

Jewel of Muscat

Activity Sheet: Intermediate History

1. Watch the **Aims of Project** and **Secrets of the Deep** videos on the Jewel of Muscat website and/or read the **Ten Key Facts** and **Background Sheets**.

The Jewel of Muscat was built as a result of evidence found from the shipwreck discovered off the island of Belitung in Indonesia in 1998. To learn about the original ship, historians used evidence from under the water and from old documents such as books and paintings.

Answer the following questions:

Questions about the shipwreck	Answer
What cargo was it carrying?	
Where did most of the cargo come from?	
Who found the shipwreck?	

Questions about the Jewel of Muscat	Answer
Where was the ship made?	
How are the timbers of the hull held together?	
Which country did the ship sail to?	
What protected the hull underwater?	

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2. Over the years other replica ships have been built. They have helped us understand something about our past. Each one in the following list is based on an actual historic vessel, or a type of historic ship, from the past.

In groups do an internet search to find out more about one or more of these replica ships and the original ships they are based on.

Record your sources and data.

Some replica ships around the world

Sohar Omani: a reconstruction of an Arab Dhow used for a 6000-mile voyage from Oman to China. Currently on display in Muscat.

Alfred Russell Wallace Indonesian: a perahu (a traditional boat) sailed around the Eastern Indonesian Islands by naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace in the 19th century. He and Charles Darwin are the co-discoverers of evolution by natural selection.

Duyfken Dutch: small 17th-century yacht involved in the spice trade in South East Asia. The first mapping of part of the Australian coastline was done by the crew of Duyfken in 1606.

HM Bark Endeavour English: Captain Cooks ship of discovery that sailed around the world between 1768 and 1771.

Santa Maria Spanish: Christopher Columbus flagship. Atlantic crossing 1492 looking for a new route to India.

Matthew English: 15th-century square rigged caravel. Sailed from England hoping to reach Asia but came to Newfoundland.

Batavia Dutch: 17th-century trading ship sunk off the Western Australian coast on its maiden voyage from the Netherlands to the Indonesian spice islands.

3. a. Groups work as a team to design, practice, and produce a 2-3 minute news bulletin based on the information they have researched, regarding their historic ship and the building of its replica. Include as many interesting facts as you can.

b. Film it on a webcam, or a mobile phone.

c. Upload and play back to the class/another class/school assembly. It could be shown at a Parent Teacher meeting.

4. Discuss how the groups worked as a team on this project. Was it an effective method of working? What were the benefits? What were the difficulties and how did you overcome them? What would you do differently next time you work in a team?