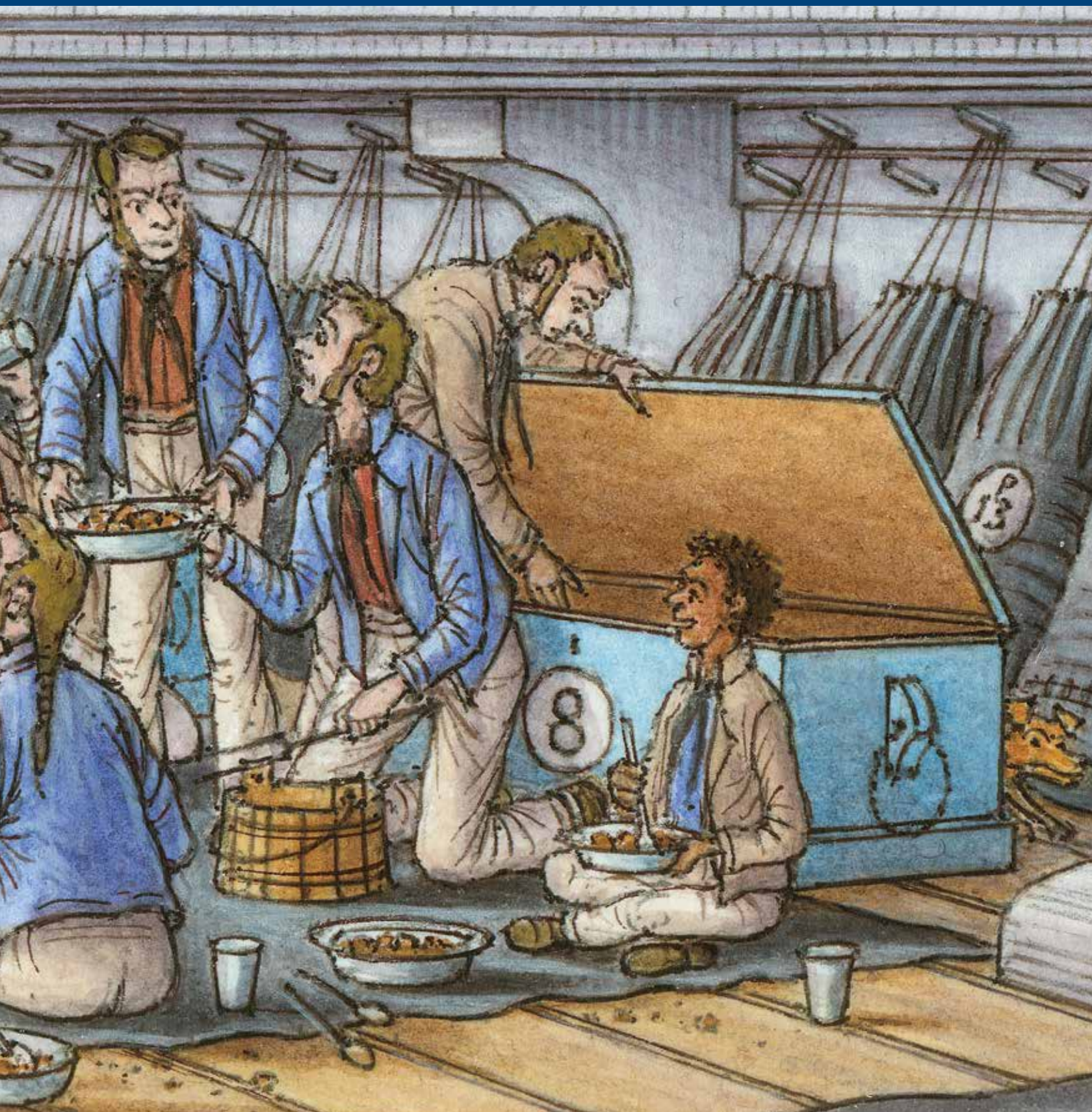
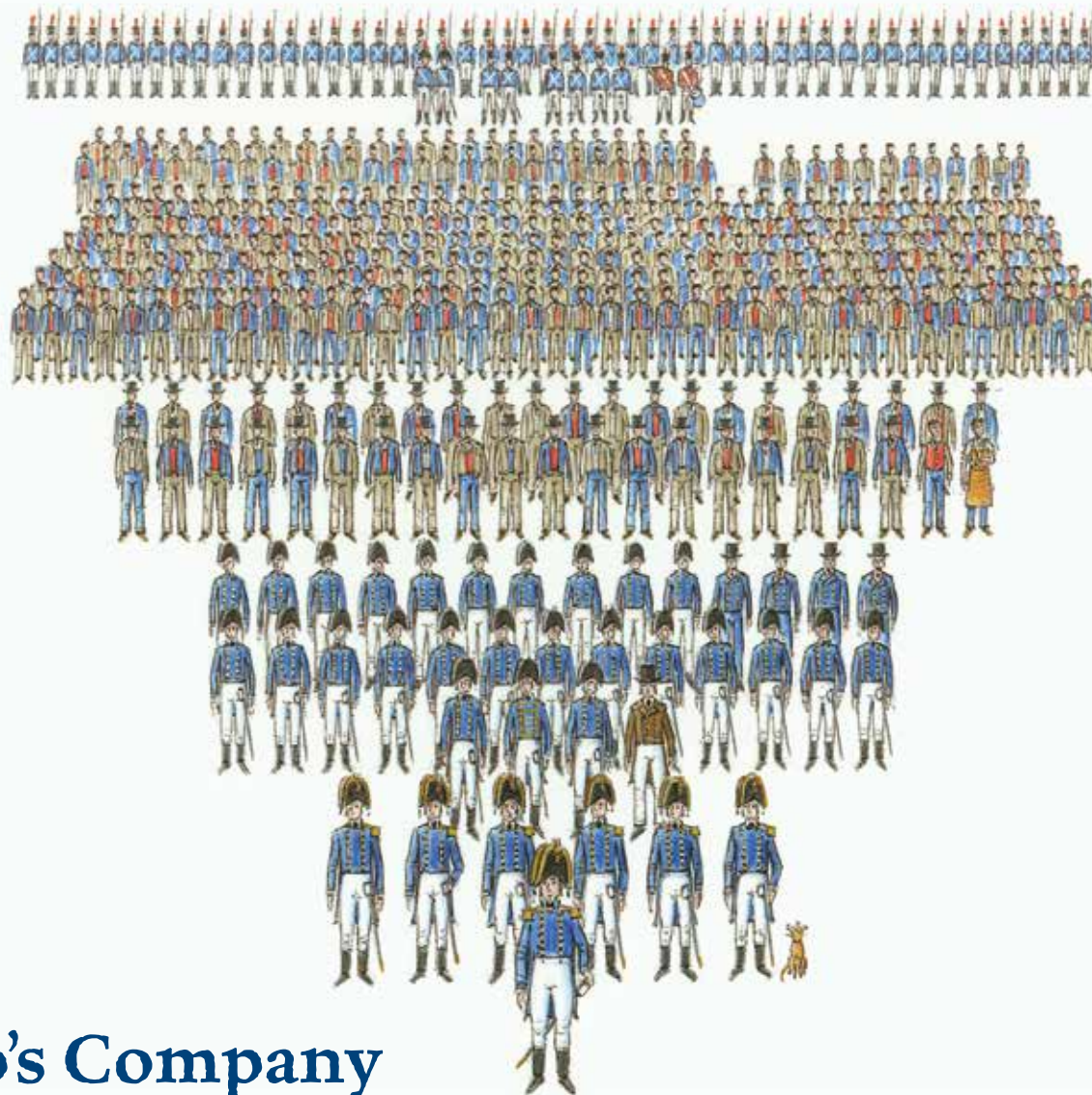


MEET YOUR SHIPMATES





MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Ship's Company

Constitution was a massive and complex fighting machine, and it took 450 - 500 men to keep her at sea. Two thirds were sailors, and another 60 were Marines — naval soldiers.

The rest of the crew were officers. Just seven of them, the "commissioned" officers, were gentlemen-sailors who commanded the Ship. "Warrant officers" were naval tradesmen with special skills. Their assistants were called "petty officers."

