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Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists by Gideon Defoe

The Pirate Captain cut an impressive figure. If you were to compare him to a type of tree- and working out what sort of tree they would be if they were trees instead of pirates was easily one of the crew's favourite pastimes- he would undoubtedly be an oak, or maybe a horse chestnut. He was all teeth and curls, but with a pleasant open face; his coat was of a better cut than anyone else's, and his beard was fantastic and glossy, and the ends of it were twisted with expensive-looking ribbons. Living at sea tended to leave you with ratty, matted hair but the Pirate Captain somehow kept his beard silky and in good condition, and though nobody knew his secret, they all respected him for it. They also respected him because he said he was wedded to the sea.