

# Teaching Vocabulary: A Collection of Activities

**Grade Level:** 5-12

**Subject Areas:** Language Arts, Visual Arts

**Duration:** 50 minutes

**Setting:** classroom

**Skills:** gathering information

**Vocabulary:** See “Vocabulary for the Sailor-Scientist”, page 30

## Objectives

Students will be able to:

- spell vocabulary words correctly, and when appropriate, use them in sentences in their log books; and,
- use the vocabulary words correctly in discussions about the Schoolship.

## Materials

- books, construction paper, magazines, posterboard, plain paper

## Activities

- I. Create a word search using the Schoolship vocabulary
- II. Make flash cards with pictures of the vocabulary words. For example, for the phrase “food web”, include a picture of a food web. For the word “buoy” include a picture of a buoy. Divide the class into partner groups and have them take turns quizzing each other.
- III. Create bulletin boards using the different kinds of vocabulary words: an exotic species bulletin board might include pictures of sea lamprey, ruffe, zebra mussel...

### **Aboard a ship:**

Overhead  
Deck  
Bow  
Stern  
Starboard  
Port  
Helm

### **In a building:**

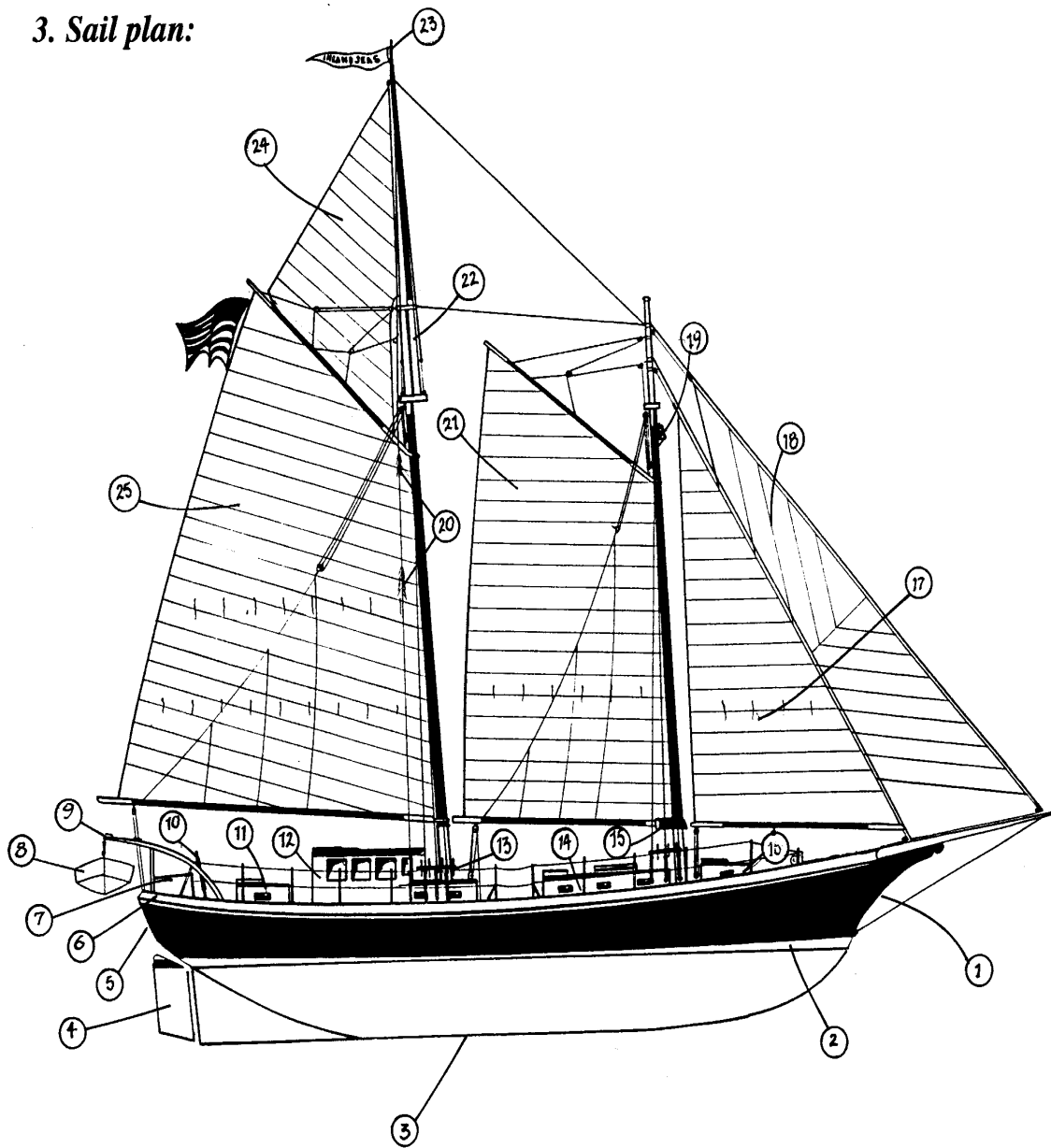
ceiling  
floor  
front of the classroom  
back of the classroom  
right side of the classroom when facing the front (bow)  
left side of the classroom when facing the front (bow)  
paste poster of the wheel near the back of the classroom

