

# TREASURE ISLAND

Classroom Study Guide

[www.brightstartheatre.com](http://www.brightstartheatre.com)

WE'RE A NATIONALLY TOURING  
THEATRE COMPANY:  
Serving 1000+ audiences annually  
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US ONLINE!

## A Swash-Buckling Adventure on the High Seas

More than 70% of  
the Earth's  
surface is covered  
by the ocean

### ABOUT OUR SHOW

#### BASED ON THE LITERARY CLASSIC

Batten down the hatches for this sea-faring adventure of buccaneers and buried treasure! Bright Star Theatre retells Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story about Jim Hawkins, a young boy thrust into an ocean adventure. With the help of his family friend, Dr. Livesey, Jim learns about loyalty, problem solving, and compassion.

#### PIRATES ON THE PROWL

Did you know that the earliest recorded pirates lived in the 14th century? That's over 600 years ago! In our tale you'll get to meet pirates galore including Old Blind Pew, Long John Silver, and a whole host of other memorable mateys!

#### GRADES

This 45-minute production has been specially designed to be enjoyed by audiences from Pre-K to Adult. This show is one of dozens that we tour throughout the world from our base in Asheville, NC!

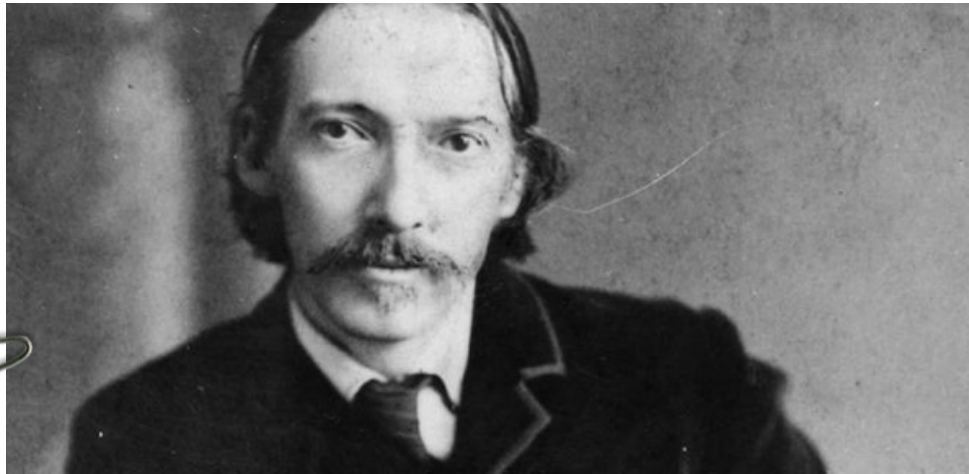


*One of our pirates, yargg!*



*Imagine yourself sailing with Jim Hawkins on the Hispanola*

97% of all the  
Earth's water can  
be found in our  
beautiful oceans



Robert Louis Stevenson

## SCOTLAND



### About the Author

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. His father was an engineer, and his family was responsible for building many of the deep-sea lighthouses off the coast of Scotland. Originally, Stevenson wanted to be an engineer too, but decided in college that he would rather be a write instead! Throughout his life he was known for writing novels, poetry, and pieces about his travels.

In 1878 at the age of 28 he published his first book called *An Inland Voyage* about his journey canoeing around Europe. He traveled all the way from Antwerp, Belgium to northern France. He went on to publish many other works including *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Prince Otto*, and *Treasure Island*.

Later in life he and his family moved to the South Pacific island of Samoa where locals gave him the name Tusitala, which means "Teller of Tales". When he died he was buried at the top of Mt. Vaea overlooking the island. A museum dedicated to him and his writings opened in the Samoan city of Apia. You can also find museums focusing on his life and writings in Edinburgh, Scotland and Helena, California.

**FUN FACT:**  
Did you know that Robert Louis Stevenson has a state park dedicated to him? Robert Louis Stevenson State Park is located in Calistoga, CA. From there you can take a 5 mile hike to the top of Mount St. Helena!



