



STORIES FROM THE SEA

PIRATE OBJECTS



BLUNDERBUSS

Date made

18th century

Object ref.

KILLM : 1978.220.3

Credit

Loaned to the Tollhouse by Kings Lynn Museum

Description

The blunderbuss was an early version of a shotgun. Instead of firing one bullet it fired lots of pieces of lead called 'shot', this meant that it could shoot lots of people at the same time. This was very useful when attacking enemy ships because one pirate could fight ten sailors at once! It was a very frightening weapon, but it was very heavy and took a long time to reload. It could also be used as a heavy club for hitting people!

Questions

1. Can you imagine how noisy a battle at sea would be? Why not try making all the different sounds with your class.
2. What kind of things could you smell in a pirate battle?
3. This blunderbuss is made of different materials. What materials do you think it is made from?



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