

SUPPORTING KIDS'
BRAIN CANCER
RESEARCH SINCE 2015

**PIRATE
DAY**

**Step by step guide to running
a successful Pirate Day at your school.**

suitable for
K-6

Thank you for registering your school to participate in Pirate Day. We hope everyone enjoys dressing up and having fun despite the seriousness of childhood brain cancer.

What to do:

1. **Download and display the poster.** You'll find this at pirateday.com.au/resources.
2. **Newsletter.** Tell parents about Pirate Day in the school newsletter. Maybe they'll join in the fun too.
3. **Dress up!** Even teachers can get involved by wearing stripes and an eye patch.
4. **Collect treasure.** In this case, a gold coin donation from everyone one who participates. Funds raised go towards childhood brain cancer research.
5. **Choose an activity.** Do something fun that reinforces why everyone is dressed as a pirate on the day. You'll find a bunch of ideas linked to the Australian Curriculum by age group at pirateday.com.au/resources
6. **HAVE FUN!** Thank you for bringing attention to, and raising money for, childhood brain cancer research.

Here are some important things to know about childhood cancer

- Cancer kills more children in Australia than any other disease. Brain cancer is the most serious of all the different cancer types.
- You can't catch cancer. It's not like a cold.
- The treatment given to kids affects their bodies inside and out. They might lose their hair, but they are still themselves, so we shouldn't be afraid of being their friend.
- Cancer is a disease. It can make people feel sad and angry. We should talk about how we feel when someone we know has cancer. Talk to someone you trust if you are feeling upset, worried or sad.
- We are smart. Doctors, scientists and researchers are working to find better treatments and a cure for all childhood cancers, including brain cancer.
- Everyone can do something to help. Even small things like carrying your friend's books if they aren't feeling well. Or send a card or goody bag when they're in hospital so they know you're thinking of them.

What doctors, scientists and researchers are doing

All over Australia medical professionals such as doctors, scientists and researchers are working hard to learn more about cancer so that they can find better treatments to help children with the disease get better quicker with no nasty side effects.

Why we need your help

Government funding for medical research only stretches so far. By participating in Pirate Day you are helping provide much needed funds for research. The two charities, The Kids' Cancer Project and The Pirate Ship Foundation who collaboratively run Pirate Day, will allocate money raised to brain cancer research projects. In 2020 funds raised will go toward a study lead by Associate Professor Joshua McCarroll at the Children's Cancer Institute, Sydney. His team are working with state-of-the-art nanomedicines designed to cross the blood-brain-barrier, inhibiting a gene which plays an important role in regulating chemosensitivity without causing toxicity to non-tumour cells. If successful, this new therapeutic strategy has the potential to increase survival and quality of life for children diagnosed with all types of brain cancer.

Everyone can help

We've learned that awareness leads to fundraising, which leads to more scientists able to search for better treatments and a cure. So when you unleash your inner scallywag, you're helping in two important ways.

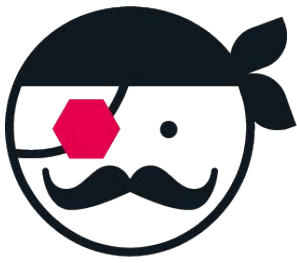
We wish you every success for this fun and informative day.

Funds raised through Pirate Day go toward childhood brain cancer research through The Kids' Cancer Project.

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Science. Solutions. Survival.



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**PIRATE
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**Lesson Plan:
Year 3 to Year 4**

suitable
for
YEARS
3-4

Pirate Day is an engaging way for students of all ages to learn valuable lessons about social awareness, teamwork, leadership and diversity. Here are some suggested ways you can incorporate these lessons into your classroom - choose one, two or all three!

Lesson 1: Understanding and compassion

Feelings Charades

Task: Talk to the class about the importance of recognizing other people's feelings. Ask students how they can tell if someone is feeling sick, sad, frustrated etc. Point out how body language and facial expressions give clues. Have students call out different emotions as you write them on the board. Invite a student to the front to act out in silence a feeling listed. As soon as the class correctly guesses, invite another student to choose another word and repeat.

