



STORIES FROM THE SEA

PIRATE OBJECTS



CANNON BALL

Date made

Unknown

Object ref.

GRYEH : 1985.75.1

Credit

Great Yarmouth Museums

Description

Iron and stone balls would be fired from the cannons on a ship. This iron ball was found in Norfolk. We don't know if it was ever fired.

When newspapers wrote about ships they always wrote how many cannons were on board. A merchant ship might only have six cannons, but the biggest warships carried over 100!

Different cannon balls did different jobs. Some were made for shooting at people on deck, some for shooting at the sails, masts and rigging, and some for shooting into the side of the enemy ship to make it sink.

Questions

1. This cannon ball is old and rusty, what do you think it looked like when it was new?
2. Firing a cannon is hard work! Find out what you need to do to fire one and act it out with your friends.
3. How do you think this cannon ball ended up in a field? Write a story explaining what happened.



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