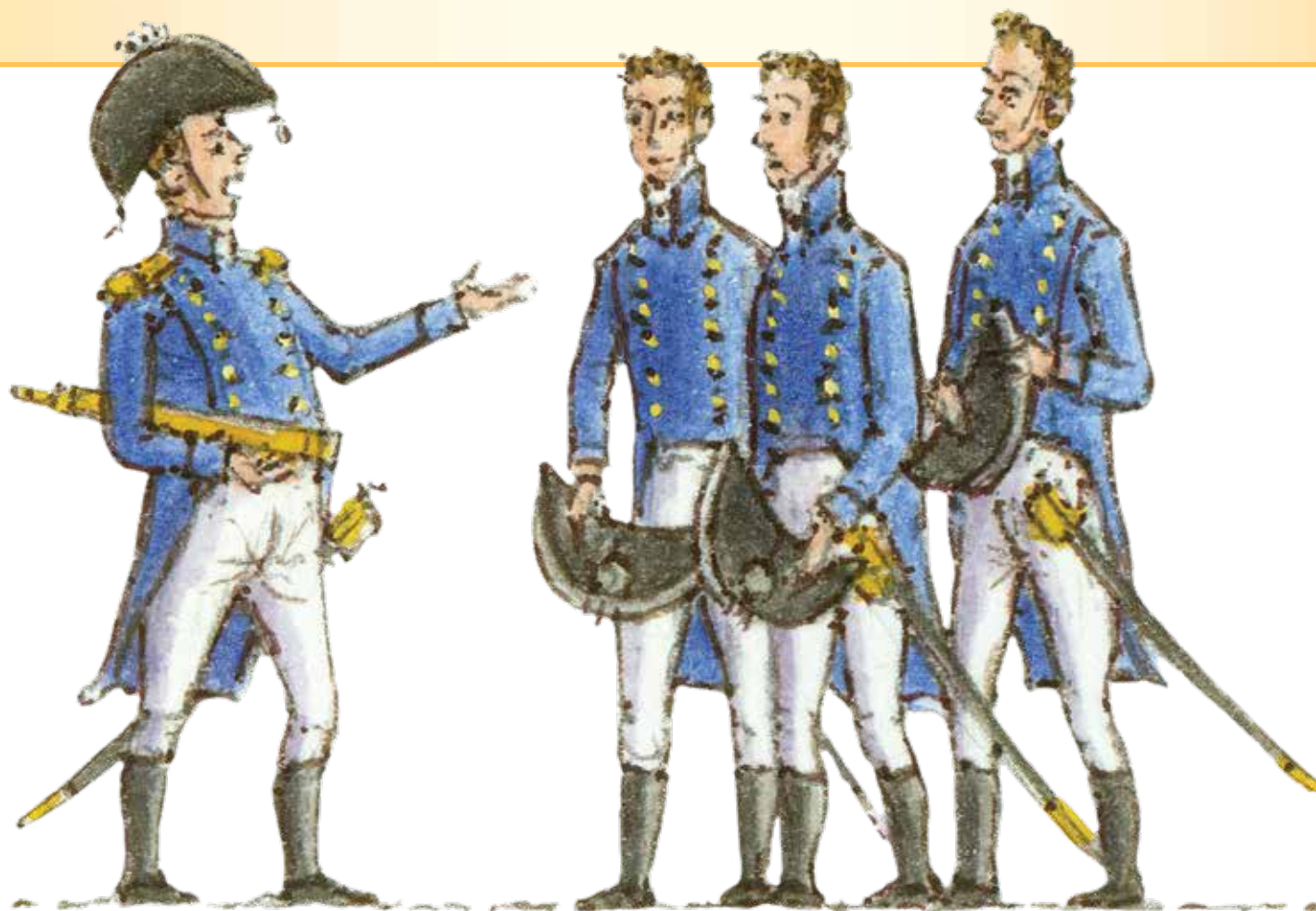
CAPTAIN



It is lonely at the top

As Captain, the responsibility for this great machine of wood, rope, and men ultimately rests on my shoulders. What I say is law. I have to make decisions based on what is best for the sake of ship and country, not individuals. The safety, well-being, and success of my men and our ship depend on my leadership.

MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Who am I?

I am Captain Isaac Hull from Derby, Connecticut. I first went to sea as a young boy on board merchant ships. When I was 26, I joined the Navy and became one of Constitution's lieutenants. Now, 13 years later, I stand here Captain of my favorite frigate.



Command the Crew

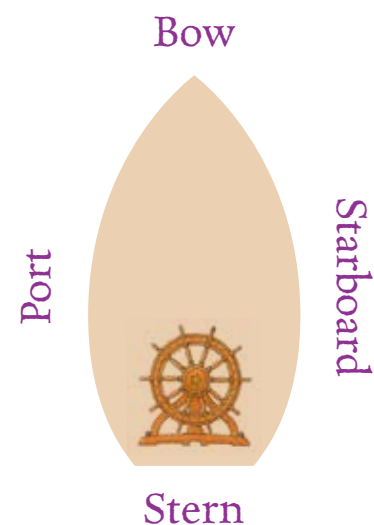
Try your hand at commanding a crew like Captain Hull.

How to play:

- Choose one person to be the Captain.
- Use tape or other objects to make a large outline of the deck of *Constitution* (see below).
- The Captain calls out commands from the list below that his or her crew must quickly follow. Crewmembers who don't follow the command are out!
- Go over all the commands before starting to make sure everyone knows what to do.

Commands:

- **"Captain's Coming!"**: The crew stops where they are and stands at attention with their feet together, arms at their sides, and standing up straight
- **"Man Your Boats!"**: The crew lines up single file in the middle of the ship area and pretends to row
- **"At Ease!"**: The crew stands with their feet apart and hands clasped together behind their backs
- **"Holystone the Deck!"**: The crew gets on their hands and knees and pretends to scrub the floor
- **"Seagull!"**: The crew ducks and covers their heads
- **"Crew to . . ."**
 - » **Starboard** (right) **side**
 - » **Port** (left) **side**
 - » **Bow** (front of the ship)
 - » **Stern** (back of the ship)
- **Add other commands, like "salute," "look through a telescope," "climb to the sails," etc. Be creative!**



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Officer's Sword

When dressed in full uniform, Captain Isaac Hull carried items reflective of his standing as an officer and a gentleman. Especially significant is his sword that hung on his left side. Captain Hull felt very connected to his sword. He could use it to defend himself if necessary, but it was more than a weapon, it was a symbol of what he had achieved.

Naval officer's dress sword owned by Isaac Hull, early 19th century
Hull was Captain on board *Constitution* in 1812
Collection of the USS Constitution Museum, Boston

In My Own Words

"I have now one of the best ships in our navy and a crew of 430 men, which you will think a large family, it's true; but being a good housekeeper I manage them with tolerable ease. I however scold sometimes and now and then get angry."

