

## **The Pirate Theory**

The *Mary Celeste* was set upon by pirates and the crew was murdered or put overboard in the lifeboat.

*Were there any signs of a fight?*

*What valuables were missing?*

*What valuables remained on the ship?*

*What was more valuable?*

## **The Drunken Crew Theory**

The crew of the *Mary Celeste* got drunk and killed the captain and his family. Then they fled in the lifeboat.

*What kind of man was Captain Briggs?*

*What kind of alcohol was aboard?*

*Was any alcohol missing?*

*What valuables were gone?*

*Why didn't the crew keep the ship?*

## **The Frightened Crew Theory**

The captain and crew were frightened by smoke and fumes escaping from the alcohol. They waited in the lifeboat to see if the *Mary Celeste* was going to explode. For reasons unknown, they were never able to return to the ship.

*Was there evidence of smoke and fumes?*

*What kind of sailor was Captain Briggs?*

*Were the hatches blown?*

*Was there evidence of fire on board?*

