

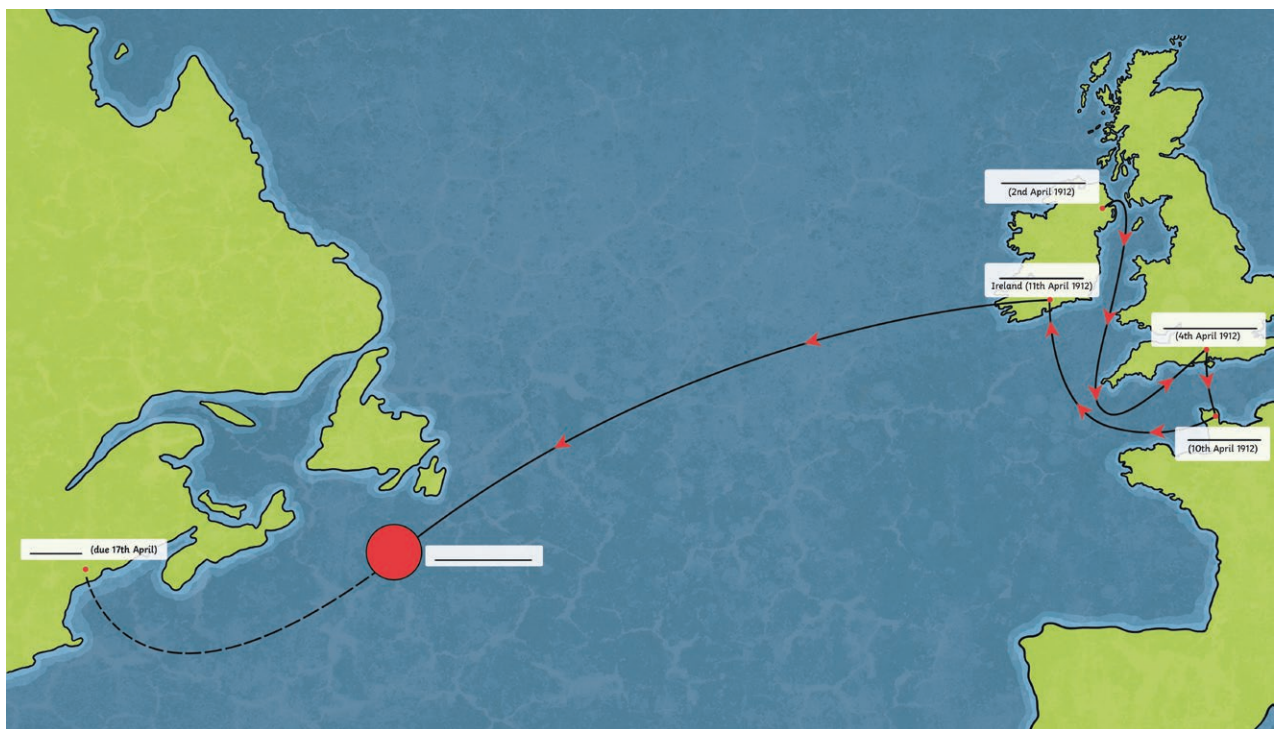
# The Story of The Titanic

The Titanic was a luxury ocean liner built in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1912. A company called White Star Line asked the shipbuilders Harland and Wolff to construct the ship. It took three years to complete and was ready to take passengers on the ocean by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1912.



The Titanic was the biggest ship of her time and belonged to a group of luxury liners constructed by White Star Line in the early 1900s. Her sister ships were called Britannic and Olympic. Titanic measured 28 metres wide, 53 metres tall and 269 metres long — that's around the length of three soccer pitches!

The Titanic's first journey with passengers was on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1912. It was set to take passengers from Southampton, England, to New York, USA. On route, she would stop in Cherbourg, France and finally Queenstown, Ireland to pick up more passengers before continuing across the Atlantic Sea to the United States.



