

James Cook (1728-1779)



1. The British explorer James Cook was born in the village of Marton, Yorkshire, on 27 October, 1728. But his family soon (move)_____ to another village, called Great Ayton, where Cook (spend)_____ most of his childhood.
2. As a teenager James Cook (develop)_____ a fascination for the sea and (travel)_____ to Whitby where he (find)_____ employment on a coal ship.
3. While he (serve)_____ in the Royal Navy during the Seven Years' War (1756-1763), Cook (have)_____ the command of a ship.
4. After the war (end)_____, Cook (take)_____ command of the vessel Grenville and (go)_____ to Newfoundland to survey the coasts there.
5. While he (map)_____ the coasts of Newfoundland, he (observe)_____ a solar eclipse off the North American coast.
6. Cook (send)_____ the details to the Royal Society, England's leading scientific organisation, and (win)_____ their attention.
7. After Cook (publish)_____ his observations of the solar eclipse, the Royal Society (ask)_____ him to lead a scientific expedition to Tahiti and (put)_____ him in command of the HMS Endeavour.
8. From Tahiti Cook then (go on)_____ to explore the South Pacific.
9. He also (reach)_____ New Zealand, which only the Dutchman Abel Tasman (visit)_____ before Cook.
10. After Cook (map)_____ New Zealand's complete coastline, he (sail)_____ to Australia's east coast.
11. Cook (name)_____ the area New South Wales as it (remind)_____ him of the south coast of Wales in Great Britain.
12. In 1772, one year after Cook (return)_____ from his first voyage to the Pacific, the Royal Society (hire)_____ him for another expedition to find the mythical Terra Australis.
13. On his journey, Cook (discover)_____ several islands and almost (go)_____ as far as the continent of Antarctica.
14. He (make)_____ maps of the South Pacific and (prove)_____ that Terra Australis (exist / not)_____ .

15. His third and last voyage for the Royal Society (take)_____ him to the west coast of North America where he (try)_____ to find a passage between the Atlantic and Pacific.
16. He (not / can / pass)_____ the Bering Strait, however; the ice (force)_____ him to return to Hawaii, which he (discover)_____ earlier.
17. While he and his crew (rest)_____ in Hawaii, some Hawaiians (steal) _____ one of his boats.
18. When Cook and his men (try)_____ to get the boat back from the natives, a violent fight (break out)_____ in which the natives (stab)_____ James Cook to death.