



A scene on board His Majesty's ship 'Deal Castle', Captain J. Cumming, in a voyage from the West Indies in the year 1775

Date made
1804

Object ref.
PAJ0773

Credit
National Maritime Museum

Description

This drawing is a rare view of the deck of a sailing warship at sea. The officers' chicken coops for eggs and fresh meat, and a free-ranging goat taken for milk, can be seen in the foreground. In the background, the ship's master and others observe and record the position of the sun. The figures on the left are officers.

Questions

1. Why would sailors have live animals on board a ship?
2. What other things would be important to take on a long voyage at sea?