*-Isaac Hull to Mary Wheeler,
July 12, 1810*



MIDSHIPMAN

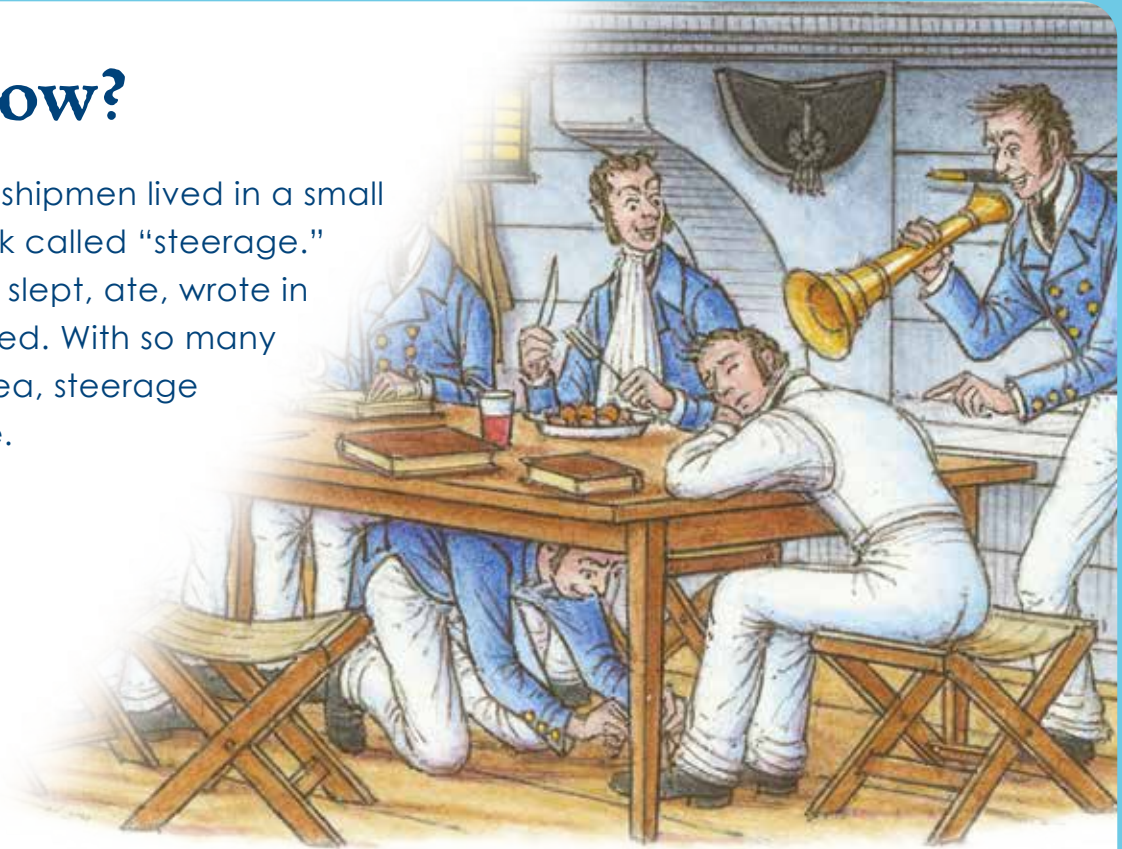


USS Constitution's crew includes Midshipmen like me. We are young officers in training, who learn seamanship, naval tactics, and navigation to prepare us to be a Lieutenant or even Captain someday.

MEET YOUR SHIPMATES

Did you know?

Between 15 and 21 Midshipmen lived in a small space on the berthdeck called "steerage." Here the young officers slept, ate, wrote in their journals, and relaxed. With so many living in such a small area, steerage was a noisy, busy place.



Who am I?

Probably the proudest day of my 22 years came when I, Pardon Mawney Whipple of Providence, RI, was appointed Midshipman and assigned to Constitution. My father, an officer in the Revolution, instilled in me a love for our young country and a belief that there is no greater honor than to fight for it.



Do you qualify to be a Midshipman in 1812?

- **Can you read and write?**

NO - Sorry! You won't be able to perform your duties as a Midshipman without these skills.

YES - Off to a good start! A Midshipman needs reading, writing, grammar, and penmanship skills to keep an official journal. Officers in training also need to know math and geography for navigation.

- **Do you have seafaring experience?**

NO - That's okay! It's not required.

YES - 58% of Midshipmen have previous seafaring experience.

- **Do you come from a coastal state?**

NO - No problem. Midshipmen come from all regions of the United States.

YES - The majority of Midshipmen come from Atlantic coastal states.

- **Are you between the ages of 12 and 18?**

NO - That's all right. Boys younger than twelve and men over twenty can serve as Midshipmen.

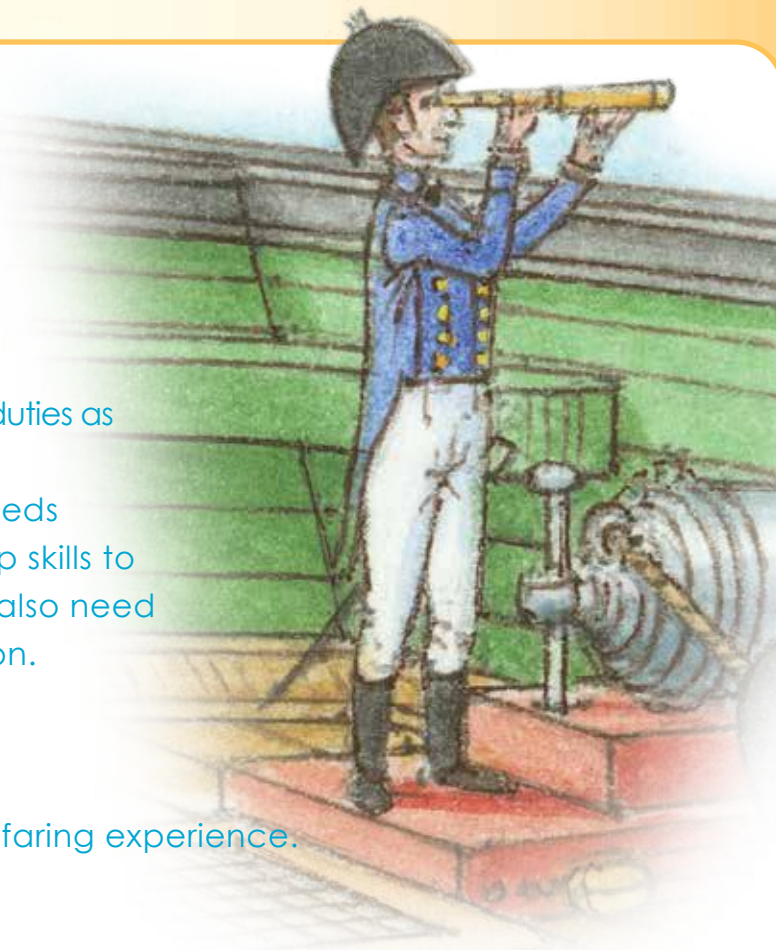
YES - You're in good company. The average age is 17.

- **Do you have a letter of recommendation from a senator?**

NO - You will have to get one!

YES - Good! Political and social connections are essential to gain an appointment as a Midshipman.

Even if you have all the qualifications necessary, your chances of becoming a Midshipman are only one in ten.



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Keep a Logbook

Midshipmen had to keep a copy of the Ship's logbook. In each logbook entry, they recorded the date, weather, the Ship's location, and major events that happened that day.

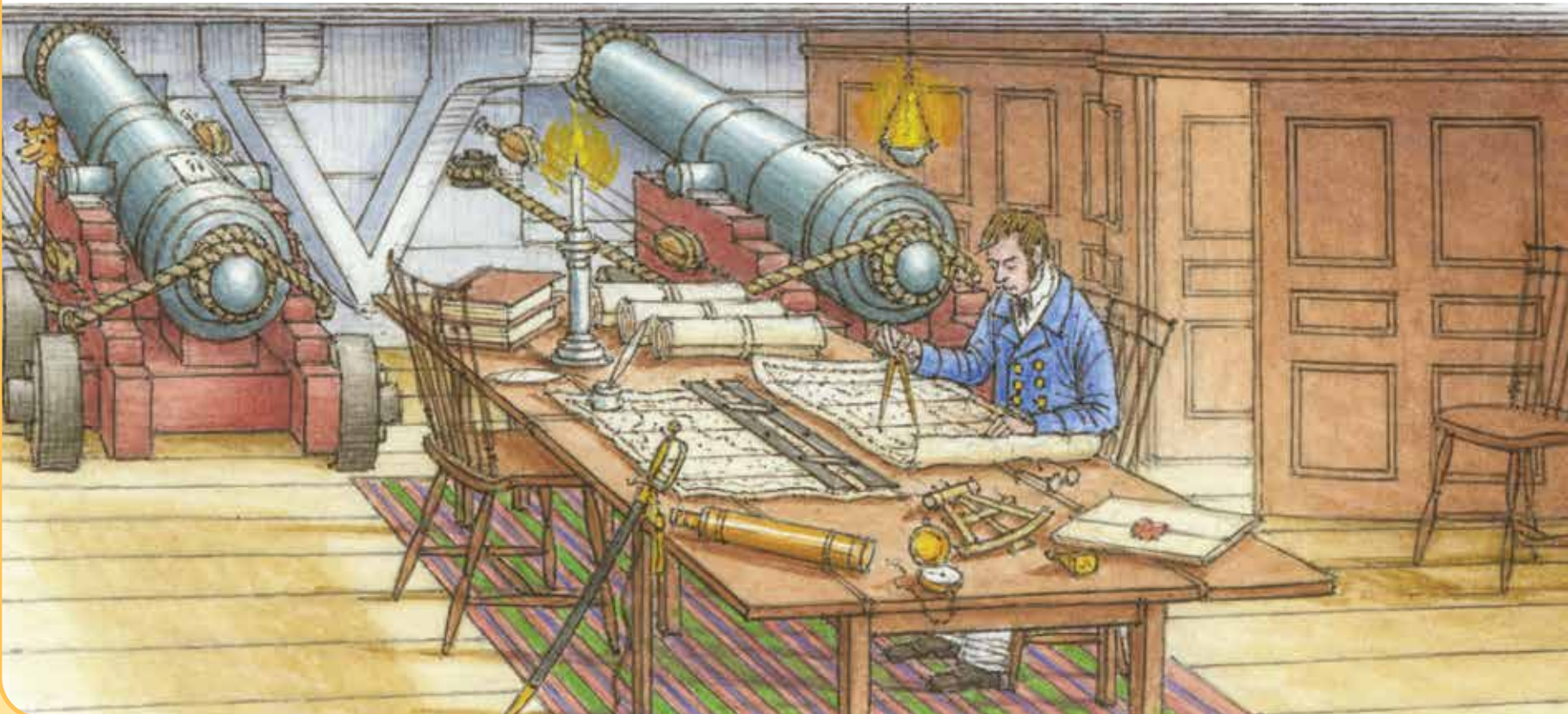
Make your own logbook to record what's going on in your life!