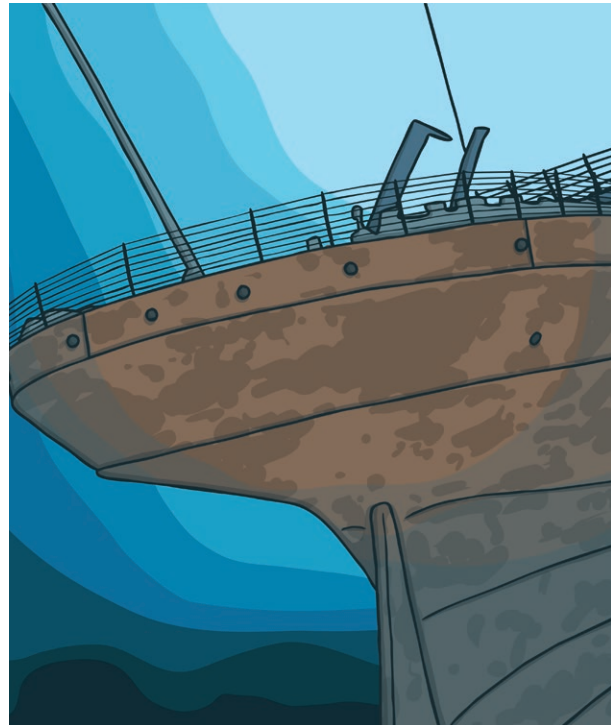
There were over 2200 people on board the **robust** Titanic, including 900 crew members. Her full title was RMS Titanic which stands for 'Royal Mail Steamer' because as well as passengers, the ship carried thousands of letters, packages and documents.

The Titanic was also known as the 'Ship of Dreams', and White Star Line had even stated that she was designed to be 'unsinkable'. On the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1912, in the freezing cold North Atlantic Ocean, she struck an iceberg causing great damage to the ship's hull.

The Titanic took just a few hours to sink in the icy cold waters. Edward John Smith (the Captain of Titanic) and his crew sent distress signals to nearby ships and passengers were helped onto the Titanic's lifeboats. Unfortunately, there were not enough lifeboats for everyone and many people jumped overboard in hopes of being rescued. Sadly, few of those survived in the icy -2°C waters.



A ship called the RMS Carpathia arrived to help the passengers but they were only able to rescue 705 survivors who had successfully boarded lifeboats. The survivors were taken to New York, USA. Sadly, over 1500 people died in the Titanic disaster. In 1985, the shipwreck was located when oceanographer, Dr Robert Ballard, found it with the help of a robot submarine named the Argo.



### Glossary

**Oceanographer:** A scientist who studies the ocean.

**Robust:** Strong and sturdy.

# Questions

1. In what year was building the Titanic finished? Tick one.

1911

1912

1913

1914

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

Edward John Smith and his crew send distress signals to ships.

The Titanic strikes an iceberg causing significant damage to the hull.

The Titanic is built by Harland and Wolff in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The RMS Carpathia rescues 712 survivors.

3. Find and copy one word which means the same as '**strong**'.

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4. How tall was the Titanic?

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5. Where was the Titanic travelling to when she left Ireland?

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6. Many passengers 'were left to jump overboard in hopes of being rescued'. Explain why this happened.

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7. Summarise what happened to the Titanic in less than 25 words.

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8. Do you think an event like this could happen today? Explain your answer.

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**robust**

4. How tall was the Titanic?

**The Titanic was 53 metres tall.**

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**The Titanic was travelling to New York, USA.**

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**Pupils' own responses, such as: Many passengers chose to jump overboard in hopes of being rescued because there were not enough lifeboats for all of the passengers on the ship.**

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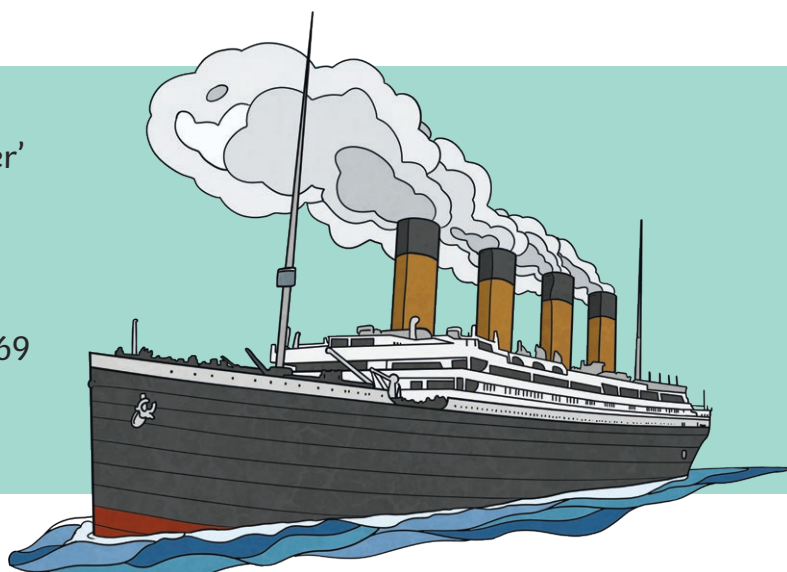
The Titanic was a luxury ocean liner that was designed and built in 1912. A company called White Star Line **commissioned** the shipbuilders Harland and Wolff to construct the ship in their shipyard in Belfast, Northern Ireland. It took three years to complete the project and Titanic was finally ocean ready on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1912.



