

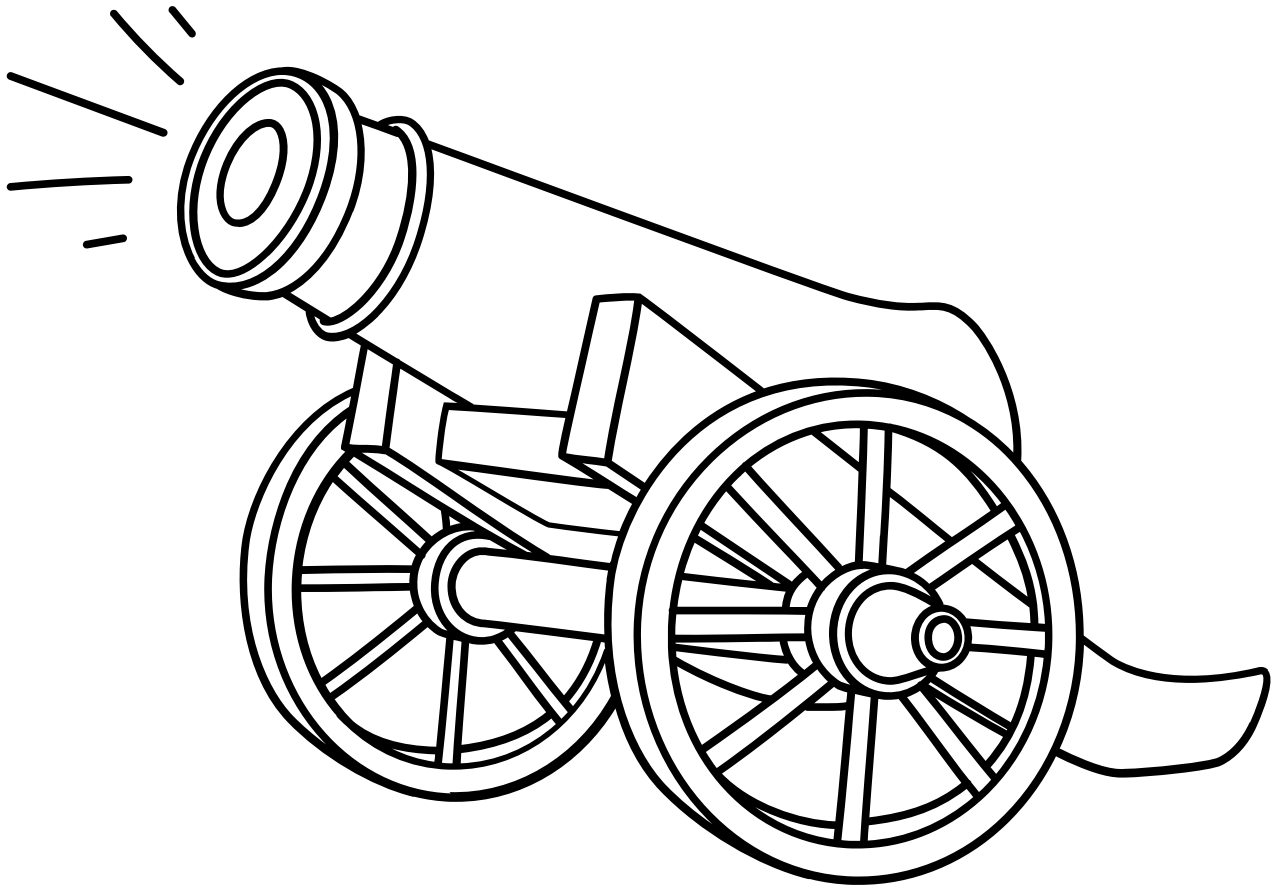
CAPITOL PARK MUSEUM

A LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM

LOUISIANA AT WAR EDUCATION RESOURCE BUNDLE

**INCLUDES: K-12 ACTIVITY WORKSHEETS ON
TOPICS RELATED TO OUR GALLERY SPACE**

COLOR THE CANNON



Did you know?

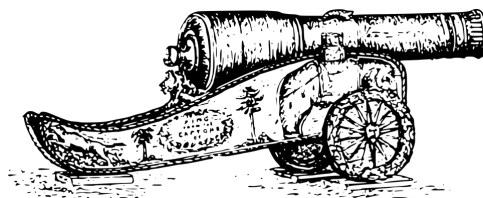
Some of Jean Lafitte's pirate crew served as artillerymen with Andrew Jackson's forces in the Battle of New Orleans.



