



## Captain James Cook (1728-79)

**Date made**  
1775-76

**Object ref.**  
BHC2628

**Credit**  
National Maritime Museum: Greenwich Hospital Collection

### Description

A portrait of Captain Cook, painted after his second Pacific voyage. Cook led three voyages of exploration to the Pacific and charted a great part of it. In this portrait he is wearing captain's full-dress uniform. He holds his own chart of the Southern Ocean on the table and his right hand points to the east coast of Australia on it.

### Questions

1. Describe Captain Cook in this painting.
2. What do you think the piece of paper he's pointing to might be?
3. How can you tell that Captain Cook is important?