

# National Theatre home

## Treasure Island

Exploring the Play at Home



If you're watching *Treasure Island* at home and would like to find out more about the production, there are a number of different resources that you can explore and activities you might like to try.

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## About the Production

*Treasure Island* was first performed at the National Theatre in 2014. The production was directed by Polly Findlay.

Based on the 1883 novel by Robert Louis Stevenson, this stage production was adapted by Bryony Lavery.

You can find full details of the cast and production team below:

## Cast

Jim Hawkins: **Patsy Ferran**  
Grandma: **Gillian Hanna**  
Bill Bones: **Aidan Kelly**  
Dr Livesey: **Alexandra Maher**  
Squire Trelawny/Voice of the Parrot: **Nick Fletcher**  
Mrs Crossley: **Alexandra Maher**  
Red Ruth: **Heather Dutton**  
Job Anderson: **Raj Bajaj**  
Silent Sue: **Lena Kaur**  
Black Dog: **Daniel Coonan**  
Blind Pew: **David Sterne**  
Captain Smollett: **Paul Dodds**  
Long John Silver: **Arthur Darvill**  
Lucky Mickey: **Jonathan Livingstone**  
Joan the Goat: **Claire-Louise Cordwell**  
Israel Hands: **Angela de Castro**  
Dick the Dandy: **David Langham**  
Killigrew the Kind: **Alastair Parker**  
George Badger: **Oliver Birch**  
Grey: **Tim Samuels**  
Ben Gunn: **Joshua James**  
Shanty Singer: **Roger Wilson**  
Parrot (Captain Flint): **Ben Thompson**

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## Production team

Director: **Polly Findlay**

Adaptation: **Bryony Lavery**

Designer: **Lizzie Clachan**

Lighting Designer: **Bruno Poet**

Composer: **John Tams**

Fight Director: **Bret Yount**

Movement Director: **Jack Murphy**

Music and Sound Designer: **Dan Jones**

Illusions: **Chris Fisher**

Comedy Consultant: **Clive Mendus**

Creative Associate: **Carolina Valdés**

You might like to use the internet to research some of these artists to find out more about their careers.

If you would like to find out about careers in the theatre, there's lots of useful information on the [Discover Creative Careers website](#).

## Exploring Children's Stories on Stage

Over the years, the National Theatre has brought many novels for children and young people to life on its stages. You can find out more, by exploring our Google Arts and Culture exhibit [here](#).

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## Reviewing the Production

You might like to write a theatre review when you have watched the production. All students studying drama and theatre for GCSE and A-Level will have to do this for productions that they see as part of their course.

If you choose to write a review, you might like to consider some of the following:

- The form and style of the production
  - The artistic choices which have been made, including sound, lighting, set and costume design choices
  - Your own critical appreciation of design elements and performance skills
  - What you think the creative and production team's intentions were in staging the production
  - Significant moments in the production where you notice a specific performance skill being used or think a particular directorial decision has been made
  - Your own response to the overall effectiveness of the piece as an audience member
  - You could draw a sketch of the set and/or some costumes from the production as you watch
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## Activities for Younger Students

### Research Pirates

As they are working on a production in a rehearsal room, a company will do lots of research about the world of the play and the characters who inhabit it. The *Treasure Island* company explored the history of pirates and the impact of living a life at sea.

- Pirates have fascinated audiences and readers throughout history. List all of the fictional pirates you can think of who have appeared in books, plays and films
- Pirates have lurked in the seas for hundreds of years. Some still do. Research some modern and historical pirates. Where do/did they operate? And what do/did they steal?

### Create Your Own Pirate Character

- Think about the names of the pirates in *Treasure Island* including Black Dog, Bones, Isreal Hands and Blind Pew. What do these names suggest? Why do you think these names are suitable for the characters?
  - Imagine your own pirate character. Create a pirate name to reflect your character's personality, appearance and ambitions. Remember that a pirate name should sound intimidating. Try to make your name memorable
  - Design a costume for your new pirate but try to avoid stereotypes. You could use modern dress, take inspiration from a particular historical period or explore something like a science fiction-inspired steam punk style
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## National Theatre Collection

The National Theatre Collection makes the best of British Theatre available worldwide to libraries, schools, universities and the wider education sector.

In light of the Coronavirus pandemic, the National Theatre Collection is currently available for students in UK state-funded schools to access at home. Find out more at [nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntcollection](https://nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntcollection)

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