



Bravery At Sea

Overview & Major Themes

In this lesson, for young students, they read a story of bravery at sea and look closely at the uniform of USS *Constitution* sailors. Then they make their own captain's hat out of paper.

Objectives

- Students will understand that it took bravery to serve aboard USS *Constitution*.
- Students will understand that sailors wore uniforms that set them apart from ordinary people.

Outcomes

- Students will listen while being read a story in order to gain an understanding of the difficult life that a sailor led and what types of clothing made up his or her uniform.
- Students will complete a craft in order to gain an understanding of what a sailor would wear as part of his or her uniform.

Materials & Resources

- Story book (these are suggestions, but any seafaring book that shows bravery could be used)
 - *When I Wore My Sailor Suit* by Uri Shulevitz
 - *My Sailor Dad* by Ross Mackenzie
 - *Sailor Sally* by Stella Gurney
 - *Burt Dow Deep-Water Man* by Robert McCloskey
- Image of 1812 captain's hat
- Captain's Hat craft supplies and instructions

Instructional Activity

15 min.

Read your chosen story book aloud to the students. Lead them in a small discussion asking questions that lead the students to think about how difficult a sailor's life was out at sea.

Do you think a sailor's life was tough?

Would you like to be a sailor?

Do you think the sailor in the story was brave?

The questions should be open-ended in nature.

5 min.

Ask students if they noticed any special clothing that the sailors were wearing. In the Navy, sailors have a particular uniform to wear. The captain wore a tall hat called a chapeau bras (show them the image of modern-day USS *Constitution* captain wearing the hat).

25 min.

Transition them into making the captain's hat. Lead them in the craft project and let them proudly wear their hats! Directions are attached.