*"I kept always two books in my pocket, one to read, one to write in."*

*"We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best we can find in our travels is an honest friend."*

*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."*

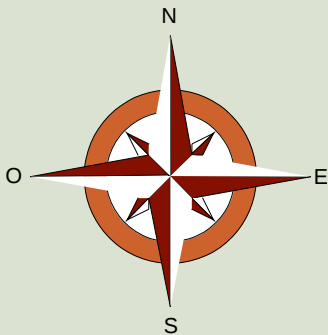
## Classroom Activities

### CLASSROOM IDEA: TREASURE MAP!

Enlist your students to create a treasure map of their school. Have the students mark X's on areas of the school or playground where they think a treasure could be hidden. Use a grid system to note coordinates of important landmarks like water fountains, the library, or a flag pole!

### CLASSROOM IDEA: CREATE A PIRATE ADVENTURE

Have your students work together to write their own pirate story. Pair students together or work in groups to come up with a treasure worth finding, a pirate who is looking for it, the name a ship the pirate sails on, and a problem that must be solved to get the treasure and finish the adventure. Compare stories and see who created the silliest pirate crew!



### CLASSROOM IDEA: PIRATE TALK

Pirate talk has become so popular there's now even a day dedicated to it. Can your class get through a whole day of talking like a pirate without messing up?

### CLASSROOM IDEA: POINTS OF VIEW

Everyone is different and sees the world through their own eyes! In books, characters each have their own point of view. Show the class a picture of storm clouds over the ocean and talk about how this image means different things to different people. For example, a tourist might be disappointed their beach day is ruined while a meteorologist or weatherman might be excited to study the storm. A fisherman might worry they won't be able to catch any fish today. Compare this to Treasure Island and discuss each Character's point of view while on the ship.

### CLASSROOM IDEA: ARRRRRGUING

Teach young people that avoiding conflict may not always be possible. But, with a little creative problem solving, we can try to come up with a solution that works for everyone! Talk about how Jim Hawkins used quick thinking to get out of trouble at the end of our show.



*What's your most favorite treasure?*

### PIRATE VOCABULARY

**AHOY** - a pirate greeting like "hello" or "hi". It can also draw attention to something far away, such as "island ahoy!"

**SHIVER ME TIMBERS** - an expression of surprise, originally a reference to how the timber of a wooden ship would shake when struck by cannon fire.

**SEADOG** - an experienced or older sailor. Someone who has spent a lot of time out at sea.



We travel the country in mini vans!

## WHO ON EARTH IS BRIGHT STAR THEATRE?

Founded in 2003, Bright Star tours with a number of shows each season, from anti-bullying and STEM to Black History, and everything in between. The company strives to make professional theatre as accessible as possible with affordable pricing and quality shows.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve your young audience and hope you found the show and actors pleasant and enjoyable. We hope to make theatre a part of every young person's life!

## THEATRE DEFINITIONS

**Actors:** The people on stage that perform the play.

**Backdrop:** The background for the play.

**Props:** Anything that an actor holds while on stage--a cane, book or rubber chicken.

**Downstage:** the area closest to the audience -- a long time ago stages were built at angles.

**Upstage:** The area away from the audience-- like the back wall of a stage.

**Director:** The person who tells the actors where to go while they are on-stage and helped them create the characters they would play.

**Costumes:** The wigs, clothing and glasses that the actors wear to help flesh out their characters.

**Auditions:** How an actor gets a role is by auditioning. They may have to interview, pretend to be a character from the play, read something from it, etc.

**Set designer:** The person who decides what should be on the background and who paints or creates it.

## CONTACT US ANYTIME

Connect with us anytime! We love receiving feedback, thank you cards, pictures and whatever else from you and your students.

The best way to contact us is to send an email to [booking@brightstartheatre.com](mailto:booking@brightstartheatre.com)

Our actors average around 1,000 miles a week traveling the country to entertain young audiences.

Our company was founded in 2003 is owned by an Emmy winning Actor.

Our programs have been seen around the country and across the world!