Colonial Tinsmith
In colonial Concord, there were many craftsmen. These people made different items that people in town needed. Blacksmiths worked with iron, silversmiths used silver, chandlers made candles, and tinsmiths made items out of a metal called tin.

Be a tinsmith apprentice today! An apprentice is a young boy between the ages of 12 and 19 who learns a trade from a craftsman. As an apprentice you'd live with the craftsman to learn the trade and work 6 days per week, 10 hours per day. It was hard work!

Watch our museum educator discuss apprenticeships in this special video we made for you! You can watch on the Concord Museum’s private YouTube link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgRwC87eHwU

Tinsmithing Activity

**Be sure you have a parent or grown-up help or supervise your work!**

Materials:
Clean tin can (remove label)
Hammer and nail
Lantern dot pattern (print this out and cut out, or create your own!)
Towel
Bread pan or brownie pan

1. Find an old tin can (such as a soup can).
2. Clean the can thoroughly and remove the label.
3. Place the tin can in bread pan or brownie pan with a towel around it to keep it from rolling or moving.
4. Print out our lantern dot pattern (or make your own!) and tape it where you’d like the pattern.
5. Get a hammer and a nail and hammer on each dot on the pattern. As you hammer on each dot, the pattern will transfer to your tin can. You can just dent it with a few light taps or hammer harder and go all the way through and make a hole.
6. When you are done you could put a candle inside the can or fill it with a collection that you have!
PATTERN TO PRINT (OR COPY)

Tinsmithing pattern: print this and cut around it leaving a 1/4 inch border. Tape this to
the tin can with masking tape. You can also make your own pattern in any shape or
design on a piece of paper.