The Titanic was the most grand and luxurious ship of her time and belonged to a group of luxury liners constructed by White Star Line in the early 1900s. At the time, White Star line was leading the way in designing and building the largest luxury passenger ships in the world.

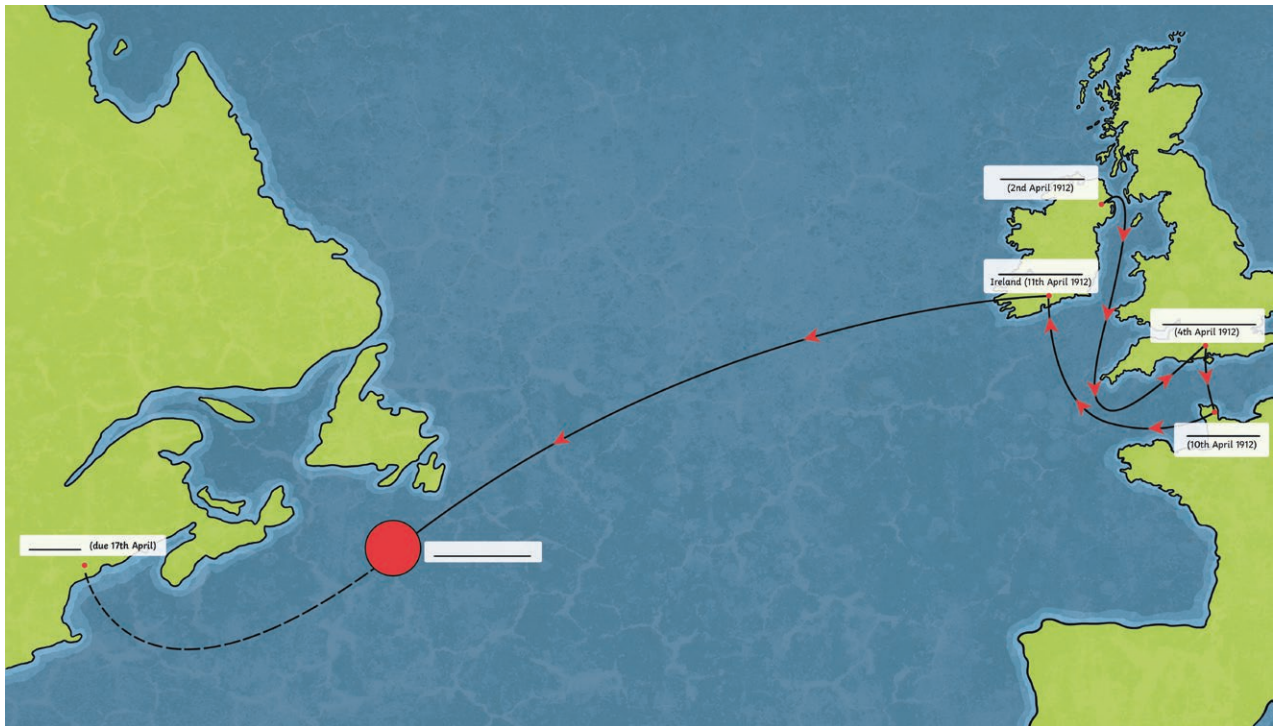
At a cost of around £30 (about £3300 today) per suite, passengers travelling first-class could enjoy luxuries such as an onboard gym, squash courts and even a swimming pool! The vast ship boasted smoking rooms, veranda cafes, luxury dining rooms, a library and live music performances from an orchestra. Passengers travelling second-class even enjoyed some of the luxuries but with considerably more modest cabins. Those travelling third-class however, enjoyed just a few basic facilities.

As well as building the Titanic, Harland and Wolff built two 'sister' ships - the Olympic (built in 1911) and the Britannic (built in 1914). Titanic measured a staggering 28 metres wide, 53 metres tall and 269 metres long — that's around the length of three football pitches!



