

A summary of 'The Inchcape Rock' by Robert Southey

These cards are in the wrong order already so that when cut up students can not match them up by lining up the cutting lines ☺

<p>The Rover stood on deck; unable to see land he reassured himself that the moon would soon light the way.</p>	<p>He then rowed back to his boat and sailed away. He was gone a long time, during which he became very rich by sailing from other ships, but eventually he decided to return to Scotland.</p>
<p>The day was so still that there were no sounds or signs as the water moved around and over the Inchcape Rock. In fact, the waves were so small that they did not move enough to ring the Inchcape Bell.</p>	<p>He watched the Inchcape buoy and then told his men, 'Row to the Inchcape Rock and I'll destroy the kindness of the Abbot of Aberbrothok'.</p>
<p>The Abbot of Aberbrothok had placed the bell on a buoy on the Rock so that in stormy weather it would float and swing.</p>	<p>As he came closer to shore, there was a haze in the sky that blocked the sun and, although it had been windy in the day, the sea was flat calm by evening.</p>
<p>Sir Ralph the Rover was horrified as the waves poured over his ship and it began to sink.</p>	<p>One day, out at sea, when there was no wind and no waves, a ship lay silently and still in the water.</p>

<p>On this particular day, the sun was shining and seagulls screamed with joy.</p>	<p>Another sailor asked, 'Can you hear the waves breaking on the shore? I think we should be near land but I can not tell. I wish we could hear the Inchcape Bell.'</p>
<p>Sir Ralph the Rover, walking on the deck of his ship, watched the buoy carefully. He could see it because it was a darker green showing under the sea.</p>	<p>He felt cheered by the sunny day and whistled and sang busily, because the Rover was a bad man, what made him happy were wild thoughts.</p>
<p>There was no sound and, although the wind had died away, the ship drifted along. Suddenly, with a shudder, the vessel struck the Inchcape Rock!</p>	<p>The bell said, and Sir Ralph said, 'The next person who comes to the rock won't thank me about'.</p>
<p>Sailors were very grateful to the Abbot for this because they could hear the bell even when they couldn't see the Rock in rough seas.</p>	<p>As he was drowning, the Rover could hear a tolling bell but it wasn't the one on the Inchcape Rock; it was the Devil ringing his knell.</p>
<p>Sir Ralph was rowed to the rock where he lent over the side of his boat and cut the bell from the buoy.</p>	