

Our Parents Were Kidnapped by Pirates

Read this poem and follow the instructions on the back

Our parents were kidnapped by pirates today,
who climbed in the window and whisked them away.
They tied up our mom and our dad with a whip,
then took them as prisoners onto their ship.

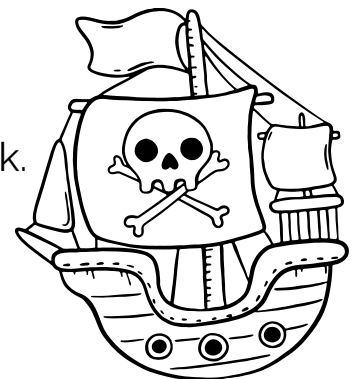


They sent us a note and demanded a ransom.
They probably thought their reward would be handsome.
We're not really sure where these pirates were from,
but taking our parents was clearly quite dumb.

Our mom started giving them dozens of chores,
like washing the laundry and mopping the floors.
Our dad told them they weren't allowed to have fun—
no screen time at all till their homework was done.

They picked up the poop deck. They buffed all the booms.
They rinsed all the windows and tidied their rooms.
They scrubbed off the rudder. They polished the planks,
while Mom and Dad watched them and never said thanks.

They worked day and night—not a moment to rest—
which left them exhausted and plainly depressed.
And that's why, soon after that pirate attack,
they saw their mistake and brought Mom and Dad back.



— Kenn Nesbitt

Name: _____

Date: _____

Context Clues

Find three unfamiliar words in the poem and write them in the spaces below. Then use context clues to figure out the meaning of each word and write your definition on the lines below the words..



