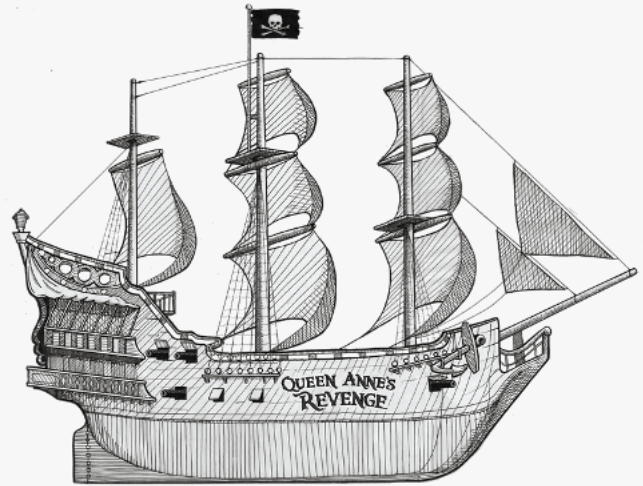


Blackbeard the Pirate



Edward Teach was thought to have been born in Bristol, England, but the year of his birth is not known. He was well educated and could read and write, which lots of people could not do in the 18th century. It is thought he chose to become a sailor when young instead of going into business.

In 1716, he became a pirate in the Caribbean and lived on the island of New Providence in the Bahamas. Nassau, capital city of the Bahamas is there today.

Teach captured a French ship and renamed it The Queen Anne's Revenge, putting 40 guns on board and up to 300 men. He grew his black beard very long and often plaited parts of it. This is how he got his name 'Blackbeard'. He also lit slow burning 'matches' from under his hat at times of attack to make himself look even scarier.

For 2 years Blackbeard and his men captured and destroyed many ships after stealing their rich cargoes but he did not hurt any sailors after the ships surrendered to him. He set them free wherever he had captured them. In November 1718, he was captured and killed in North Carolina by soldiers sent to take him 'dead or alive'.

Draw these 2 pictures and write beneath each one what you know about the picture.