You will need:

Paper
Pencil or pen
Outdoor thermometer (optional)
Compass (optional)

Make your logbook:

- Fold a few sheets of paper in half.
- Staple along the folded edge of the paper.
- Decorate the cover.





Date	Time	Weather	Location	What Happened Today

Write an entry:

Inside your logbook, write “Date,” “Time,” “Weather,” “Location,” and “What Happened Today” along the top of the page, as shown above.

- **Date:** Write the date.
- **Time:** Record the time.
- **Weather:** Take your logbook and pencil outside and observe the weather. What does it feel like outside? Is it sunny, rainy, or windy? Is it hot, cold, or somewhere in between? Write it down or draw a picture. If you have an outdoor thermometer, record the temperature.
- **Location:** Write down where you are right now.
 - If you have a compass, use it to figure out which direction you are facing. If you don't have a compass, you can describe where you are facing (for example, “I'm facing the front door of my house”).
 - Describe a route you travel every day (such as the one between your house and your school) using landmarks. Landmarks can be stores or restaurants you know, mountains or lakes, or even funny colored houses.
- **What happened today:** Write down what you did today and what people in your family did today. Did you eat something special for lunch? Did you visit someplace new?

You have completed your first entry in your logbook. If you want to keep a logbook like *Constitution's*, write another entry tomorrow!

MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



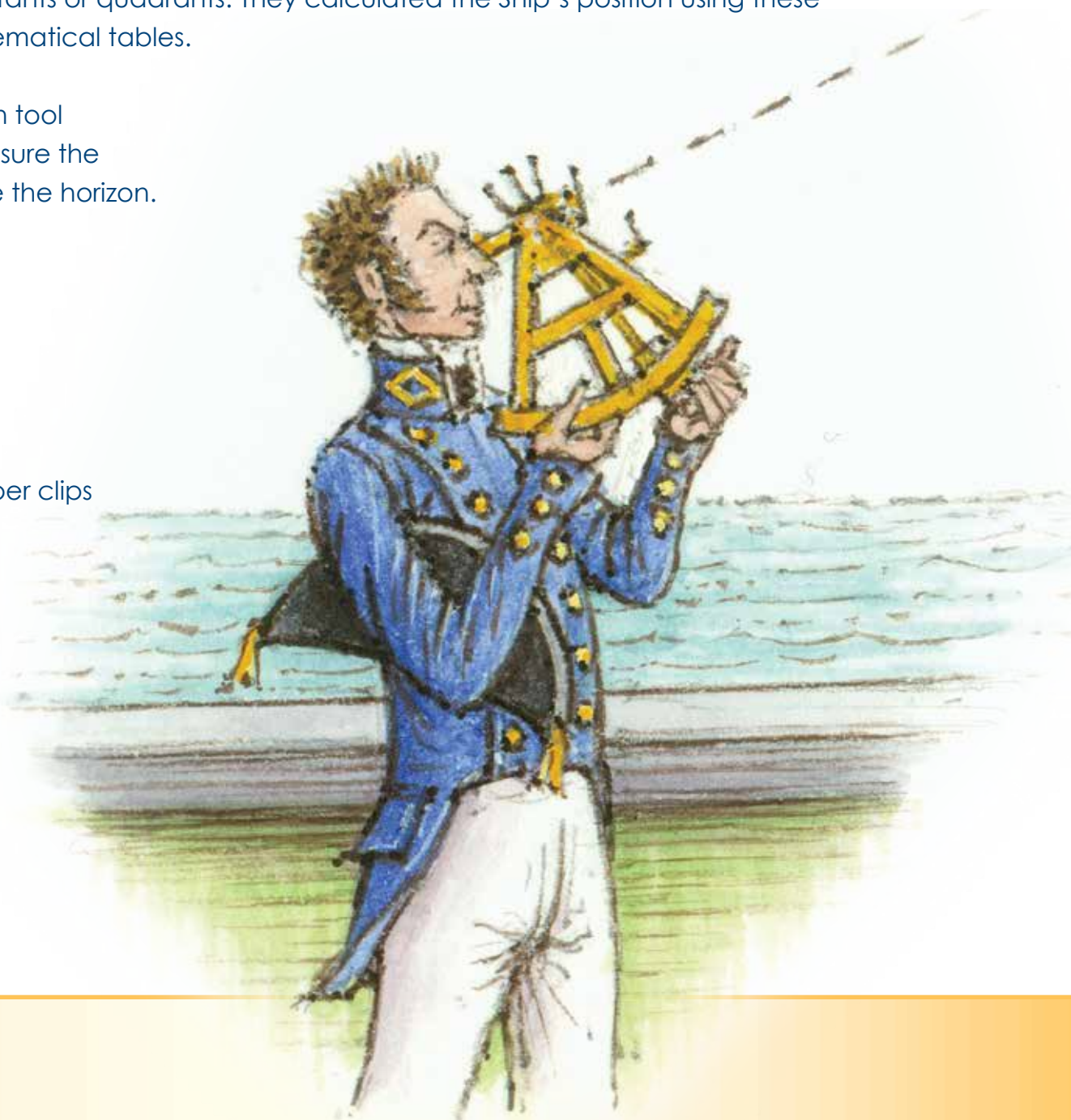
Become a Navigator

Part of the Midshipmen's education on board was navigation, or learning to determine *Constitution's* location and direction at sea. How was this done with no land in sight? Well, each day Midshipmen measured the movement of celestial bodies – the sun, moon, or stars – using instruments like sextants or quadrants. They calculated the Ship's position using these measurements and mathematical tables.

Make your own navigation tool called a quadrant to measure the height of an object above the horizon.

You will need:

- Protractor
- Straw
- String
- Metal washer or three paper clips
- Tape





Instructions:

Tie a washer or three paperclips to one end of the string. Tie or tape the other end of the string to the middle of the straight edge of the protractor, so that the string hangs down the center (at the 90 degree mark).

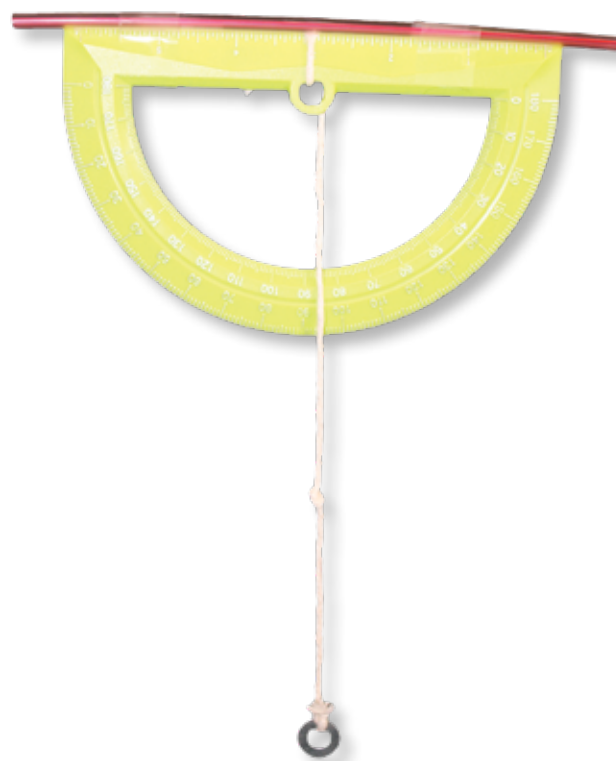
Tape the straw to the straight edge of the protractor, leaving a little space on either side. When you use the protractor, the straw edge will be on top.

Hold the protractor in your right hand (the numbers should be facing to your left). Look through the straw at the top of an object (like the moon, a star, a tall building, a tree, a telephone pole, or a mountain).

