



The trail starts at the West India Quay DLR station. Exit the station, turn right and walk along the water's edge. The trail should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. (You may want to sit on a bench by the water to answer the first few questions)



2002



1802

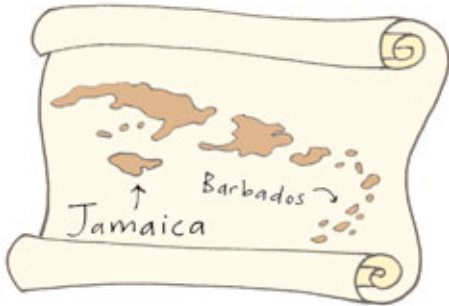


Until 1980, this whole area was working docks. Ships from the West Indies arrived in the port of London and came into these docks to unload their cargoes. They were then loaded with different goods before returning to the West Indies.





Where are the West Indies?
Draw a circle around your answer:



The Caribbean Scotland France



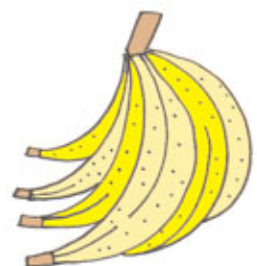
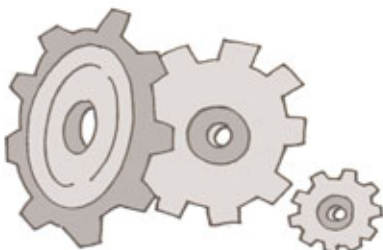
Draw arrows to link the goods to their ship:



Sailing to the West Indies



Sailing to London





The West India Docks were the first of the large, enclosed docks. They were opened in 1802. Before this, ships had to be loaded and unloaded in the Pool of London (the widest part of the river near the City - below London Bridge)



The Pool of London 1746



The West India Docks 1810



What do you think were the problems with unloading ships before the enclosed docks were built?



Continue walking along the water until you see the old warehouses on the right hand side.



How many storeys high are the tallest ones? _____
(Clue: count the windows!)




What do you think they were used for when this was a working dock?



What do you think the wooden doors and platforms on each storey of the warehouse were used for?

 What are the warehouses being used for today?

 Try to imagine this whole area as a working dock with warehouses surrounding the water and ships being unloaded.

 What would you see?

 What would you hear?

 What would you smell?



Finish labelling this picture of the West India Docks 1811

Warehouses were used for...

Cranes were used for...



Small boats (lighters) were used for...

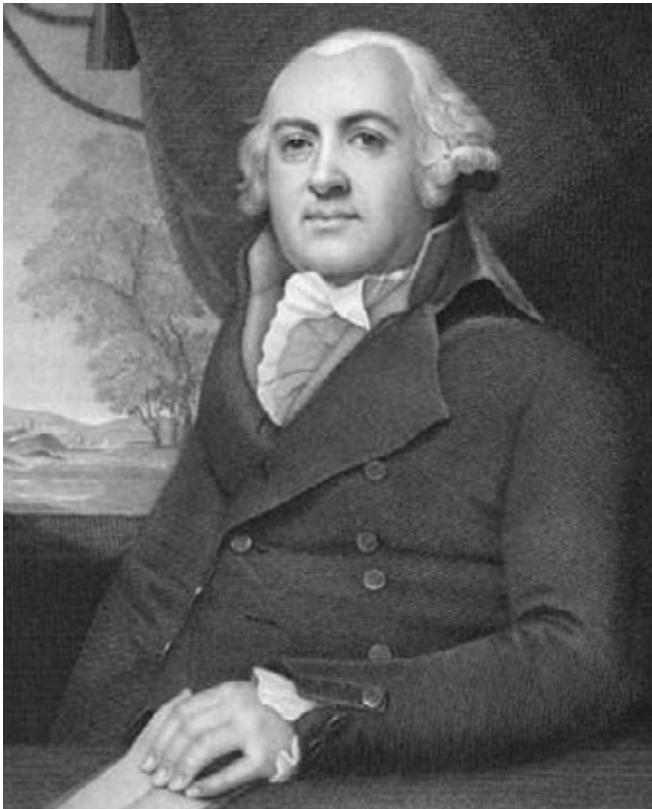
What might this docker be saying?

“

_____”



Carry on walking past the warehouse. Stop at the statue of Robert Milligan.



Look at the statue and this picture.

