

BOARD OF LONGITUDE Explorers



K1

Date made
1769

Object ref.
ZAA0038

Credit
National Maritime Museum: Ministry of Defence Art Collection

Description

K1 is a copy of H4. Following two successful sea trials of H4, the Board of Longitude commissioned another watchmaker, Larcum Kendall, to make a copy in 1766. K1 is the result. Kendall completed it in 1769. The Board issued K1 to Captain Cook for testing on his second round-the-world voyage and it worked very well.

Questions

1. What differences can you notice between K1 and H4?
2. Why did the Board of Longitude think it was important for another watchmaker to create a copy of Harrison's watch?
3. Captain Cook could test K1 thoroughly on his voyage around the world. What other reasons do you think the Board of Longitude had for choosing a well-known person like Cook to test the watch?