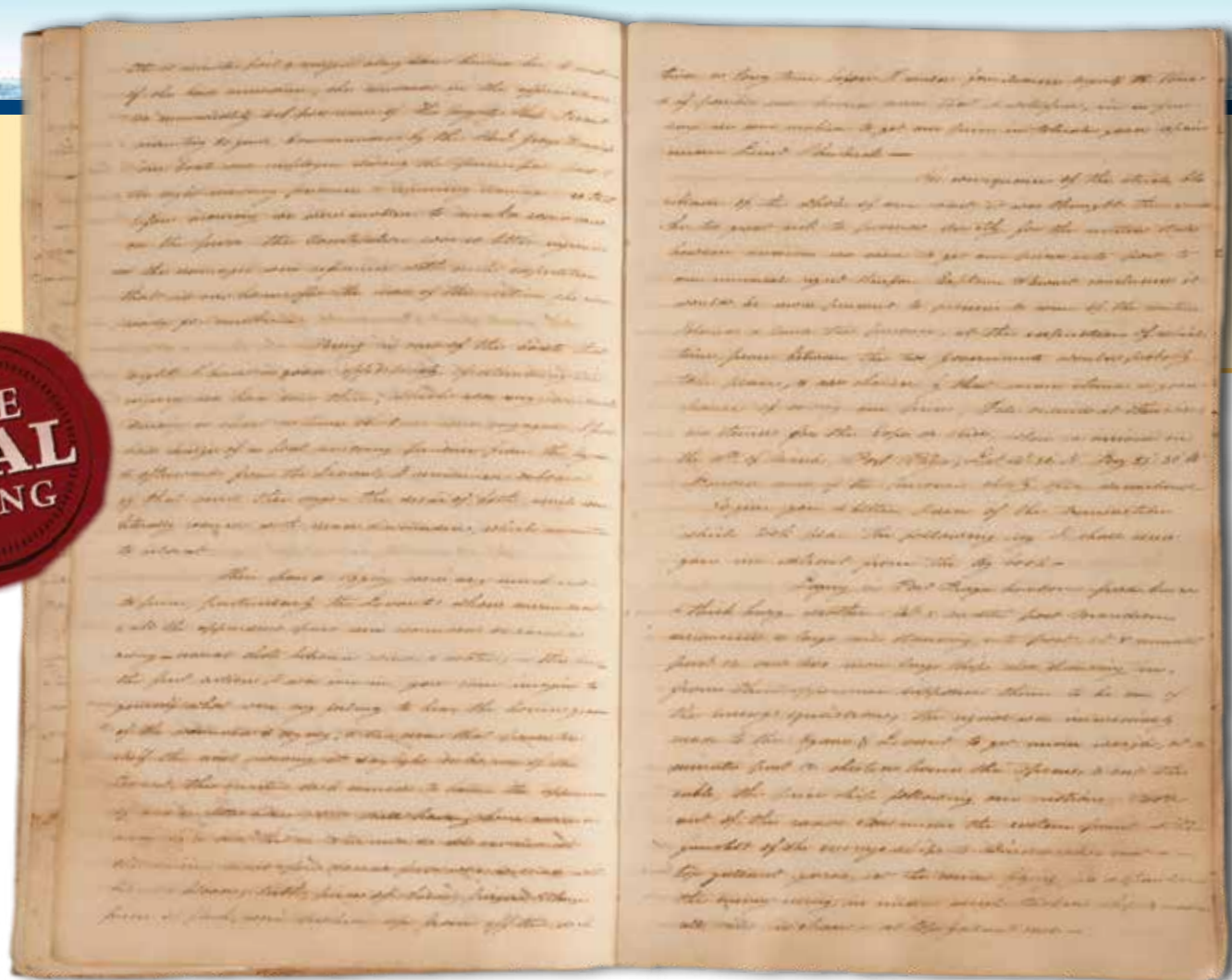
Have a partner look at the string and read the angle from the inner set of numbers on the protractor (0-90 degrees). Which angle degree does the string fall on? This will tell you the **zenith angle** (the angle between the highest point over your head [the zenith] and the object you're looking at). Subtract this number from 90 degrees to find the **altitude angle** (the height in degrees of the object above the horizon).

Try another object (it can be taller or shorter). Is this altitude angle larger or smaller?

Challenge! Try tracking the movement of a celestial body (like the moon or a star) over the course of a week. Each night at the same time, take a measurement of your object and calculate the altitude angle. How does it change over time? Why do you think it changes?



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Not all of the Midshipmen's time was spent fighting the enemy or learning to be an officer. They had some time to spend as they pleased. When not enjoying the company of friends or reading, Midshipman Pardon Mawney Whipple recorded his experiences in this letterbook. He addressed each letter, "Dear Friend."

In his first entry he wrote:

"I shall take a copy of my letters which will in some future day afford to myself the gratification of reviewing the scenes of past life - I shall make no further apology for my incorrect style, because you are well acquainted with the busy scenes of a seafaring life and the interruptions that so frequently occur, particularly onboard of a man of war."



Letterbook kept by Pardon Mawney Whipple, 1813-1821
Whipple was Midshipman on board Constitution from 1813-1815
Collection of the USS Constitution Museum, Boston

SEAMAN

*All for one and
one for all*

*USS Constitution is a massive
and complex fighting machine.
It will take nearly 450 of us
sailors working together
as a team to achieve
victory.*

In My Own Words

*"Constitution's crew was the
smartest and her men the most
capable ever known in the annals
of history. Many of her men had
been brought up on the sea, some
had been masters of vessels both as
sailors and marines and they were
as united as brothers."*

*- Thomas Byron, Marine fifer on
board USS Constitution, 1812*

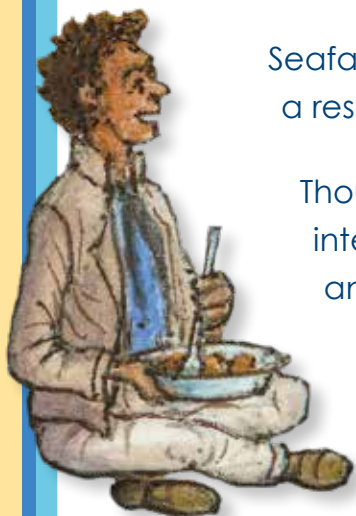
MEET YOUR SHIPMATES

Did you know?

Historians estimate that, during the War of 1812, 7-15% of sailors in the Navy were free men of color.

Seafaring was one of only a few jobs that offered free African Americans a respectable career with equal pay.

Though racism wasn't absent at sea, free black sailors were integrated into the shipboard community - sleeping, eating and working side by side with their white counterparts.



Who am I?



I'm Jesse Williams. I've been to sea for a piece, and joined Constitution's crew as an Ordinary Seaman in August 1812. During battle, I'm one of the spongers on the third 24-pounder long gun. It's a dangerous job, but our crew practices until we can fire our gun with our eyes closed - we all have to work together to keep the Ship and each other safe!



How do YOU compare to the average sailor in 1812?

- **How tall are you?**
The average height was 5' 6".
- **How old are you?**
The average age was 27 but a few were under 15 and over 50.
- **What color are your eyes?**
The most typical eye color was gray (shade of blue).
- **What color is your hair?**
The majority of sailors had brown hair worn short or tied back in a short queue (braid).
- **Are you African American?**
7-15% of sailors were free men of color.
- **Do you have any tattoos?**
5-10% of sailors had tattoos. Designs often included initials, anchors, hearts, or a cross.
- **Do you have any marks?**
A seafaring life left many sailors with scars, burns, and missing fingers.



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MEET YOUR SHIPMATES

MARINE



We are Watching You

As the Ship's guard and security force, we Marines help maintain order. You sailors are expected to do WHAT you are told WHEN you are told to do it. If not. . . don't say I didn't warn you!



Did you know?

Prior to joining, about 40% of *Constitution's* Marines worked as artisans or craftsmen, including butchers, bakers, blacksmiths, tailors, plasterers, shoemakers, silver platers, and coachmakers. Most of the other men were farmers or laborers before joining the Marines.



Who am I?

I, William Sharp Bush, grew up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where I tried my hand at the business of farming. After my father died in 1809 I joined the Marine Corps and found my true calling. Now, three years later I am in charge of Constitution's Marine Guard.

MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Make a Marine Stock

As early as 1798, Marines wore a stiff collar of leather buckled around their necks. Called a “stock,” this neckwear made the men keep their heads up and walk with a soldierly bearing. Even though the stock disappeared from the Marine uniform in 1872, the modern Marine Corps still refers to its men and women as “Leathernecks.”

Make your own version of the Marines’ “leatherneck.”