- IV. Set up your classroom like a ship.  
Arrange desks in the shape of a ship’s deck.  
Students or the teacher can label parts of the ship (see schooner diagram on page 31).
- V. Students make simple drawings of the ship.  
Label sails, masts, booms, rudder,....
- VI. Have students look through old magazines and cut out pictures of boats, especially sailboats (Good magazines include: *Sail, Yachting, and Wooden Boat*). See if they can label the pictures.

## Vocabulary for the Sailor - Scientist

Aft:	direction toward the stern.
Amidships:	middle of the ship.
Ballast:	lead weight in keel.
Belaying Pins:	wooden pins used to secure the halyards, sheets and other running rigging.
Bilge:	area at bottom of ship where water would collect.
Bitter End:	the end of a line not attached to an object.
Boom:	spar at the lower edge of the mainsail and foresail.
Bowsprit:	spar attached to the ship that extends forward from the bow. Malabar also has a jib boom, which lays atop the bowsprit.
Gaff:	upper spar on the mainsail and foresail. The halyards are attached to the gaffs. Gaffs should be raised in a horizontal attitude, and peaked up when lowered.
Halyards:	lines used to raise the sails, flags, topmast, etc.
Head:	ship's toilet.
Horse:	metal bar mounted athwartship, supporting the lower sheet blocks.
Keel:	finlike structure at the hull bottom. The keel contains ballast and prevents the ship from sliding sideways (to some extent).
Knot:	a nautical mile per hour. Equals 1.15 statute miles per hour. Never say "knots per hour".
Lazyjacks:	lines that hang from the quarterlifts, passing under the main and fore booms. Lazyjacks catch the sail as it is lowered.
Lead line:	manual depth sounder consisting of a calibrated line (ours is marked in fathoms - 6 ft.) with a lead weight at one end.
Line:	most ropes on a ship are called lines.
Log:	official record of the ships activities, kept by the captain. Also; device that records distance traveled.
Peak :	after end of the gaff.
Peak halyard:	line used to raise the peak end of the gaff.
Pinrail:	oak timber attached to the shouls which holds the belaying pins. The halyards and other lines are belayed to these pins.
Port:	left side of the ship when looking forward
Rudder:	moveable fin that steers the ship. Located at the end of the keel.
Starboard:	right side of the ship when looking forward.
Stern:	the rear of the ship.
Wheel:	the steering wheel controls the position of the rudder. The propeller is sometimes referred to as the "wheel".

3. *Sail plan:*



SAIL PLAN

- 1- BOW 2- WATERLINE 3- KEEL 4- RUDDER 5- STERN 6- BULWARK 7- WHEEL BOX  
 8- TENDER 9- BOAT DAVIT 10- WHEEL 11- CAPTAIN QUARTERS 12- PILOT HOUSE  
 13- PIN RAIL 14- MAIN CABIN 15- RUNNING LIGHT 16- FOC'S'LE 17- SAY SAIL 18- JIB  
 19- STEAMING LIGHT 20- BAGGYWRINKLE 21- FORESAIL 22- MASTHEAD AND HOUSING OF  
 TOPMAST 23- PIGSTICK 24- TOPSAIL 25- MAINSAIL