



### STORIES FROM THE SEA



## EIGHT REALES

### Date made

1782

### Object ref.

MEC1639

### Credit

National Maritime Museum

### Description

This is a Spanish 'milled' dollar. The edges have been patterned or 'milled' to stop silver being shaved from them, which would reduce their value. Spanish dollars were known as 'pieces-of-eight' because each one was worth eight *reales* – a common smaller Spanish coin.

### Questions

1. Can you spot: flags, a hand holding scales, a hand holding a broken sword, an anchor, a crown, a castle?
2. Why do you think pirates would have wanted to steal these?