You will need:

Paper
Scissors
Paint, markers, or crayons
String, ribbon, or an old shoelace

Instructions:

1. Draw an outline of a stock on a piece of paper. Use the examples on the next page as a guide.
2. Decorate your stock.
3. Cut out the shape.
4. Punch two small holes at each end of the stock.
5. Wrap the stock around your neck (the dip goes in front under your chin). Have someone thread the string or laces through the holes and tie them tightly in a bow.

Now you know what it feels like to be a Marine in 1812!





Use this shape as a guide



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES

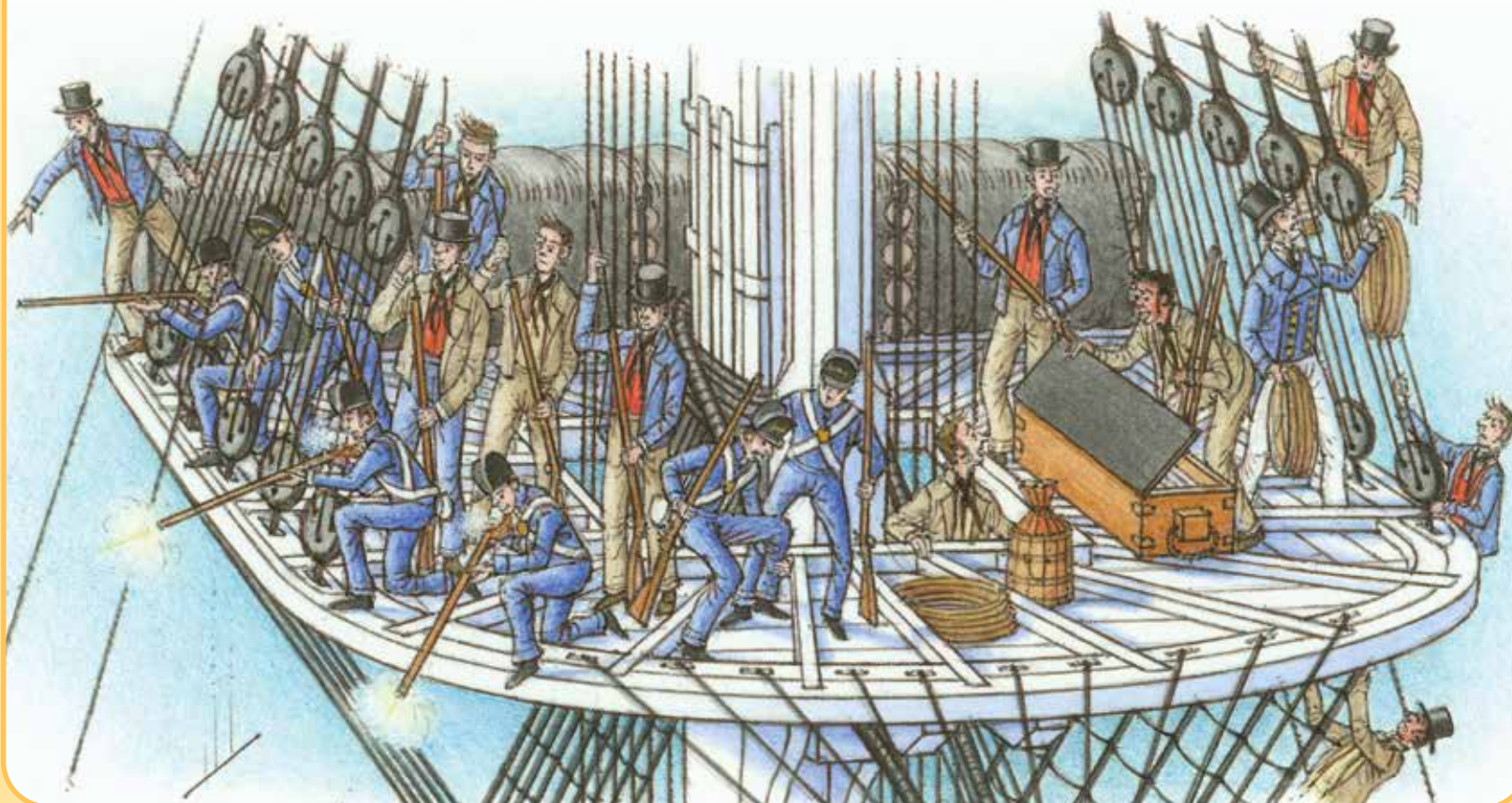


Musket

In port, *Constitution's* Marines guarded the Ship with muskets like this. Before battle, some Marines climbed high onto a platform called a fighting top, where they fired down onto the decks of the enemy ship.



Springfield musket, 1811
Collection of the USS Constitution Museum, Boston





March Like a Marine

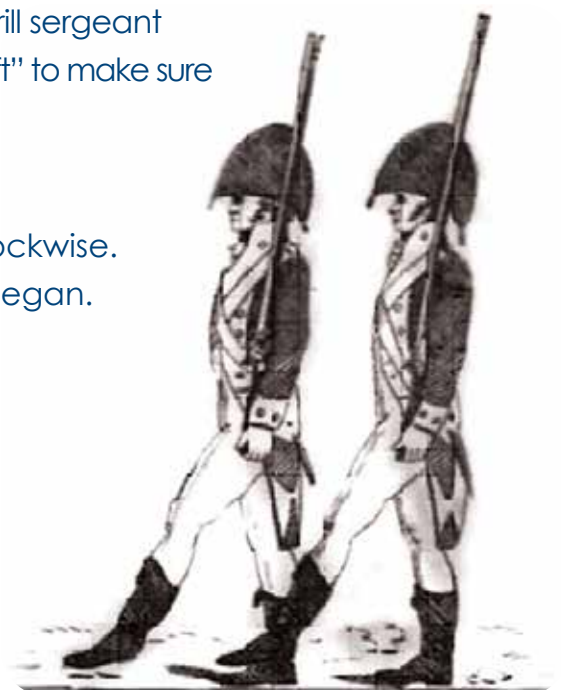
To be effective in battle, Marines learned to work and move together. Part of their training involved marching and turning as a group to the beat of a drum. Marines marched at the "common step." Each pace was two feet long, and they took 75 steps per minute. In addition, Marines were taught to point their toes as they marched.

Practice marching like a Marine!

- Gather a group and stand in a line. Each person should face the back of the person in front of him or her.
- The first person in line is the drill sergeant and will give the commands.

Commands:

- **"To the Front - March!":** Step off together with the left foot. Drill sergeant marks time by saying the cadence "Left... Left... Left, Right, Left" to make sure everyone steps on the proper foot at the proper time.
- **"Halt!":** Stop marching.
- **"To the Right - About Face!":** Turn in place 180 degrees clockwise. Face the way you came and march back to where you began.
- **"Company - Dismissed!":** Recruits may disperse!

