

Words from the Sea

TIME	30 minutes full · 15 minutes short
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PRIMARY SKILL	Use explicit context to determine word meaning
OBJECTIVE	Locate unfamiliar sailing words and restate the meaning that the book supplies in or near the sentence where each word appears.
STUDENT EVIDENCE	A five-word vocabulary record: word, meaning in the student's own words, and the sentence or nearby text that establishes it.
ESSENTIAL QUESTION	How can a book teach you a word without sending you to a dictionary?

Before teaching

Read or play the complete book before the timed lesson. Keep the book available so claims and evidence can be checked against the text. Book-specific targets: Target words: doubloon, man-o'-war, grog, burgoo, bilge.

Materials:	the book, Student Evidence page, pencil.
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Lesson sequence

TIME	TEACHING MOVE
4 min	Find the unfamiliar words Mark the target sea words in context.
6 min	Locate the explanation Read the sentence and the one around it for each word.
7 min	Restate the meaning Write the meaning in ordinary language.

8 min	Check against context Replace each word with the proposed meaning and see whether the sentence still makes sense.
5 min	Name the clue type Explain how the book supplied the meaning: definition, apposition, example, or nearby explanation.

ELA SKILL LESSON · TEACHER SUPPORT

Captain Jake

Words from the Sea

Access routes

SOLO	Use the book independently to complete the evidence page. Require book-based support for the reasoning.
SUPPORTED	Pause at the key evidence moments. Rephrase the task orally, then have students point to or record evidence before explaining.
LISTENING	Use narration and illustrations. Ask the same book-specific questions orally and accept pointing, choosing between evidence already visible in the book, drawing, or an oral explanation. Do not require teacher-invented answer choices.
EXTEND	Apply the same reasoning move to a second moment in the book or ask students to explain why a tempting alternative is weaker.

Teacher guidance

The lesson is not a memory test for nautical vocabulary. Success is finding and using the explanation the text itself provides.

Book-specific answer anchors

- doubloon - a gold coin associated with Spanish/pirate treasure; in this book Jake's found coin starts the adventure.
- man-o'-war - a heavily armed warship; Captain Kidd's rule warns against attacking one.
- grog - a sailor's drink, traditionally rum diluted with water.
- burgoo - a thick stew or porridge-like sailor's food.

- bilge - the lowest inside part of a ship, where dirty water collects; Richard teaches Jake rule eight in the bilge. Accept student-friendly paraphrases that fit the book's use.

Assessment

- Each target word has a text location.
- Meanings are accurate paraphrases of the book's explanation.
- At least one meaning is checked by substituting it back into context.

Short route · 15 minutes

3 min - name/model the skill. 8 min - gather the minimum evidence required on the student page. 4 min - explain the answer and verify it against the book.

Watch for

Giving a correct dictionary-style meaning but being unable to point to the context that established it in this book.

Source note

Extracted and audited as a standalone from the ELA unit The Words They Use. No regional standards are attached to this standalone skill lesson.

STUDENT EVIDENCE · GRADES 2-3

Captain Jake

Words from the Sea

Name _____ Date _____ A five-word vocabulary record: word, meaning in the student's own words, and the sentence or nearby text that establishes it.

DOUBLOON

MAN-O'-WAR

GROG

BURGOO

BILGE

EXIT CHECK

How can a book teach you a word without sending you to a dictionary?

TEACHER KEY · GRADES 2-3

Captain Jake

Words from the Sea

Book-specific answer anchors

- doubloon - a gold coin associated with Spanish/pirate treasure; in this book Jake's found coin starts the adventure.
- man-o'-war - a heavily armed warship; Captain Kidd's rule warns against attacking one.
- grog - a sailor's drink, traditionally rum diluted with water.
- burgoo - a thick stew or porridge-like sailor's food.
- bilge - the lowest inside part of a ship, where dirty water collects; Richard teaches Jake rule eight in the bilge. Accept student-friendly paraphrases that fit the book's use.

Expected student evidence

- Each target word has a text location.
- Meanings are accurate paraphrases of the book's explanation.
- At least one meaning is checked by substituting it back into context.

Watch for

Giving a correct dictionary-style meaning but being unable to point to the context that established it in this book.

Independent success

The student completes the required evidence product, uses the named book-specific evidence above, and can explain the reasoning move without relying only on recall or a teacher-supplied answer.

Unit source

The Words They Use · Captain Jake by Shannon Stewart