

Name That Boat!

A boat's name can tell a lot about its owner, for example their life philosophy, passions or who their loved ones are. They often also contain a funny pun.

Here are some fun pun names of boats already out there:

Boaty McBoatface (named after a public poll)

Current-Sea

Usain Boat (named after the fastest man in the world, Usain Bolt)

Knot Shore

The Codfather

Vitamin Sea

Sea Ya



Above: After a public poll voted to have this boat named *Boaty McBoatface*, the owners thought it was too silly and it has since been renamed HMS David Attenborough

Many boat names also come from classic books, films and television. Here are some:

Sirius and *The Unicorn* are just two of the boats in *The Adventures of Tin-Tin* books by Hergé that often had lots of nautical adventure.

Wonkatania transports the children through the factory on an exhilarating ride in Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Jolly Roger was the name of Captain Hook's ship in the *Peter Pan* stories by JM Barrie.

Swallow and *Amazon* are the names of the two sailing dinghies featured in the *Swallow's and Amazon's* adventure series by Arthur Ransome.

The Mongolia and *The Henrietta* are just two of the steamer ships featured in *Around the World in 80 days*, Jules Verne classic novel where Phileas Fogg and assistant Passepartout set out to circumnavigate the globe in order to win a bet.

The Dawn Treader from the classic children's series the *Chronicles of Narnia* by CS Lewis.

Black Pig is cartoon pirate Captain Pugwash's ship.

The Black Pearl and *The Flying Dutchman* are featured in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series of films.

The Hispaniola is the ship in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*, a classic adventure story featuring Long John Silver.

Can you think of any more?

What would you name your boat?

Whisker-Tingling Words

Ahoy

Meaning: A signal word used to call a ship or a boat.

Where does it come from? Stems from the Medieval English cry, 'Hoy!'. Similar words are used in lots of different languages: ahoi in German, *ahoj* in Danish and *ohoi* in Finnish.

The inventor of the telephone **Alexander Graham Bell** originally suggested 'ahoy' be used as the standard greeting when answering a telephone, before 'hello' (suggested by fellow inventor Thomas Edison) became common.

It has become a more popular greeting again since *The Simpsons* character **Montgomery Burns** often answers the telephone with the greeting of "Ahoy-hoy."

Crow's nest

Meaning: The lookout structure at the top of the mast.

Where does it come from? According to a popular naval legend, the term comes from the practice of **Viking** sailors, who carried crows or ravens in a cage secured to the top of the mast!

Marine (adjective)

Meaning: Of or about the sea.

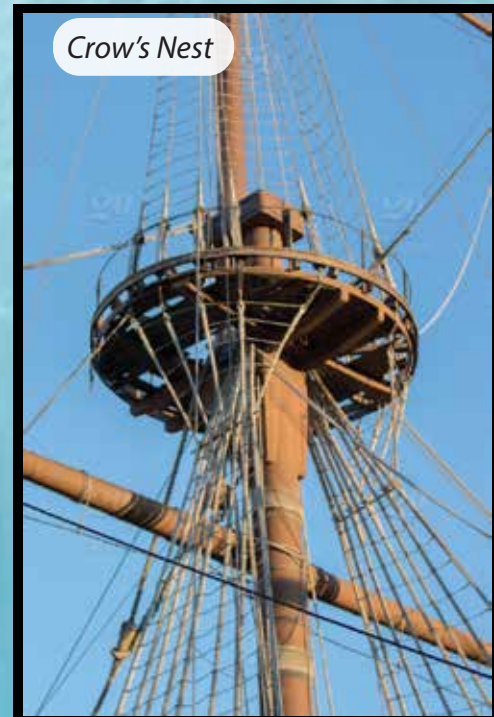
Where does it come from? From the French *marin* ("of the sea"), originally from the Latin *marinus* (also meaning "of the sea") coming from *mare* ("sea").

Oodles

Meaning: A large quantity/lots of.

Where does it come from? It is often hard to find the roots of fun sounding words. Oodles is first seen in print in 1867. It may be a shortening of "**scadoodles**" which was also slang for a large quantity, but we don't know where that comes from!