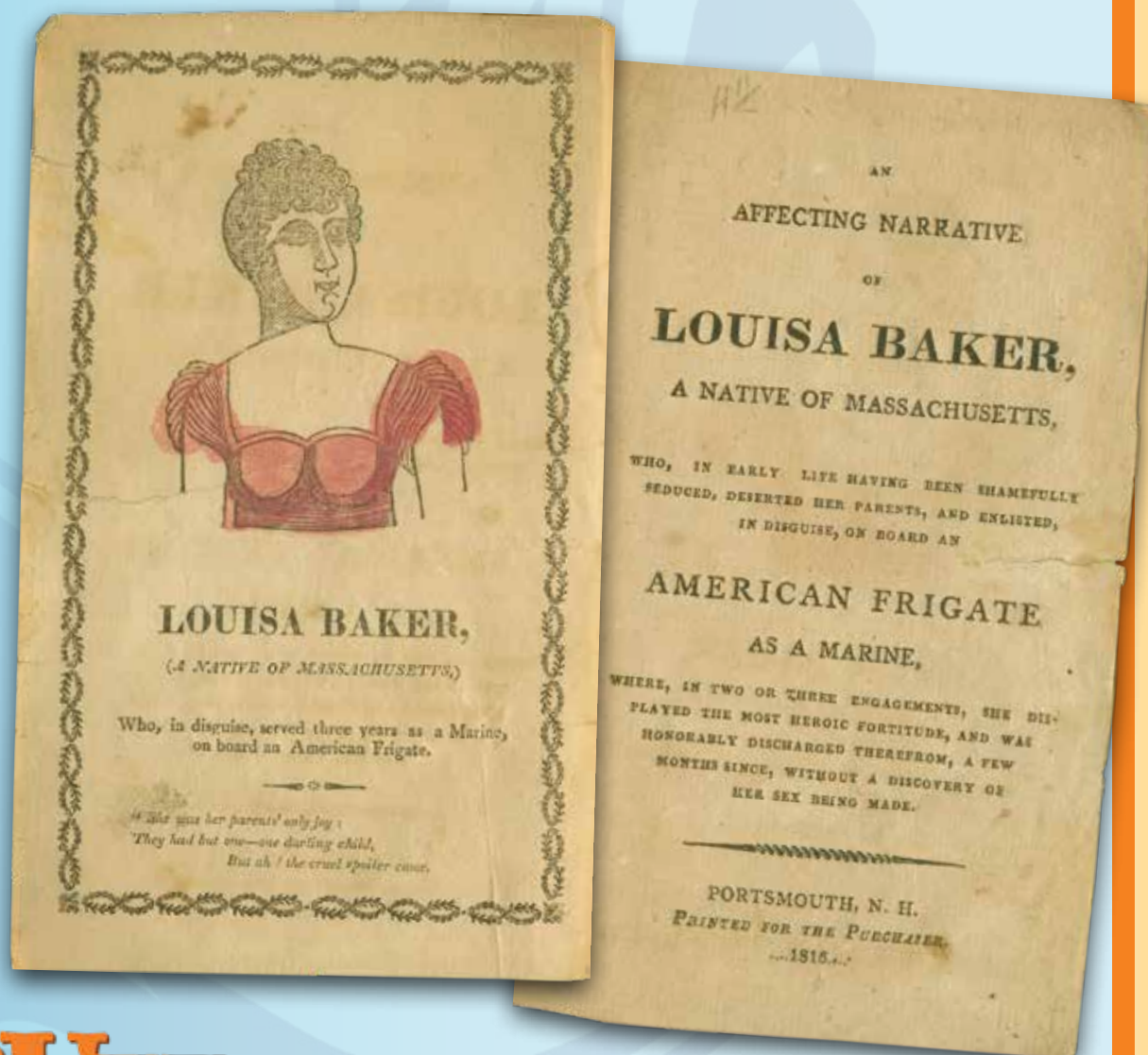


MEET YOUR SHIPMATES

The Female Marine?

In 1815, Boston printer Nathaniel Coverly published a best-selling fictional story about a woman named Lucy Brewer. After running away from home, Lucy disguises herself as a man, calls herself George, and enlists as a Marine on board *Constitution*. She survives the battle with HMS *Guerriere* and after a few years returns to her worried parents.

Readers liked the story so much that there were nineteen editions published between 1815 and 1818. Some of the editions changed Lucy's name to Louisa Baker, like the one pictured here.



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"An Affecting Narrative of Louisa Baker," 1815
Collection of the USS Constitution Museum, Boston

GUERRIERE THE TERRIER



Woof!

*I am a terrier, named
Guerriere (it rhymes).
Lieutenant Beekman Verplank
Hoffman named me after
Constitution's most famous
opponent, HMS Guerriere.
I am a favorite among the
crew.*

MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Take a Trip with Guerriere

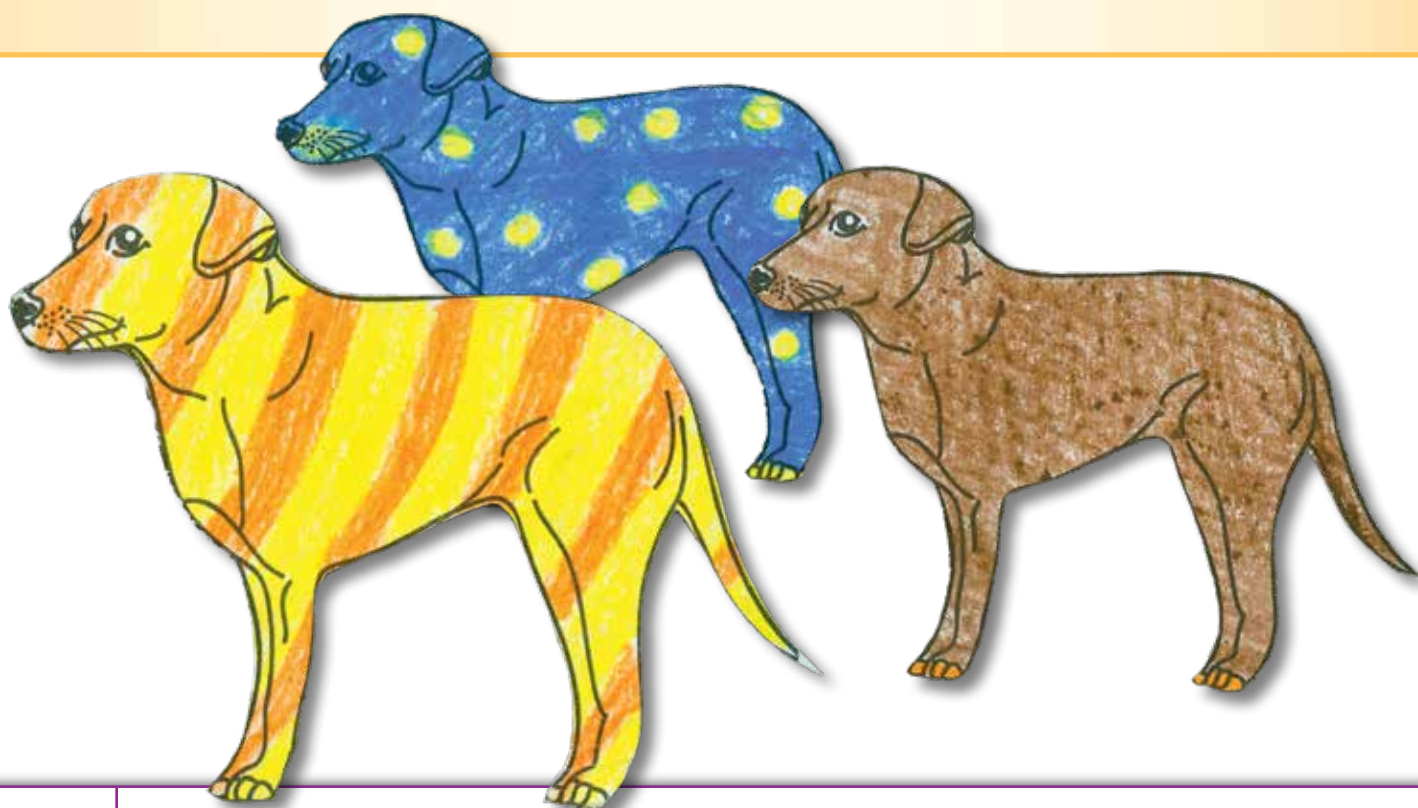
Download and print out "Flat Guerriere" and his accessories from usscm.org/discover-learn/fun-games. Then, color and cut him out and bring him outdoors or in different rooms in your house. Use a Dog Log to keep track of the terrier's adventures.

Dog Log

Date	Where did Guerriere visit?	What did Guerriere see?
8-19	Boston, Massachusetts	Guerriere returned to USS Constitution today. He was impressed to learn that the Ship is now the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world.
8-19	Boston, Massachusetts	With dogged determination, Guerriere visited all the hands-on exhibits in the USS Constitution Museum. He gave his visit two enthusiastic paws up!



Guerriere the Terrier



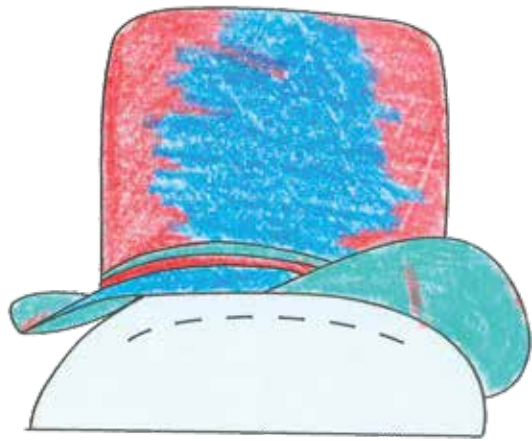
10-21	Portsmouth, England	Guerriere was right at home on HMS Victory - He saw lots about Admiral Nelson but not much about old sea dogs.
10-23	Paris, France	This was the highlight of Guerriere's Tour de France - the Eiffel Tower!



