

Sea sing

School Session Overview October 2025

Key information

Length of session: 60 mins

Key Stage: EYFS

Location(s) of session: Cutty Sark

Learning objectives Curriculum links (EYFS statutory framework) Learners will: Explore the life of a 19 th century sailor on board Cutty Sark through storytelling, shanty singing and games. Develop their communication skills through guided conversations/discussions. Develop social skills and confidence through performance, play and improvising. Explore the life of a 19 th century sailor on board Cutty Sark through storytelling, shanty singing and games. Through conversation, storytelling and role play, children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher Physical Development By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility Understanding the World The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increase their knowledge and sense of the world around them	Location(s) of session: Cutty Sark	
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Key words

Cutty Sark, tea, China, sailing, sailor, sea shanty, starboard, port, bow, stern

Overview of the session

Introduction

The facilitator introduces *Cutty Sark* and its location. They then teach the first song and collaborate with learners on developing a magic movement that will help them go back in time. Some sailor terminology is covered so learners are prepared to board the ship to explore life as a Victorian sailor.

Guided Tour

Learners go on a tour around the ship with the facilitator teaching new songs throughout the journey. The songs help to tell some of the stories of *Cutty Sark* and allow the learners to offer their own ideas and movements.

Suggested pre visit knowledge/activities	Suggested post visit activities
Find out what a sailing ship is and how it works. Draw a picture of you as a sailor on board a ship.	Practice the songs from the session and add movements.
Read stories featuring ships and sailing such as Brilliant Boats by Tony Mitton & Ant Parker.	Draw a picture of you as a sailor on board a ship - is it different to the picture you drew before your visit? What are the differences?



Links to useful resources

Ships and seafaring - BBC Teach

How to make a pirate ship - EYFS - Reception - BBC Bitesize

Ten things you should know about Cutty Sark | Royal Museums Greenwich

Cutty Sark learning resources | Royal Museums Greenwich