MAKE AND FIRE A CANNON ACTIVITY

Materials:

- An empty film cannister
- 1-2 Alka-seltzer tablets
- Water
- Safety goggles
- A safe launching area outside



Steps:

1. Grab 1 Alka-seltzer tablet from the box packaging.
2. Fill $\frac{3}{4}$ of the film cannister with room temperature water
3. Place your container (top-up) on the ground
4. Put 1 tablet into your cannister and quickly pop the lid on - taking 5 large steps back
5. Watch your cannon “fire!”

Experiment ratios above are calculated for non-aspirin Alka-seltzer tablets.

Launch Again!

Experiment again with different water temperatures or amounts of tablets. Note your findings in a handmade experiment log!



MAKE AND FIRE A CANNON ACTIVITY RESOURCE SHEET

Science Time! So why does it launch?

In simple terms, it launches because of a chemical reaction! When you combine **water** (hydrogen + oxygen) with an **Alka-Seltzer tablet** (citric acid + sodium bicarbonate), you create **carbon dioxide**! And, when carbon dioxide builds up in the cannister, it creates pressure that increases until it finally releases, launching your cannon! BOOM!



Step-by-
step video

War of 1812 and Alka-Seltzer Cannons - how are they similar?

The way that an Alka-Seltzer cannon works is very similar to those of ship cannons or guns in the War of 1812.

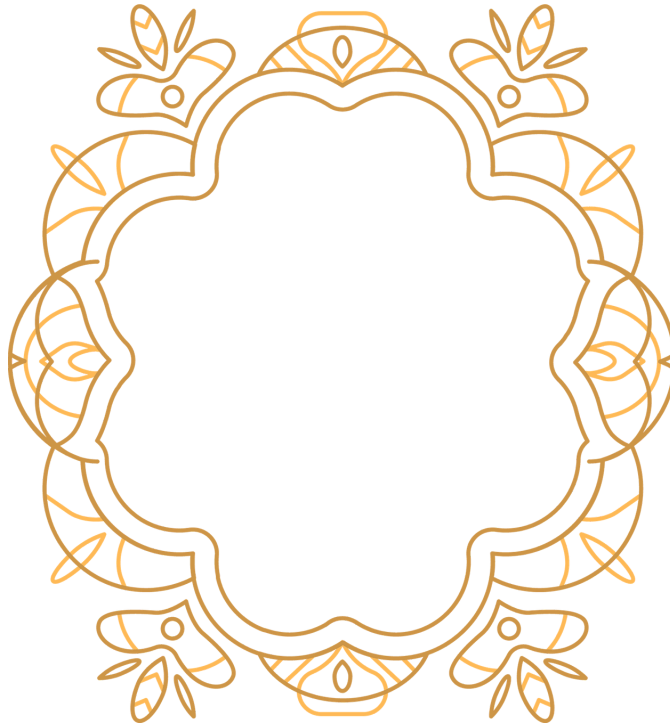
A 19th-century barrel of a cannon had one closed end and one open end, just like your film cannister! It was loaded with **gunpowder**, a **shot** (cannonball), and a **wad** (such as a bundle of old ropes) to help keep everything in place.

Once loaded, a gun crew member ignited the cannon, causing the gunpowder to quickly turn into a gas. Like your Alka-Seltzer cannon, this gas expanded in the barrel, exerting a tremendous amount of pressure that would force the contents out of the cannon!



MY PORTRAIT GALLERY

Directions: Draw a portrait of an important figure active in Louisiana during the War of 1812. Then, at the bottom, write 3 facts about him or her.



Fact #1:

Fact#2:

Fact#3:



DIVING DEEPER INTO THE WAR OF 1812

Directions: Write your answers to the prompts in the boxes below.

Causes of the War:

Outcomes of the War:



THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS



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Directions: Answer the questions below.

1. Why did the British want to capture New Orleans?
2. Besides Americans, what groups made up the force that defended New Orleans during the key battle?
3. Why do you think these groups helped the Americans?
4. What factors contributed to the American success at the Battle of New Orleans?
5. Why was the battle still fought after a peace treaty had been signed?
6. Did the battle have any lasting consequences for the United States?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Battle of New Orleans
by Johnny Horton
YouTube Video



Battle of New
Orleans: The War of
1812 in Four Minutes
YouTube Video



Louisiana State
Museum: The Battle of
New Orleans Article



Link to Historic New
Orleans Collection's
War of 1812 Free
Research Materials



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