

## **MASTER BEDTIME TALE: DEEP SIX THE OPALS OR MUTINY**

InterDisciplinary Themes / Nature and Civilization CORE CONCEPTS ALPL

### **STANDARD KNOWLEDGE - Geography (multi-discipline)**

*Foundational*

**The location of land and water masses determine how boats navigate.**

*Elementary*

**The depth of the water determines such as things as how accessible its resources are (fish, ore), how amenable to safe passage (weather, shoals, swells).**

### **BEDTIME STORY**

On his last voyage, Annie's father (the Captain) had to deep-six a casket of Australian black opals in "the deepest part of the ocean when they were farthest from the land." Many of the crew believed that opals were evil and would curse the voyage causing some terrible disaster. Although he hid them from them, the crew had somehow learned he had them and made him throw them overboard on threat of mutiny. He had used all his retirement savings to buy them, and thus lost his hope of a comfortable retirement.

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*Toward the end of the sail-based whaling industry, Captains had to sail into further and more dangerous waters to get to the remaining whales that they had not already decimated the stocks of..... Instead of going the quickest way home, he would go the way that offered the most possibility of kills. Therefor, it is possible that this "deepest part of the ocean" was actually somewhere in the local South Pacific.*

*What part of this story seems logical to you? What doesn't? Consult the maps with 1) ocean depths, and 2) whale stock depletion to provide evidence for your answer.*

**see also**

**Mathematics: Measuring the Deepest Ocean**

**Physics: The Physics of the Deepest Ocean**

**Literature: The Literature of the Deepest Ocean**