

Early★Reader

Pirate Parrot and the Knit-wits

Jim Squawkins has one dream: to be
the greatest pirate ever to sail the
seven seas. But there's one problem:
the human pirates on board the ship
are only interested in knitting!

Can Jim and his beastly crew find a
way to make their dream come true?

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RRP £5.99

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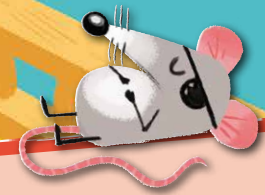


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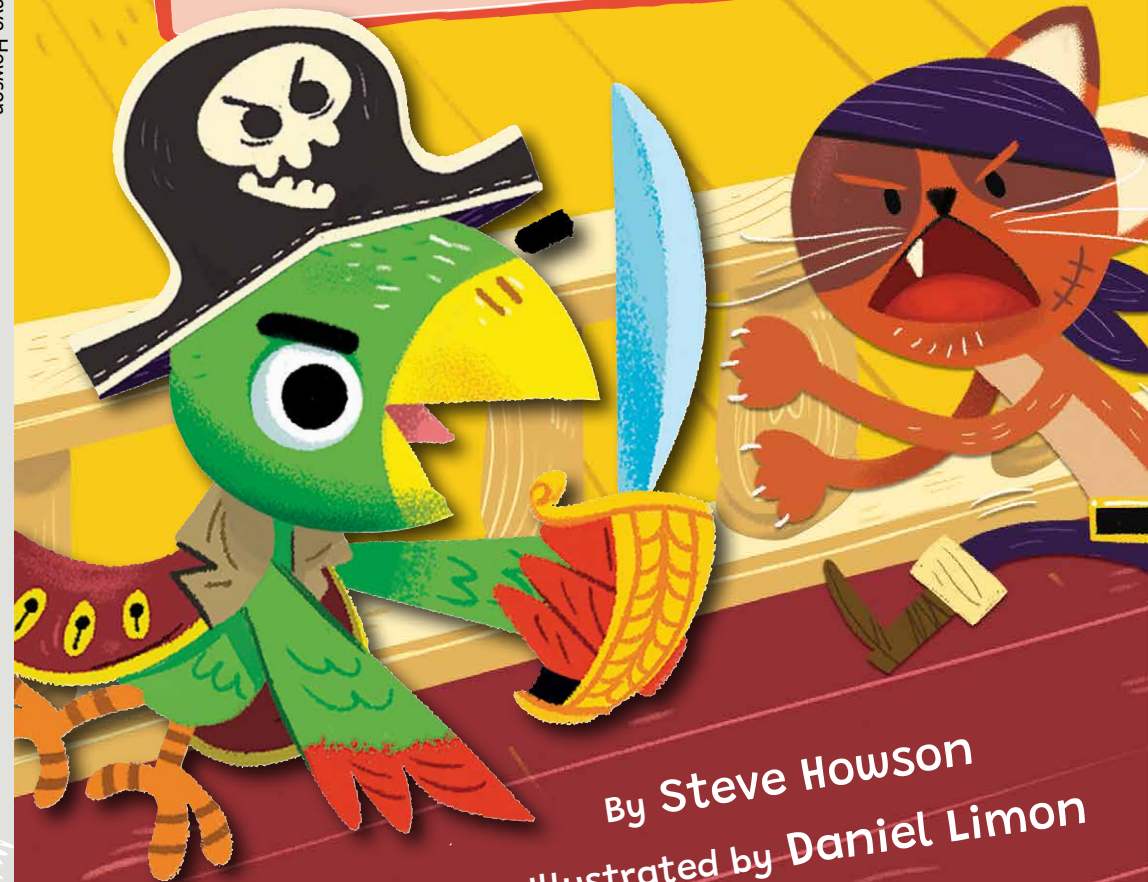
Steve Howson

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Pirate Parrot and the Knit-wits



By Steve Howson
Illustrated by Daniel Limon

'Pirate Parrot and the Knit-wits'

An original concept by Steve Howson

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Illustrated by Daniel Limon (Beehive Illustration)

Published by MAVERICK ARTS PUBLISHING LTD

Studio 11, City Business Centre, 6 Brighton Road,

Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5BB

© Maverick Arts Publishing Limited January 2019

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A CIP catalogue record for this book is available at the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-84886-394-1

Maverick
publishing
www.maverickbooks.co.uk



This book is rated as: White Band (Guided Reading)

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Chapter 1

Everything was calm on board Captain Ken's pirate ship, *The Crooked Cross-stitch*. All the pirates were busy knitting and sewing and stitching.

Captain Ken's parrot, Jim Squawkins, was bored. He and Clarence the ship's cat, Bogey the crow and all the ship's mice longed for an adventure. They were all much braver than the pirates.



A gentle breeze began to blow, and the ship started to rock. All the cowardly pirates turned green.

“It’s getting a bit choppy, lads,” called Captain Ken. “Head for your hammocks, me hearties!”

Quick as a flash, the pirates ran for their beds.

“At last,” croaked Jim Squawkins, “time for some action. Bogey, keep a look-out. Clarence, load the cannon. Seagulls, steer the wheel. Mice, put up the sail.”

As they worked, the animals sang together:



“We’re fearless creatures all at sea.
We dream **that one** day we’ll be free,
To seek our fortune, gold and jewels,
Without those blubber-headed fools.”





Chapter 2

The Crooked Cross-stitch sailed quickly through the waves. From his look-out post high above, Bogey cawed out: “Ship ahoy, me beasties. And it’s a pirate ship, full of proper pirates!”

The animal crew cheered as they spotted the great black ship.

“Fearless friends,” squawked Jim. “Let’s show our shipmates what real pirating is all about!”



The Crooked Cross-stitch sailed closer to the huge black ship with its tattered black sails. The crew of snarling pirates stared in surprise at the ship full of animals and birds. The blue-bearded pirate captain howled with laughter at the sight.