Lesson recap: Understanding how another person is feeling is called empathy. Help students understand that it can be hard to know what other people are truly feeling, particularly if they are unwell or experiencing more than one emotion at the same time. Encourage students not to jump to conclusions. We can make educated guesses (like during the game), but it's only by talking that we really know how someone is feeling. Remind students that it's okay if someone doesn't want to talk and that it's important to be respectful. Empathy shows we care about someone.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Recognise Emotions, an SEL self-awareness element.*

Lesson 2: Initiative

Treasure Hunt

Task: Have students pair up – one must be a captain, the other a crew member. Each captain must choose a piece of 'treasure' to hide outside for the crew member to find. Keep it simple ie: all captains will hide their treasure in different spots of the oval or quadrangle. Blindfolded crew are led outside and lined up in front of their captain, who must call out instructions to guide their crew member to the 'treasure'.

Lesson recap: Have students understand the difficulties of individuals all looking for different things at one time without a leader. Would it have been more efficient for one person to put the treasure outside and direct everyone? Help them understand anyone can be a leader and it doesn't always have to be someone more powerful or bigger than themselves – they can be a leader too. Write a pros and cons list of having a leader if there is extra time. Additionally, emphasize how hard a simple activity can be without sight. Vision loss is a side effect of brain and other cancers.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Develop Leadership Skills, an SEL social-management element.*
Also *Teamwork and Leadership, an HPE Learning through movement sub-strand.*

Lesson 3: Warmth in our community.

Salt 'n' Pepper

Task: Pair students up and ask them to write anything that comes in pairs on two separate pieces of paper eg: Paper 1 = salt, paper 2 = pepper. Collect all the papers from students and ask them to line up with their backs facing you. Mix the papers up and stick one paper on each student's back. Students then need to walk around the room asking questions with 'yes' / 'no' answers to help them figure out what they have on their back. Once they know, they need to find their mate. *Tip: If you end up with an odd number, have three students make up a traffic light with Yellow Light, Green Light, Red Light.*

Lesson recap: Explain to students that while everyone is different, they all belong in a community. While the activity was focused on pairs, did some students help others find their mate? You could play the game again looking at how quickly pairs can be united when everyone helps each other.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Work Collaboratively, an SEL social-management element.*

End of day recap

Thought starters for a class discussion at the end of the day:

- What have they learned today about empathy, leadership and community spirit?
- What will they do differently when they are faced with someone who has cancer?
- Create a list of how they might help someone who has cancer.

Teacher note: *Reviewing each lesson links to Develop Reflective Practice, an SEL self-awareness element.*

THANK YOU!

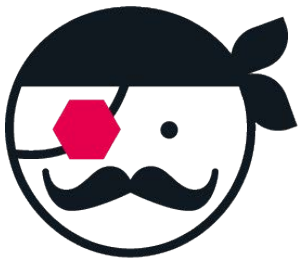
We appreciate that as a teacher there is so much you need to get through each day. Thank you for taking time out to plan, host and facilitate activities to enrich your students' understanding of childhood cancer.

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Activity Sheet: Pirate jokes

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YEARS
3-4

Childhood brain cancer is no laughing matter, but then again, they do say laughter is the best medicine. Here are some of our favourite jokes to celebrate Pirate Day. Do you know any others?

What do pirates learn at school?

The three arrrrrghs!

How do pirates afford their clothes?

They only buy on sail.

Why did the two pirates argue?

They didn't see aye to aye.

Why are pirates such great singers?

They can all hit the high c's!

What did the pirate say on his 80th birthday?

Aye matey!

Why are pirates called pirates?

They just arghhhh....

How do pirates stay flexible?

They go to pilarrrrties and yogarrrrrrgh!

How do pirates like to cook?

On the barrrrrrbeque.

Why didn't the pirates play cards?

Because they were standing on the deck.

What did the pirate say when he went to the snow?

Shiver me timbers!

What is a pirate's favourite chocolate?

Bounty.

Why did the pirate shove gold down his shirt?

So he could have a treasure chest.

Why do pirates have bad eyes?

All this time, they thought "parrots" were good for eyesight.

What did the pirate magician say when he pulled a parrot out of his hat?

Tah-daaarrrrrghh!!

