

Money Pit Mystery

What is buried in the Money Pit on Oak Island? Many people have ideas. But no one knows for sure. It is a mystery from history.

Oak Island is a tiny island off the coast of Nova Scotia. It is rumored to be the home of a great treasure. On one side of Oak Island there is a man-made shaft called the Money Pit. It is 90 feet deep and has wooden platforms every ten feet.

There are a lot of different theories about what is in the Money Pit. Some people think pirate Captain Kidd buried gold there. Others say the Knights Templar hid the Holy Grail deep in the shaft. Historians say that clues about the treasure are hidden in the writing of William Shakespeare.

Over the years, lots of treasure hunters have explored the Money Pit. One of the most famous treasure hunters was President Franklin Roosevelt. The explorers all had the same problem with the shaft. Booby traps. Treasure seekers report that there are tunnels dug into the ground. The tunnels flood the Money Pit with water at different depths. When the floods happen, the explorers can't dig any further.



Despite the booby traps, treasure hunters have found a variety of things in the shaft. One team found a cross used by the Knights Templar. Others found old china, parchment paper, and traces of gold. Special types of stones have been found that do not exist anywhere else on the island.

These small finds hint at bigger riches that might be buried deeper in the Money Pit. Each piece of treasure asks more questions than it answers. The mystery of the Money Pit lives on.



This page has been intentionally left blank.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1. Which famous person hunted for treasure on Oak Island?
 - a. Captain Kidd
 - b. Franklin Roosevelt
 - c. William Shakespeare
 - d. Nova Scotia
2. Which of the following was NOT found in the Money Pit?
 - a. Parchment paper
 - b. China
 - c. The Holy Grail
 - d. A cross
3. According to the passage, where might you find clues about the treasure?
 - a. In the writing of William Shakespeare
 - b. Inside the Holy Grail
 - c. In the booby trap tunnels
 - d. In the diary of Franklin Roosevelt
4. What does the author mean by “each piece of treasure asks more questions than it answers”?
 - a. The treasure that has been found solves the mystery
 - b. The treasure that has been found does not solve the mystery
 - c. No treasure has been found
 - d. The parchment paper had questions written on it

Instructions for teachers:

These questions can be used to assess understanding of the reading passage.

The item in bold is the correct answer for each question.

1. Which famous person hunted for treasure on Oak Island?
 - a. Captain Kidd
 - b. Franklin Roosevelt**
 - c. William Shakespeare
 - d. Nova Scotia
2. Which of the following was NOT found in the Money Pit?
 - a. Parchment paper
 - b. China
 - c. The Holy Grail**
 - d. A cross
3. According to the passage, where might you find clues about the treasure?
 - a. In the writing of William Shakespeare**
 - b. Inside the Holy Grail
 - c. In the booby trap tunnels
 - d. In the diary of Franklin Roosevelt
4. What does the author mean by “each piece of treasure asks more questions than it answers”?
 - a. The treasure that has been found solves the mystery
 - b. The treasure that has been found does not solve the mystery**
 - c. No treasure has been found
 - d. The parchment paper had questions written on it