## The Story of The Titanic

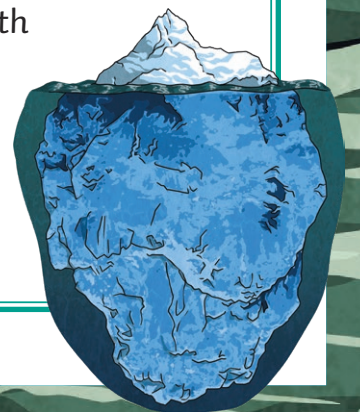
The Titanic began her **maiden voyage** on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1912. The mighty ocean liner was set to take passengers from Southampton, England, to New York, USA. On route, she would stop in Cherbourg, France and finally Queenstown, Ireland to pick up more passengers before continuing across the Atlantic Sea on her journey to the United States.



There were over 2200 people on board Titanic, including its 900 crew members. Her full title was RMS Titanic which stands for 'Royal Mail Steamer' because as well as passengers, the ship carried thousands of letters, packages and documents for delivery.

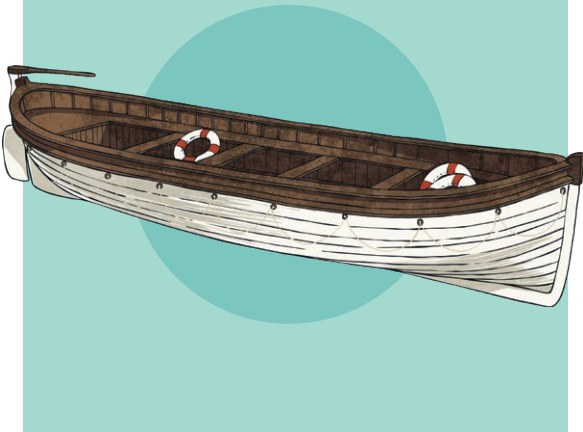
Following her departure from Queenstown, Ireland, the Titanic had been making good progress across the Atlantic, powered by three huge coal-burning engines. It would burn an incredible 825 tonnes of coal a day!

The Titanic was also known as the 'Ship of Dreams', and White Star Line had even stated in a publicity brochure that she was designed to be 'unsinkable'. However, despite her **robust** construction, just before midnight on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1912 and in the freezing cold North Atlantic Ocean, she struck an iceberg. This caused irreparable damage to the ship's hull.





The Titanic sank in the icy cold waters within a few hours. Edward John Smith (the Captain of Titanic) and his crew sent numerous distress signals to any ships that happened to be in the area and passengers were ushered onto the Titanic's lifeboats. Unfortunately, there were not enough lifeboats to accommodate all of the passengers and many of them were left to jump overboard in hopes of being rescued. Sadly, great numbers died within minutes in the icy  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  waters.



The first ship to respond to Titanic's distress signals was called the RMS Carpathia. She was unable to arrive any earlier than 3.30am — over an hour after the Titanic had **submerged** fully into the deep, icy waters.

The RMS Carpathia rescued 712 survivors from Titanic's lifeboats. The survivors were taken to New York, USA. Sadly, over 1500 people died in the Titanic disaster. It wasn't until 1985 that the shipwreck itself was located, when oceanographer, Dr Robert Ballard, completed a deep-sea expedition to find the wreck in a robot submarine named the Argo.

### Glossary

**Commission:** To ask someone to produce something specially to order.

**Maiden voyage:** The first journey for a vessel.

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# Questions

1. On what date was the construction of the Titanic completed? Tick one.

30<sup>th</sup> March 1912

31<sup>st</sup> March 1913

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2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

Edward John Smith and his crew send distress signals to ships in the area requesting immediate help.

The Titanic strikes an iceberg causing significant damage to the hull.

The Titanic is built by Harland and Wolff in Belfast, Northern Ireland commissioned by White Star Line.

The RMS Carpathia responds to the Titanic's distress signal and is able to rescue 712 survivors.

3. Find and copy one word which means the same as '**strong**'.

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4. Which company **commissioned** the Titanic to be built?

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5. What do the initials 'RMS' stand for?

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6. 'Despite the best efforts of (the Carpathia's) captain and crew, she was unable to arrive any quicker than 3.30am'. Why do you think the Carpathia would have taken a long time to get close to the Titanic?.

