



STORIES FROM THE SEA

EXPLORATION OBJECTS



SNOW SHOES

Date made

c.1850s

Object ref.

GRYEH : 1967.685

Credit

Great Yarmouth
Museums

Description

These snow shoes were also made by Tlingit tribe members from wood, string and rawhide for the arctic like environment. The Tlingit tribe live all along the Pacific Northwest coast of North America. Lots of snow falls there throughout most of the year. These shoes are very useful for crossing snow because it spreads your weight evenly and means you don't sink into the snow drifts. They were therefore vital for the Tlingit to survive. The shoes would have been just as useful to explorers.

Questions

1. Try and remember a time when it snowed and you only had trainers or school shoes on your feet. How difficult was it to walk through snow? What happened to your feet in your shoes? How did you feel after being outside for a long while? Would these snow shoes have helped you?
2. What might happen to an explorer in an Arctic environment without snow shoes?