



**STORIES
FROM
THE SEA**

EXPLORATION OBJECTS



CAPTAIN JAMES COOK

Date made

1776

Object ref.

BHC2628

Credit

National Maritime
Museum, Greenwich,
London

Artist / maker

Nathaniel Dance

Description

In 1772, Captain James Cook sailed for the second time to the Antarctic and the Pacific, returning three years later in 1775. He sat for this portrait 'for a few hours before dinner' on 25 May 1776. It is not known whether he did so again before he left London on 24 June for his third voyage, never to return. David Samwell, surgeon's mate on the second voyage and surgeon on the third, thought it 'a most excellent likeness ... and ... the only one I have seen that bears any resemblance to him.'

Questions

What expression is on Captain Cook's face?
If you had your portrait painted, what would you wear? What objects would you have in the picture?



Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

