Pirate Pete

By Opa

Pirate Pete
By Robert Prins
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Pirate Pete

For my amazing grandchildren:

Riley, Elsie, Chara, Moriah
and Tobias

All my love,
Opa

Pirate Pete loved treasure, he collected it galore,
And though he had an awful lot, he always wanted more.

To help him find lost treasure he had a pirate crew,
Of Riles and Mouse and Rara, Rira and Tubby too.
But Pirate Pete was selfish, and never would he share
Any of his treasures with the pirates in his care.

All the time they sailed with him upon the seven seas,
They never heard a “thank you,”
They never heard a “Please.”
They told him, “Be polite
And share your treasures with the crew,
Or one day something terrible may come about for you.”

But Pete would never listen and refused to be polite;
He hid his many treasures,
And his heart was full of spite.

Then one day they were sailing
Beside a hidden shore,
When Captain Pete spied treasure;
An enormous glistening store.

It was a dragon's treasure that Pete had chanced to find;
He took his crew out with him, and they followed on behind.

Into the dragon's den the fearless pirate strode,
To scoop up treasure for himself,
From the dragon's dark abode.

But his crew would not cooperate,
They knew what dragons do;
They hung back while Pirate Pete's great treasure pile grew.

So much of the treasure was piled in the boat,
Gold and silver, precious stones,
It would hardly stay afloat.

"More, more, I need some more,"
Pete shouted loud and clear,
But little did he know that the dragon would appear.

The dragon saw the captain; selfish, full of greed.
So it cast a little spell, and it did it at full speed.

Suddenly, to Pete's surprise, he saw himself turn green;
Scales on his body grew; great claws that looked so mean.
He'd changed into a dragon because of all his greed;
His crew was right, and this new look was terrible indeed.

The pirate crew all stared at him, then to the boat they fled;
There they pulled the anchor up, and home they quickly sped.

Pirate Pete was left behind; to be selfish never pays;
As a dragon on a stack of gold is how he would end his days.

But Riles and Mouse and Rara, Rira and Tubby too,
Learnt never to be selfish and always said, "Thank you."

When they had shared the treasure out,
They had enough to spare,
Which they gave away to others, to help people everywhere.
So never be so selfish that you cannot share your stuff,
Or you will be like Pirate Pete who never had enough.

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Pirate Pete is a selfish pirate in search of hidden treasure. But when Pirate Pete finds treasure hidden in a dragon's cave, he discovers the consequences of being selfish.

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