work, mateys,” said Captain Fox. “Let’s get this loot back to the ship and then it’s time for a break. I think you’ve earned some fish and chips!”

Together, the pirates made their way to the lower deck, where lots of other hungry pirates had gathered. After waiting in line, Jake was given a tray of hot food. As he turned around, wondering where to sit, he found himself face to face with a huge stranger.

“Here’s your cutlery,” said the enormous pirate. “Make sure you get yourself a nice drink of water too.”

“Phew! I mean, thanks,” said Jake.

“Sit here!” called Darnell.

Jake smiled and joined him.

“Isn’t this the yummiest food ever?” said Darnell. “I love fish. And I love chips.

But my favourite is fish and chips. Do you like fish? Or do you prefer chips? I think...”

Jake chewed his food, smiling and nodding as his new friend chatted away.

Once they’d finished eating, Hani appeared. “I bet you can’t get across the sea without being eaten by crocodiles,” she said.

“I bet we can!” replied Jake and Darnell.

They made their way off their ship and outside.

“You have to get from here, all the way across, without any crocodiles catching you,” said Hani. “Ready, steady, go!”

The pirates carefully raced across the sea, trying to avoid the crocodiles.

Just then, Captain Fox appeared, ringing a loud bell. “All pirates back on board, please. We need to work out how much treasure we have!”



Each pirate helped to count the coins, the rings, the diamonds and the necklaces. They counted again to double-check.

“1, 2, 3, 4...” counted Jake, making sure he got it right.

“10 gold coins, 5 rings, 8 diamonds and 7 necklaces,” said Captain Fox. “Amazing counting, everyone. Now, let’s get everything shipshape!”

Everyone tidied and swept, scrubbed and cleaned, making sure everything was in the right place.

Once the ship was spick and span, Captain Fox told all of the pirates to collect their things and prepare for land.

“What an amazing first day we’ve had!” said Miss Fox. “We’ve done some excellent reading, we’ve followed a map, we’ve been in the dinner hall and the big playground for the first time and we’ve even managed to find and count some treasure!”

Before Jake knew it, it was time to go home. Waiting at the door were Mum and Holly.

“So, how was your first day?” asked Mum.

“It was a real adventure!” said Jake. “I can’t wait for my second day.”



Questions

1. What is the name of the boy in the story? Tick one.
 - James
 - Jake
 - Jack
2. Where was Jake nervous about going? Tick one.
 - to school
 - to the park
 - to the shops
3. Who was Jake's teacher pretending to be? Tick one.
 - a dragon
 - a pirate captain
 - a fairy
4. What did Jake and his friends eat for lunch? Tick one.
 - pizza
 - chicken and chips
 - fish and chips
5. What did Jake say about his first day at school? Tick one.
 - He said it was a real adventure.
 - He said it was boring.
 - He said that he didn't want to go back.

Answers

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- He said that he didn't want to go back.

Questions

1. What was special about Jake's day? Tick one.

- He was going to the park.
- He was allowed to stay at home.
- It was his first day at school.

2. Who said that Jake couldn't stay at home? Tick one.

- his sister
- his teacher
- his dad

3. Write one thing that Jake was worried about on his way to school.

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

"We need another pirate ●	● "adventure!"
"It's going to be a ●	● "like you on board."
"It was a real ●	● "great first day."

5. Complete this sentence.

"Now, let's get everything _____."

tidy shipshape put away

Answers

1. What was special about Jake's day? Tick one.

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2. Who said that Jake couldn't stay at home? Tick one.

- his sister**
- his teacher
- his dad

3. Write one thing that Jake was worried about on his way to school.

Answers to include one of the following: who would play with him, who would help him, having to do hard work, going into the big playground and about the big children in the dinner hall.

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

"We need another pirate	adventure!"
"It's going to be a	like you on board."
"It was a real	great first day."

5. Complete this sentence.

"Now, let's get everything **shipshape** ."

Questions

1. How did Jake feel about his first day at school? Tick one.

- He didn't want to go.
- He was really excited.
- He wasn't sure how he felt.

2. What did Holly say to make Jake feel better?

3. Find three verbs which describe what the pirates were doing during their adventure. Example: dug

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

4. Write the numbers 1 to 5 in the boxes to order the activities Jake and the other children did on their first day.

Tidied, swept, scrubbed and cleaned the ship.	
Read the message in the bottle.	
Had fish and chips for lunch.	
Followed a map over mountains, through quicksand and between palm trees.	
Counted the treasure.	

5. How did Jake feel at the end of his first day at school?

6. What do you think Jake might say to someone who is worried about starting school now that he's experienced his first day?

Answers

1. How did Jake feel about his first day at school? Tick one.

- He didn't want to go.**
- He was really excited.
- He wasn't sure how he felt.

2. What did Holly say to make Jake feel better?

Holly told Jake that he would have a great first day. She gave him a hug.

3. Find three verbs which describe what the pirates were doing during their adventure. Example: dug

Answers may include: gathered, worked, pulled, followed, found, dug, sit, get, chewed, chatted, raced, count, tidied, swept, scrubbed and cleaned.

4. Write the numbers 1 to 5 in the boxes to order the activities Jake and the other children did on their first day.

Tidied, swept, scrubbed and cleaned the ship.	5
Read the message in the bottle.	1
Had fish and chips for lunch.	3
Followed a map over mountains, through quicksand and between palm trees.	2
Counted the treasure.	4

5. How did Jake feel at the end of his first day at school?

Answers may include: feeling excited, happy, couldn't wait to go back, like he'd had a real adventure.

6. What do you think Jake might say to someone who is worried about starting school now that he's experienced his first day?

Answers will vary but may include reference to Jake also being worried to begin with but then realising that there are lots of fun things at school and you can make lots of new friends.