One theory traces "oodles" to "caboodle," one-half of the phrase "**kit and caboodle**," meaning "all and everything" The "caboodle" in this comes from the Dutch word *boedel*, meaning "property."



Crow's Nest



Montgomery Burns

Whisker-Tingling Words

There are lots of words and phrases used in everyday English language that actually come from nautical terms! Here are just some of them:

Above board

Meaning: Honest and open.

Where does it come from? Anything on or above the open deck on a ship (so visible). Pirates would often hide many of the crew below the deck. The ships that displayed the crew openly on the deck were thought to be honest merchant ships known as "above board".

Go overboard

Meaning: To do something too much, or to be too excited or eager about something.

Where does it come from? Going too far and over the side of a ship.

Junk

Meaning: Old or thrown away items that are considered of little value.

Where does it come from? Junk on ships referred to old rope no longer able to take a load, it was cut into shorter lengths and used to make mops and mats.

Pipe down

Meaning: Be quiet, or keep quiet.

Where does it come from? This term comes from an officer's whistle sound to show an above-deck work shift was completed and thereby giving permission for the sailors to go below. It was the last signal from the pipe each day, meaning "lights out" or "silence".

Quarantine (noun)

Meaning: A strict isolation in order to prevent the spread of disease.

Where does it come from? The Latin word for 40, which was the number of days a ship had to wait to dock because of the plague. The first use of it was in 1377.

Under the weather

Meaning: Sick or ill.

Where does it come from? The worst place to be on watch on a ship was on the "weather" side (the one facing the wind). The sailor who was assigned to this station was subject to the constant moving of the ship and would be soaked from the waves crashing over the bow. A sailor who was assigned to this unpleasant duty was said to be "under the weather."

Sometimes, these men fell ill and died as a result of the assignment, which is why today "under the weather" is used to refer to someone suffering from an illness.

A related theory claims that ill sailors were sent below deck (or "under the weather") if they were feeling sick.

Purrfect Ponderings

How do fish clean their teeth?

Some fish use other fish to clean their teeth! For example **wrasse fish** clean the teeth and bodies of many others, like sweetlips, and surgeonfish. They swim over the body and in the mouth of its customer, eating **parasites**. These cleaner fish even advertise their cleaning services by displaying a bright blue stripe along their body!

Fun Fact: Pilot fish even manage to save themselves from being eaten by sharks by cleaning their teeth. Who knew cleaning teeth could save lives!



Above: A brave pilot fish cleans the teeth of a shark!

Why does an octopus have eight arms?

In fact an octopus has 6 arms and 2 legs! Each of them have suction cups to grip on to things. They allow it to move quickly and grab food easily to pull towards its mouth. Octopuses maneuver and crawl around the sea floor using two limbs (legs) at the back of their bodies. The remaining six limbs (arms) are mainly used for feeding.

Did you know? Octopus are the world's most intelligent invertebrates (animals without an internal skeleton). Scientists have found that octopuses can navigate their way through mazes and solve problems quickly.



What is friendship?

Friendship can mean different things to different people. It is a relationship between people who care about each other. It is wonderful, but not always easy, and requires time and effort.

Some of our friends might like doing the same things as us, but others may be very different from us and we can learn from them.

"You have been my friend. That in itself is a tremendous thing."

- Charlotte's Web by E.B. White



What if?

What if the earth was made of blueberries?

There has been a whole scientific paper written about this strange question by Anders Sandberg at the University of Oxford!

Amongst other issues Sandberg writes that the blueberry earth would be almost impossible to stand on. We would keep squishing the blueberries, which leads to more squishing below and it would lead to a terrible earthquake.

The blueberries would heat up as they squish becoming blueberry jam and letting off lots of steam. It might sound delicious but an earth made of blueberries would in fact be a total disaster!



