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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter One—An Odd Meeting*

1. John became annoyed after the mother and daughter he “ran” into did not accept his apologies. What word of advice from his father did he suddenly remember?

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2. What wisdom did John’s father show by not just giving him a job in one of his warehouses?

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3. Who grabbed the woman that John ran into earlier in the day?

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4. How did John help the mother and daughter escape?

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5. Why did John help the mother and daughter?

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## *Chapter One, Page 2*

6. Where did John see the girl for the second time?

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7. What did John find out about the mother when he finally found her?

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8. What advice did the proprietor of the inn give the young girl?

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9. When John offered to help the girl what did the proprietor say? How did John respond?

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10. What was the girl's name?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter One, Project—Merchant ships*

John had been apprenticed at the age of sixteen, to the captain of a tobacco merchant ship. There were a number of different kinds of ships that were used to carry cargo across the Atlantic to bring goods to the new world. One ship type was the Merchant Carrier. These vessels were 275 tons, 80-foot-long vessels that could cross the Atlantic in a month or less. These ships could carry cargo as well as passengers and required a crew of twenty or less.

The Chesapeake Bay in Maryland became an area for the development of ship building. The Chesapeake schooners were some of the mainstays of the area in the late 1700's. They had a fast sailing hull and were the predecessor of the Baltimore Clipper.

*Using the basic directions below, do some research on merchant ships and then design one of your own.*

### *Supplies*

2 milk cartons

2 straws

playdough

yellow, black and white  
construction paper  
(or use craft foam instead of  
construction paper so the ship  
can float in water)

glue, scissors and tape

### *Instructions*

Tape a piece of construction paper about 1/2 way up the milk carton as shown in the photo to the right. Tape black construction paper all the way up the back of the milk carton, leaving about 1 inch sticking up over the carton. Tape white construction paper over the rest of the milk carton. Glue two blobs of playdough into the center of the pirate ship. Cut a two to three inch piece off the bottom of the second milk carton. Tape it onto the ship (covering the playdough) poke two holes in it (with a pencil) right above the playdough blobs. Cover with white construction paper. Stick two straws through the holes you poked in the top carton. Cut two large rectangles and two small rectangles from yellow construction paper. Poke two holes in each rectangle with scissors or a hole punch and thread onto the straws as masts. Draw windows and a door with markers. Cut yellow circles and glue them to the side of the ship as portholes.

