

MEL FISHER MARITIME HERITAGE SOCIETY

# Young Navigator

A PRODUCTION OF MFMHS MER ACADEMY



June 15, 2007

MEL FISHER MARITIME MUSEUM  
Education Department

## MER ACADEMY 2007



**FLORIDA**  
State Parks  
*...the Real Florida*



PAT CROCE'S  
**PIRATE**  
**SOUL**  
MUSEUM





Sarah Knott from the Pirate Soul museum presents information on the history of pirate flags and the meaning of the symbols pirates used when designing their flags.

# THEME FOR THE WEEK

## *The Pirate Experience: Reefs, Wrecks, Rascals*

Contrary to some popular portrayals of pirate life, life aboard a pirate ship was well-organized. So well-ordered, that seaman often preferred the organization of a pirate ship to that of the navy. Pirates agreed to follow a code of conduct and each man had a specific job to fulfill aboard the ship.

Throughout the week students had the opportunity to experience the life of a pirate. They read historical pirate codes of conduct and used the information to write their own code for the camp. Students investigated the various roles pirates would fulfill aboard the ship—including captain, quartermaster, navigator, bo'sun, medic, cook, stowaway, and gunner—by role-playing each of the jobs.



Eric and Logan experiment with telling time by using a sundial.



Brian and Norman work to construct their treasure boxes.



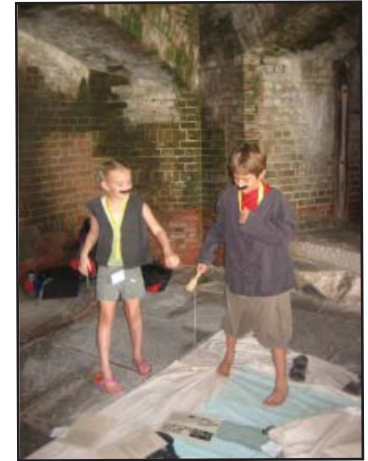
Sarah Knott from the Pirate Soul Museum visited camp to share information about the history and symbolism of the Jolly Roger. After her visit, students worked to design their own pirate mission, name, and flag.

On Thursday, we took a field trip to the Pirate Soul Museum. Students presented their pirate mission, name and flag to the pirates of the museum. One flag was chosen to be made into a large flag and flown outside of the Pirate Soul Museum.

Students worked to build treasure boxes and we engaged in a bit of pirate mythology by creating pirate maps. The campers decided where to hide their treasure, and created a map to lead a fellow camper to the hidden treasure. We ended the busy week by exchanging maps and hunting for each other's treasure chest.



Miles proudly awaits the hoisting of his Jolly Roger at the Pirate Soul Museum.



The students investigated the different roles pirates undertook aboard ships; here, Kloud and William pretend to be stowaways.



Marina and Melanie work to create their own version of the infamous Jolly Roger.



## STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR HAND- CRAFTED TREASURE CHESTS



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The Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization existing for the purpose of accumulating and disseminating information by providing educational services to the public on maritime and colonial activity in the New World and preserving maritime cultural resources. It fulfills its mission through study, education, exhibition and publication.