



Terrific Trivia Tidbits

Use the fun facts below to start thinking about the fun theme, including islands, treasures, and pirates. The trivia tidbits can be used for training meetings, during arrival and dismissal times at VBS, or during any downtime while kids wait to get to their next rotation. [Presentation images](#) are available in the Digital Resources.

Island Trivia

- Would you like to live on an island? About one out of ten people in the world do.
- Some islands have beaches with black or pink sand!
- There are lots of underwater volcanoes that release lava, making areas of the deep water super hot. As they get bigger, they sometimes break the surface of the water and an island is formed!
- Did you know there are three man-made islands in the world? The biggest is off the coast of Dubai and it's built in the shape of a palm tree.
- Only two out of every 100 islands have people on them.
- Which country has the most lighthouses? The US! Michigan is the state with the most.
- Each lighthouse has a unique look. They're given different colors and patterns so sailors can tell during the day where they are, and they have different flashing light patterns at night to distinguish one from another.
- A tiny island is called an islet.
- Ever heard of a desert island? That means it doesn't have any people living on it (it's deserted), not that it is a desert.
- There are more than 25,000 islands in the Pacific area alone. Wanna go to one?
- Do you like to chew gum? If you do, don't live on the island of Singapore. It's illegal to chew gum there.
- According to the Guinness World Records, the tallest sandcastle ever made was in Germany in 2017. It was about as tall as one and a half telephone poles.
- Biggest island in the world? Depends on who you ask. Some would say Australia. Some would say Greenland. What do you think?
- Oink! Oink! There's an island called Pig Beach that has no humans on it, but lots and lots and lots of wild pigs.
- Not all islands are warm and tropical. Can you think of one that isn't? How about Greenland?
- You better like to walk if you live on Mackinac Island, because no cars are allowed.
- How do you think Cat Island got its name? There are only about 100 people who live there, but tons and tons of cats. Meow!
- Guess what Rabbit Island is filled with? Yep—rabbits!
- Do you like snakes? Venomous snakes? Well, you may like Snake Island near Brazil, which is infested with extremely poisonous snakes. But you can't go there. There are so many snakes, it's illegal to step foot on the island.
- Vulcan Point is an island in the middle of a lake that's in the middle of a volcano that's in the middle of a bigger lake that's in the middle of a bigger island that's in a group of islands in the Pacific Ocean. Follow all that?
- Guess which island has the most churches per square mile? Jamaica
- If you went to the bottom of the ocean, the water pressure on your body would be so great, you would feel like you were trying to hold up 50 jumbo jets.
- What island animal can detach part of its tail if in danger, then grow it back? An iguana, for one.
- Have you heard of a wild beach? It sounds wild, but really, it's just a beach that doesn't have any people, houses, towns, hotels, or anything else on it.
- Guess where some of the greatest earthly treasures are? The ocean! There are more riches, artifacts, and treasures at the bottom of the sea than are found in all the museums of the world combined.
- Believe it or not, stingrays are a kind of fish.
- Did you know there are lakes and rivers under the ocean?
- The ocean is so amazingly huge that only a tiny bit of it has been explored.

Pirate/Treasure Trivia

- Pirates (sea robbers) have been around since early civilizations, hiding among tiny islands and bays to surprise passing ships.
- Did pirates wear eye patches? Yep! Some suggest one reason for the patch was to help the pirate's covered eye quickly adjust to the dark below deck.
- Blackbeard was the most feared pirate of all time. Before a raid, he would stick smoking fuses in his hair to make himself look scary. Don't try this at home.
- Was every pirate treasure filled with gold, jewels, and silver? Nope. They often contained more down-to-earth things like food, cloth, and lumber.
- A favorite pirate food was . . . turtle! Turtles were easy to catch on beaches, and their meat and eggs were prized.
- Do you know what the famous pirate flag was nicknamed? The Jolly Roger
- Pirates were also called privateers or buccaneers. Privateers if given permission by their countries to be pirates, and buccaneers if not.
- Can you whistle? Pirates wouldn't have you on their ship if you did, because they thought whistling would cause a storm to blow up.
- Pirates figured they wouldn't wash their hair because they could just cover it with hats or handkerchiefs, and they wouldn't brush their teeth because they would fall out anyway.
- A famous pirate, Captain Kidd, is fabled to have buried treasure on an island named, of all things, Money Island!