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**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the Carpathia may have been some distance away from the Titanic when it received the distress signals. The Carpathia would also have had to navigate the dangerous icebergs in the waters surrounding the Titanic.**

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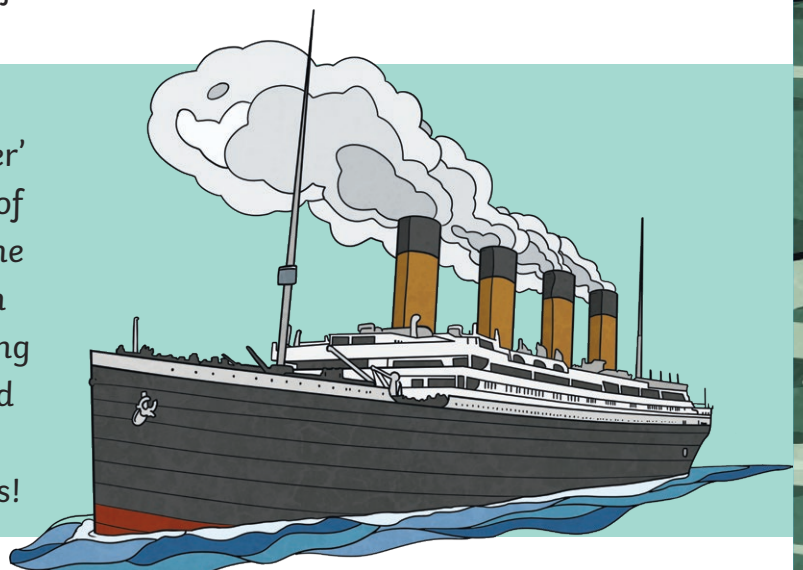
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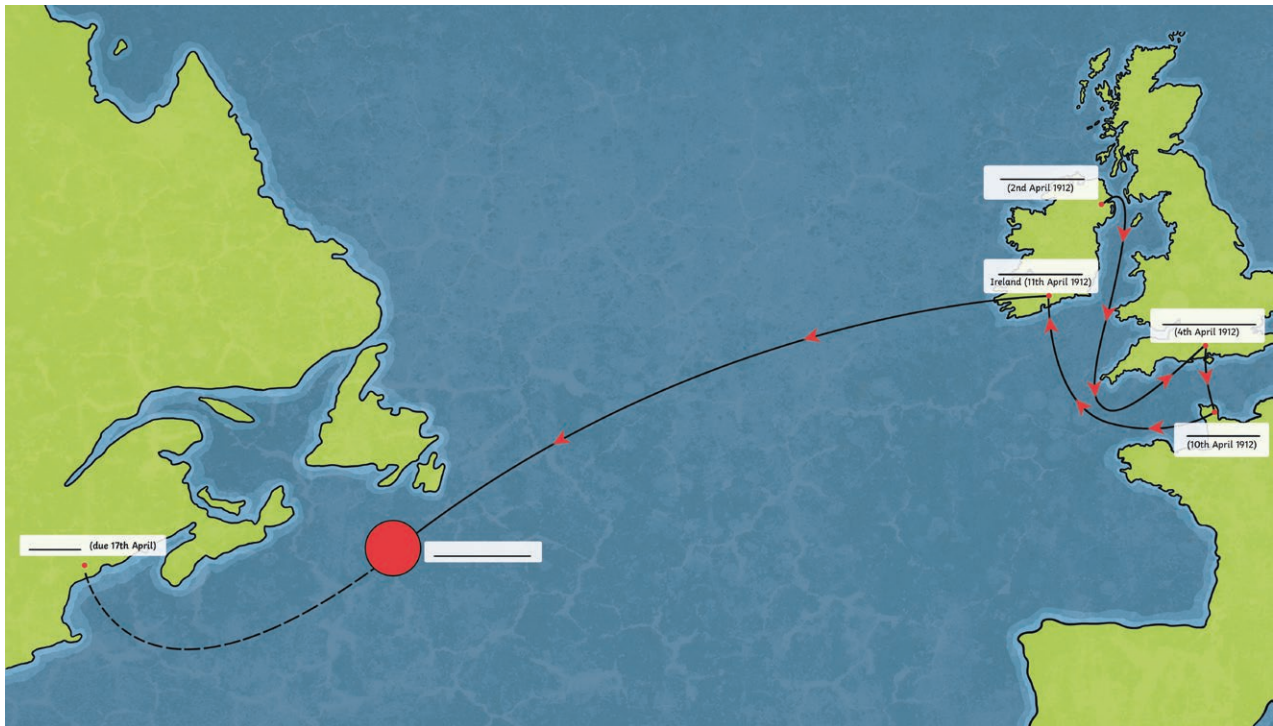
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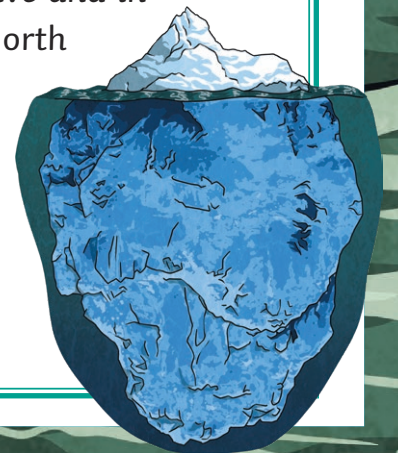
The Titanic embarked on her **maiden voyage** on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1912 amidst great excitement. The mighty ocean liner was set to take passengers from Southampton, England, to New York, USA. On route, she would stop in Cherbourg, France and finally Queenstown, Ireland to pick up more passengers before continuing across the Atlantic Sea on her journey to the United States.



