PIRATE OBJECTS

STORIES FROM THE SEA

ROYAL NAVAL UNIFORM HAT

Date made
1795

Object ref.
UNI0082

Credit
National Maritime Museum

Description
Hats like these were worn in the late 1700s and 1800s by officers in the navy. This hat is made of beaver felt and has been covered in glazed linen to help to waterproof it. Pirates would have stolen any clothes they could from the people on board the ships they captured. A hat like this would have been a real prize!

Questions
1. Why do you think pirates wore hats like this?
2. Do people wear hats like this today?
3. How might wearing a hat like this make you feel? Important? Smart? Old-fashioned? Silly?