



Powder Horn Banana Art Made in Camp at Ticonderoga

For this activity you will need:

- Banana
- Toothpick
- Food coloring
- Sponge brush

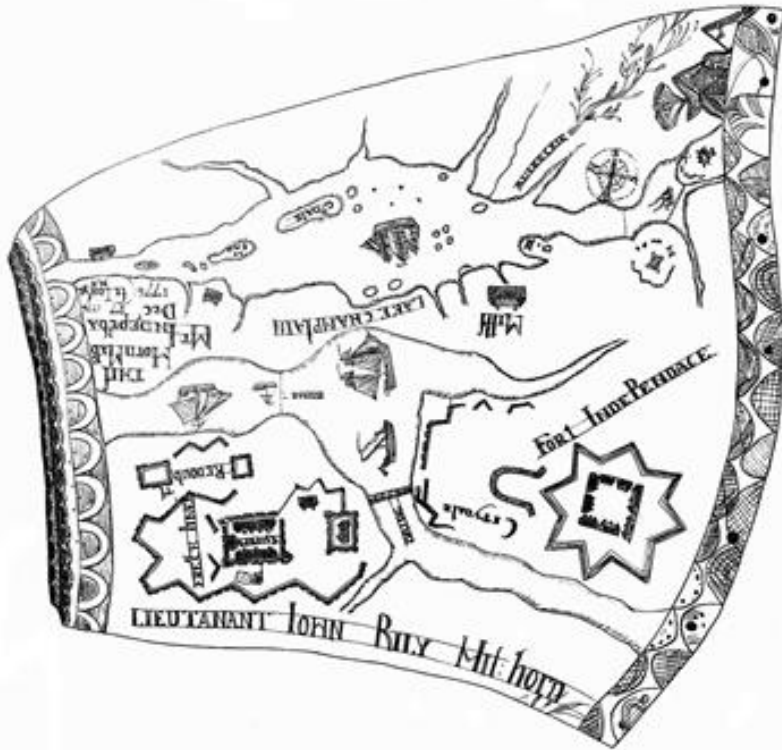
Soldiers needed to carry extra gunpowder to make up cartridges for their muskets. For this purpose, they used **powder horns**, which were hollowed out bulls' horns filled with gunpowder. Besides being a convenient way to keep powder dry while on the move, powder horns provided a blank canvas for soldiers to express their individuality. They often wrote their name, the year the horn was carved, and where the horn was carved. Intricate designs, maps, symbols, and scenes of daily life could also be carved.

Here's your chance to practice those very skills and techniques soldiers used here at Ticonderoga! Use a toothpick to carve your own unique designs into a banana. Use the ideas below to help you plan out what to include on your own powder horn!

- Your name
- The year
- Your favorite animal
- A map or story
- Where you carved your horn or where you're from
- Describe who you are using words, symbols, or images
- A phrase you think describes yourself or a cause that's important to you

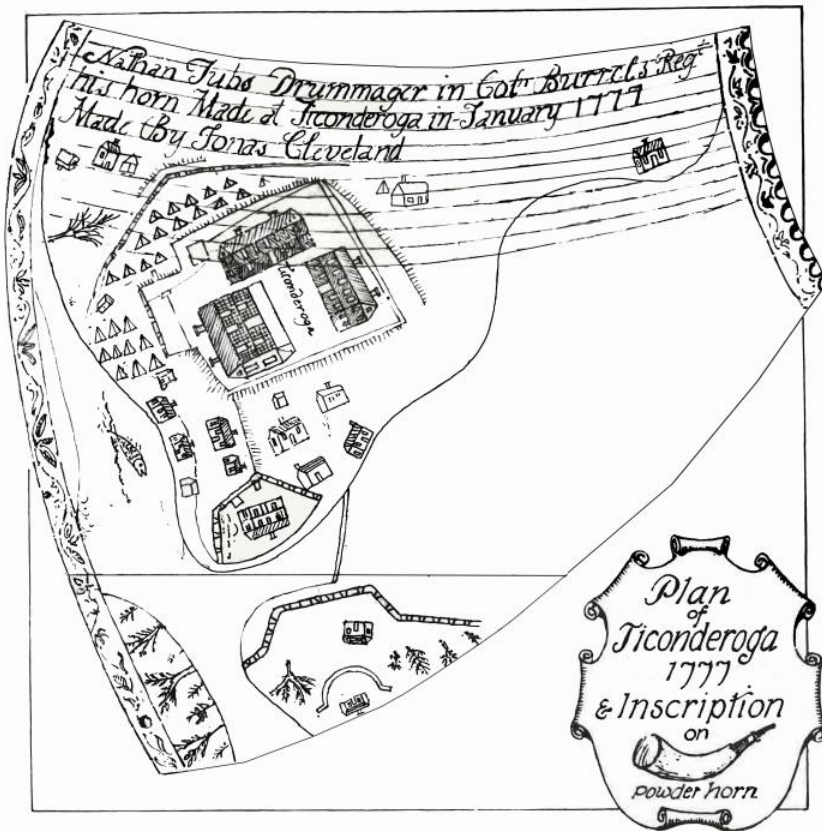
When you're done carving, use food coloring and a brush to make your design come to life!

For more information on the powder horns carried by Lieutenant John Riley and Drummer Nathan Tubbs (below), please visit our online collections database!



Sketch of John Riley's powder horn
 (Fort Ticonderoga Museum Collection
Object ID: PH-032)

<https://fortticonderoga.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/7E659600-E5D3-4B24-940A-408922761061>



Sketch of Nathan Tubbs' powder horn
 (Fort Ticonderoga Museum Collection
Object ID: PH-20)

<https://fortticonderoga.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/51F1CC3E-38D8-4A32-B94C-134550891845>