What sort of person do you think Robert Milligan was? Write 4 adjectives to describe him:

1

2

3

4

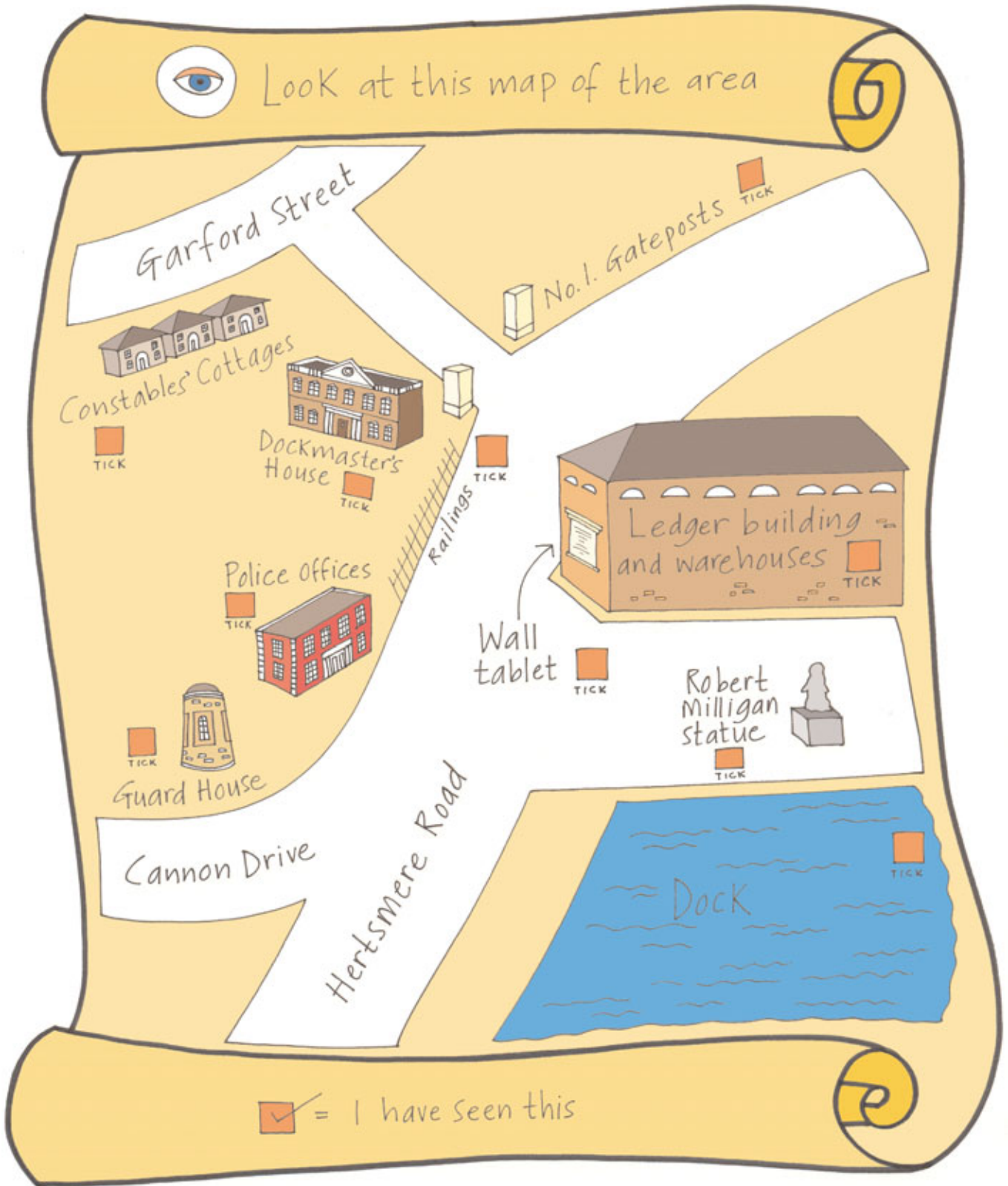
Robert Milligan (c.1746-1809)



Walk to the end of the warehouses, past the ledger building and turn right. Look at the wall tablet. Who was Robert Milligan?



The Wall tablet explains that the West India Docks were built 'for the distinct purpose of complete security and ample accommodation.'

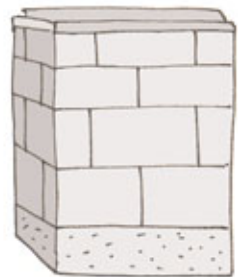
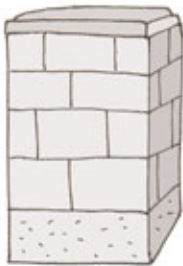




What was built to ensure the dock was completely secure?



Find the remains of the gatepost. Design a gate suitable for the entrance to the West India Docks.



We hope you have enjoyed the West India Docks trail!
If you liked taking this trail, log on to:

www.portcities.org.uk/London

and print out some more!