PIRATE OBJECTS

STORIES FROM THE SEA

PIRATE OBJECTS

NIGHT TELESCOPE

Date made
About 1810

Object ref.
NAV1485

Credit
National Maritime Museum

Description
Pirates used telescopes to spot ships that were too far away to see with the naked eye, and to look at the stars to help them find their way at sea. This telescope is designed specially to be used at night - useful for sneaky pirates sailing the seven seas under cover of darkness!

Questions
1. What do you think this telescope is made from?
2. Can you see how it's used?
3. Why do you think telescopes were so important to pirates?