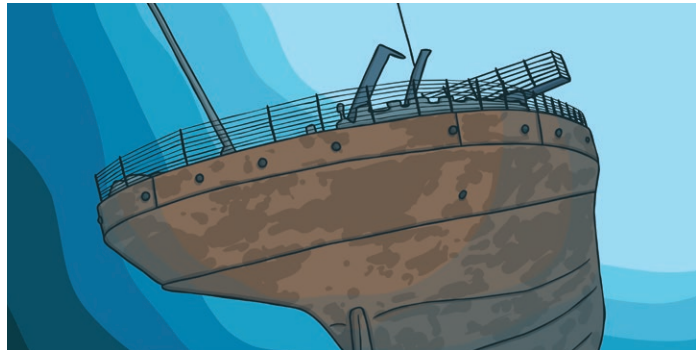
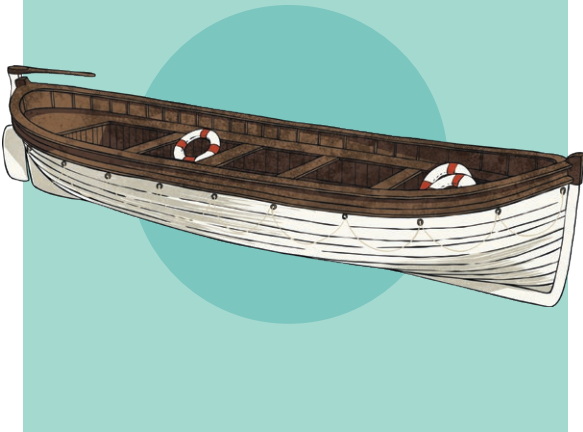
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Titanic was also known as the 'Ship of Dreams', and White Star Line had even stated in a publicity brochure that she was designed to be 'unsinkable'. However, despite her **robust** construction, just before midnight on day five and in the freezing cold North Atlantic Ocean, she struck an iceberg. This caused irreparable damage to the ship's hull.



Titanic would take just a few hours to sink in the icy cold waters. Edward John Smith (the Captain of Titanic) and his crew sent numerous distress signals to any ships that happened to be in the area and passengers were ushered onto the Titanic's lifeboats. Unfortunately, there were not enough lifeboats to accommodate all of the passengers and many of them were left to jump overboard in hopes of being rescued. Sadly, great numbers died within minutes in the icy  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  waters.



The first vessel to respond to Titanic's distress signals was called the RMS Carpathia. Despite the best efforts of her captain and crew, she was unable to arrive any earlier than 3.30am — over an hour after the Titanic had **submerged** fully into the deep waters.

The RMS Carpathia was able to rescue 712 survivors who had successfully boarded lifeboats. The survivors were taken to New York, USA. Sadly, over 1500 people died in the Titanic disaster, most never to be seen again. However, many bodies were recovered in the days after the tragedy. It wasn't until 1985 that the shipwreck itself was located, when oceanographer, Dr Robert Ballard, completed a deep-sea expedition to find the wreck in a robot submarine named the Argo.

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**Pupils' own responses, such as: They may have found expensive jewellery, clothing, sailing equipment, games, tickets and perhaps even documents such as letters and maps that may have remained preserved.**

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**Pupils' own responses.**