



ACTIVITY

Uniform Comparison: Sailors and Marines

Compare the uniform of a Marine to that of a U.S. Navy sailor during the War of 1812. Why are there different uniforms, and what do they say about their jobs and rank? Have students list other professions that require a uniform or dress code, and list the reasons why they wear a uniform for their job. Can you tell what a person does just by seeing what they wear?

1812 Marine Uniform vs. 1812 Ordinary Seaman Uniform



Marine Private Uniform

War of 1812

With its bright buttons and decorative trim, the Marines' War of 1812 dress uniform made a statement. It gave the man who wore it a professional attitude, and projected American military power for all to see.



Ordinary Seaman Uniform

War of 1812

The sailor's blue jacket and white trousers were emblems of his trade. Practical and durable, his clothes were ideally suited to shipboard labor. Working men everywhere wore tall round hats.