

# Captain Cook



James Cook was born in a village near Whitby in Yorkshire on November 7th 1728. He was killed in a skirmish with tribesmen in Hawaii on 14th February 1779. Cook went to sea at the age of 16 and then joined the Merchant Navy. He joined the Royal Navy in 1755 and became a talented navigator, cartographer (map maker) and captain.

On his first of 4 famous voyages of discovery for the king, he charted the whole coast of New Zealand and then, when he set off to return home, he discovered the east coast of Australia. His crew sailed up the entire east coast, anchoring in Botany Bay for a week before making their first landing.

When they neared the top of Australia The Endeavour hit the Great Barrier Reef and was damaged. They were delayed 7 weeks while the crew repaired it before sailing on safely home.

- Can you draw a map of Australia and label: The Great Barrier Reef, Botany Bay, Canberra, Melbourne, Cairns, Perth, Brisbane and the seas round Australia.
- How old was Cook when he died?
- How old was he when he became a Captain in the Royal Navy?
- What is a cartographer?