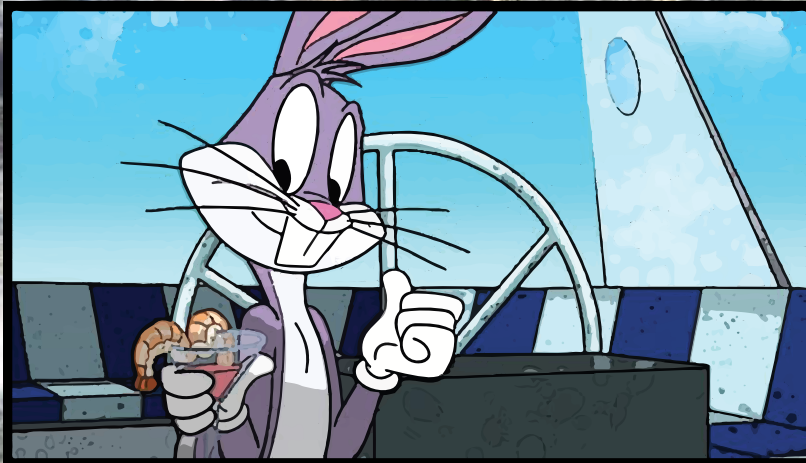
Tii-Hee-Hee

What do sea monsters eat?
Fish and Ships!

Where does a ship go when it's not feeling very well?
To the dock-tor!

Where does Bugs Bunny park his sailboat?
At the What's-up Dock?

What has a shell and lives on a ship?
A snailor!



Why was the sailor put in time-out?
He was naughty-cal!

How do ocean sailors say hello to each other?
They wave!





Impawtant Words



Adaptation - Plants and animals have special features that help them survive in their surroundings. They develop these traits through a process called adaptation.

Allied soldiers - Allied forces are ones that fight together on the same side.

Buoyancy - A buoyant force is a force on an object making that object rise or move upward. Something is buoyant if it floats.

Carbon-neutral - Releasing no more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than it removes.

Climate activist - A person who campaigns to have problems of climate change recognized and dealt with.

Climate change - Climate change describes a change in the normal conditions, such as temperature and rainfall, over a period of time. It is the process of the planet heating up.

Density - Density is a measurement that compares the amount of matter an object has to its volume. An object with a lot of matter in a certain amount of volume has high density. An object with a little matter in the same amount of volume has a low density.

Displacement - Defined as the act of moving something from one position to another. Displacement in water happens when an object is put in water and the water is pushed out of the way (or displaced) to make room for the object.

Ecosystems - All living things (e.g. animals and plants) together with the non-living things (e.g. rocks, soil and water) in an area.

Efficient - Operating or working in a way that gets results, with little wasted effort or energy.

Evolution - The process by which living things can gradually change over time.

Extinction - Extinction of a particular animal or plant species happens when there are no more individuals of that species alive anywhere in the world - the species has died out.

Fossil fuels - A fuel is something that is burned for energy. A fossil fuel is formed from the remains of prehistoric plants and animals over millions of years. Coal, oil, and natural gas are examples of fossil fuels.

High seas - The open part of a sea or ocean especially outside the control of any country.

Inheritance - The process of passing on features, such as eye colour, from parents to their offspring (babies).



Impawtant Words



Naturalist - A person who studies nature and especially plants and animals as they live in nature.

Nautical - Relating to sailors, ships or the sea.

Noise pollution - When there is unwanted sound, normally because it is too loud. This can be harmful to humans and animals.

Nomadic - Nomadic people are people with no permanent home, who move from place to place.

Parallel - Lying or moving in the same direction and being the same distance apart at every point. If parallel lines continued on forever they would never meet or cross each other.

Parasites - A living thing (such as a flea or worm) that lives in or on another living thing, getting food and sometimes shelter from it. By doing this the parasite usually also causes harm to it.

Pollution - Pollution happens when the environment is dirtied by waste, chemicals, and other harmful substances.

Pun - A funny play on words based on two words that are close in sound but different in meaning.

Regenerate - To recreate or make new.

Species - A group of living things with very similar characteristics. They can breed together to make more living things of the same type.

Sustainably sourced - Sustainability means using natural resources in a way that we could keep doing for a long time. Sustainably sourced fish means fishing that leaves enough fish in the ocean, respects habitats and ensures people who depend on fishing can maintain their livelihoods.

Volume - The amount of space an object takes up. It is one way to describe size.

Water resistance - The pushing force the water makes against the movement of the boat, or anything else in it.

Wind propulsion - A boat travelling using wind propulsion uses the wind to move forward.