

Did you know?

- Oceans cover 70% of the Earth's surface.
- The main difference between a boat and a ship is that boats are designed for rivers and ships are designed for seas and oceans.
- The RNLI is a charity that saves lives at sea. The lifeboat crews are mainly made up of volunteers.
- Grace Darling was born in 1815 at Bamburgh, Northumberland. Her father was a lighthouse keeper on the Farne Islands.
- On 7th September, 1838, Grace Darling and her father risked their lives rowing a tiny boat across a dangerous, stormy sea to rescue the survivors of a shipwreck marooned on a rock. True heroes!
- Anne Bonny and Mary Read were famous female pirates. They had to disguise themselves as men to be allowed on board, as pirates believed that having women around brought bad luck when at sea!
- Some famous pirates from the 'Golden Age of Piracy' include Blackbeard, 'Calico Jack' Rackham and Bartholomew Roberts.
- In the 18th century, British navigator and explorer, James Cook, sailed and mapped much of the south Pacific Ocean whilst aboard his ship, HMS *Endeavour*.
- The upward force exerted by water on an immersed object is called 'upthrust' or 'buoyancy'. The downward force of gravity acts against this.
- Sir Frances Drake was the first Englishman to sail around the world. It took him three years!
- Sailing has been an Olympic Sport since 1896. Britain's Ben Ainslie is the most successful sailor in Olympic history!
- Lighthouses are towers or buildings designed to guide ships away from dangerous coastlines or provide safe entry to harbours. They are often brightly painted so that they are also recognisable landmarks for sailors.