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Make Clothes for Guerriere



Sailor's Hat

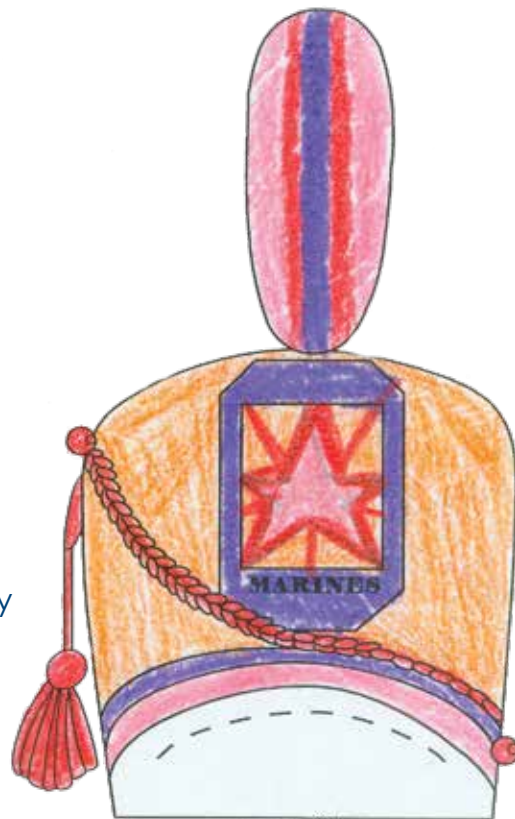
Did you know?

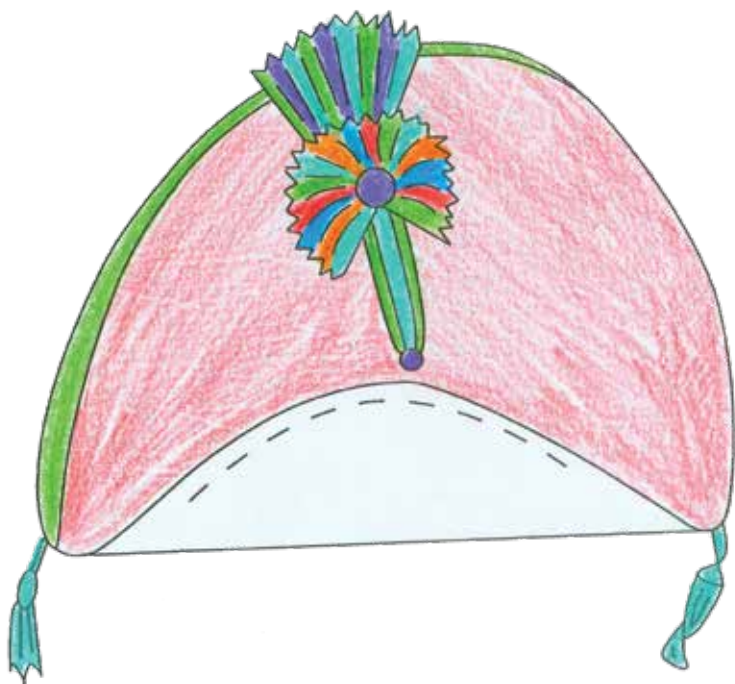
This hat was very popular in 1812 and was worn by men on both land and sea.

Marine Cap

Did you know?

The Marine cap was called a "shako." The hats worn by marching bands today are based on the shako design.





Captain's Hat

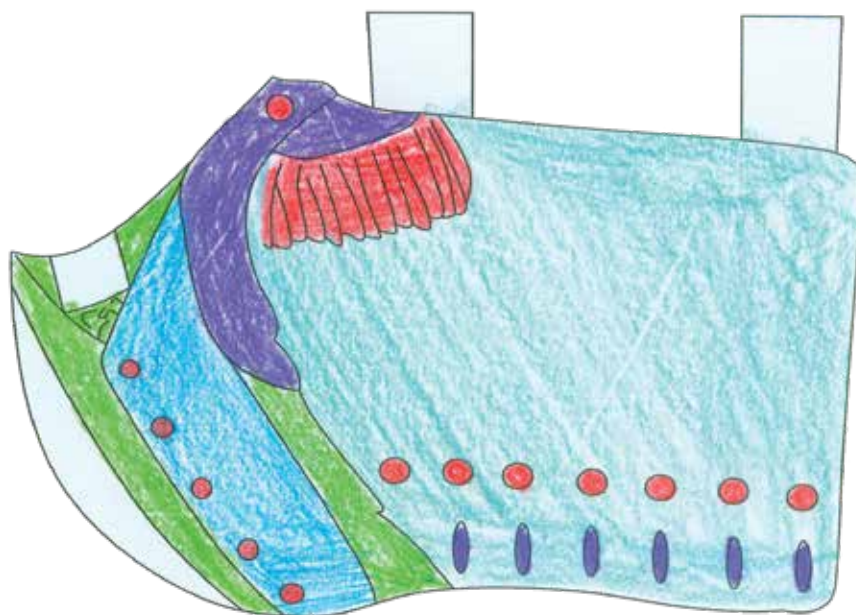
Did you know?

The Captain's hat could fold flat and be carried under the arm.

Captain's Coat

Did you know?

The gold "shoulder pads" on the Captain's coat are called epaulettes and distinguished the Captain from the ship's lieutenants. Lieutenants wore one epaulette on their left shoulder, while the Captain wore two - one on each shoulder.





Did you know?

One day in February 1815, while standing on the Ship's rail, Guerriere began to bark. The sailors soon discovered that he was barking at a Portuguese ship on the horizon. The crew made ready for battle and, although the other ship proved friendly, Guerriere proved himself to be a helpful and intelligent sailor.



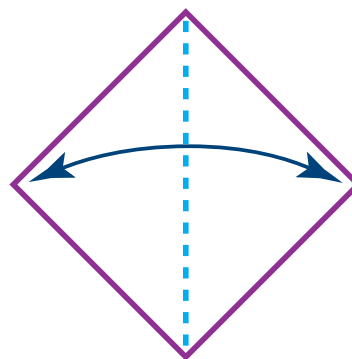
MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Make a Paper Dog

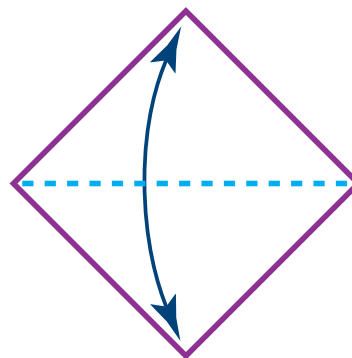
Step 1

Fold a square piece of paper in half and open it back up.



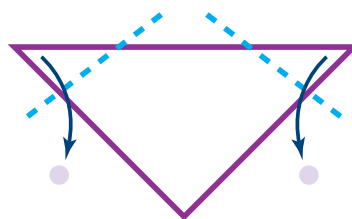
Step 2

Fold the top corner down to the bottom corner.



Step 3

Fold the two top corners down to the points shown.

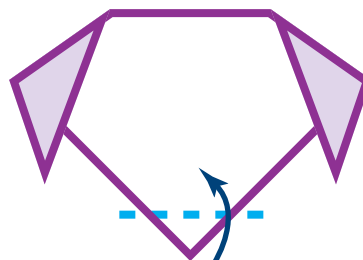


Guerriere the Terrier



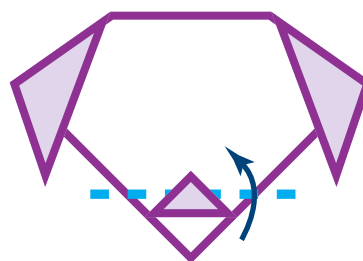
Step 4

Fold the top layer of the bottom corner up a little way.



Step 5

Fold this layer up again, from the top of the triangle as shown.



Congratulations!

You've completed Guerriere.
Now give him a personality
and add eyes and a nose.



MEET YOUR SHIPMATES



Two young “tigers,” removed from a captured merchant ship, joined *Constitution*’s crew in 1814. When “Old Ironsides” returned to Boston in 1815 from another successful war cruise, the “tigers,” like the Ship’s sailors, became local celebrities. The animals were put on view for a fee in area taverns. This broadside advertises their appearance in Worcester, MA at Captain Duncan’s Tavern, where the curious could see them for 12 cents.

Did you know?

These animals were described as “quite playful with the men, very tame and gentle, except when ... eating.” One of the Ship’s cats fell victim to the “tigers” and a monkey on board just barely escaped.

Broadside, 1815
Courtesy of the American Antiquarian Society



Animals On Board *Constitution*

Guerriere wasn't the only animal on board *Constitution*. While officers brought chickens and goats for fresh eggs and milk, the sailors often took dogs and cats to sea. Occasionally there were even more exotic animals like squirrels, a raccoon, and at least one troublesome monkey who bit a sailor on the nose.



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