


A sailor's life for me



| KS2 | | Museum staff activity | Morning visit - 2 facilitated sessions |
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| <p>Brief description:</p> <p>Inspired by a character actor, artefacts and your own imagination, explore what life was like on board ship in the age of sail. Handle a range of artefacts from ships’ biscuits to the luxuries of the captain’s table. Hear about weevils, scurvy and the lash!</p> | <p>History</p> <p>Pupils should be given opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ask and answer the questions• what do you know about life at this time; how do you know this and how can you find out more?• what was life like for rich and for poor people, for men, women and children, e.g. houses, food and farming, transport, education, clothes, celebrations, pastimes? |  | |
| <p>Learning objectives:</p> <p>Learn about the some of the trade that took place in and out of Wales in the eighteenth and ninetieth centuries.</p> <p>Pupils will also learn about what life was like for sailors on board sailing ships.</p> | | | |
| <p>Learning objectives:</p> <p>Learn about the some of the trade that took place in and out of Wales in the eighteenth and ninetieth centuries.</p> <p>Pupils will also learn about what life was like for sailors on board sailing ships.</p> | | | <p>This session can be adapted for special needs groups – please contact to discuss.</p> |

To make a booking: Tel: (029) 2057 3600 E-mail: Learning.Waterfront@museumwales.ac.uk

For more details see: www.museumwales.ac.uk/learning

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| Activity | | |
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| <p>Life on board: During this facilitated session, pupils will learn about early 19th century shipping trade and life on board a ship from a character actor. There will be extensive opportunity to handle a wide selection of replica artefacts to examine a number of themes including punishment, battle, how to sail a ship, ship construction health, food and past times.</p> | Skills | Skills Framework and LNF |
| <p>Discuss with your class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why were punishments so harsh at sea? • What were typical punishments? • What food was there on board ship? • Who cooked the food? • What were the other sorts of jobs on board? • What happened to sick seamen? • What did seamen do off duty? <p>What were 'sea-shanties'?</p> | <p>Developing thinking In history, learners develop their thinking skills through historical enquiry and reflection on key questions, ideas and interpretations.</p> <p>Developing communication In history, learners develop their skills of oracy, reading and writing and wider communication skills through using aural and written sources and communicating ideas, opinions, arguments and conclusions.</p> | <p>Skills Framework Developing communication : communicating ideas and emotions</p> <p>LNF Literacy – Writing : Organising ideas and information Aspect: meanings, purposes, readers</p> |
| <p>Resources that your pupils will use during the visit: Replica objects to include : navigational instruments - compass, octant, ships log, ships lead, maritime map; food related objects - bowl and trencher, Scotch coffee, ships biscuit, weekly rations list for the week, food samples; punishment and entertainment - Cat O Nine tails , grog, penny whistle, embroidery</p> <p>Health & Safety Information for schools:</p> | <p>Developing Thinking In history, learners develop their thinking skills through historical enquiry and reflection on key questions, ideas and interpretations.</p> | <p>Developing Thinking</p> <p>Developing Communication.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/learning/healthandsafety/ | | |
| <p>Preparations :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the pupils to think of some questions to ask the character actor or facilitator. • Remind the pupils that life on board ship in the age of sail was difficult. Men were cut off from normal life on shore for months, even years. They had to accept cramped conditions, disease and poor food and pay. They faced the daily dangers of sea and weather. • The main diet on board was salt beef or pork, cheese, fish, ale and some form of ship's biscuit. The quality of the food deteriorated because of storage problems, lack of ventilation, and poor drainage. It was also affected by the presence of rats and other vermin on board. • There were many jobs to be done on board ship: cook, boatswain (in charge of the sails), carpenter and quartermaster. Other members of the crew would, of course, carry out all the duties, including keeping watch, handling sails, and cleaning decks. | <p>Follow-up activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that sailors needed to be able to tie different types of knots. Ask the pupils if they know how to tie any knots. Get them to try out their knots with pieces of rope. How many different knots can they tie? How hard or easy are they to undo? Why might you want a knot to be hard to undo? Why would you want a knot to be easy to undo? | |

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