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**Early Exploration of the New World**

**Menu Choice Board**

An explorer is defined as “someone who travels to places where no one has ever been in order to find out what is there.” People have been in search of new lands and unknown regions for centuries. History is paved with changes because of new discoveries in other lands!

**Explorers:**

Vasco Nuñez de Balboa John Cabot Jacques Cartier

Christopher Columbus Henry Hudson Juan Ponce de Leon

**Essential Question:**

What were the goals, obstacles, and accomplishments of the early explorers?

**Standard:**

SS4H2 The student will describe European exploration in North America.

a. Describe the reasons for, obstacles to, and accomplishments of the Spanish, French, and English explorations of John Cabot, Vasco Núñez de Balboa, Juan Ponce de León, Christopher Columbus, Henry Hudson, and Jacques Cartier.

**Resources:**

<https://multcolib.org/homework-center/explorers-a-z#h>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/explorers/namerica.shtml>

<http://allaboutexplorers.com/explorers/>

<http://www.kidinfo.com/American_History/Explorers.html>

<http://cybersleuth-kids.com/sleuth/History/Explorers/>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/4034/timeline2.html>

<http://www.rmg.co.uk/explore/sea-and-ships/facts/explorers-and-leaders/>

<http://www.pbs.org/empireofthebay/profiles/cartier.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/empireofthebay/profiles/hudson.html>

<http://fcit.usf.edu/Florida/lessons/de_leon/de_leon1.htm>

**Use the following target questions to guide your investigation of your chosen explorer:**

What is the name of your explorer?

From what country was your explorer born?

What were the years of exploration?

What was the route taken by the explorer?

What were his reasons/goals for exploring? What was the purpose for exploration?

Who (title) sent the explorer?

What country sponsored/funded the explorer?

What hardships (financial/physical) did he have?

How did he interact with Natives?

How did physical features affect his exploration?

What were the explorer’s accomplishments? Was the exploration successful?

How did the exploration affect the work and knowledge of the world?

Are there any other fascinating facts about this explorer or the expedition?

What did you find interesting about this explorer’s life?

Was the explorer honored in any way? Was anything named in honor of the explorer?

**Menu Contract**

**Directions: Color in each circle as you complete the menu item. You are required to do all main dishes. For the “select” side dishes, you will need to choose one explorer to research further. Choose one side dish item to complete. At least ten target questions should be addressed in your final side dish assignment.**

**“Must Do” Main Dishes**

 Create a map highlighting the voyages of all six explorers. Use a map key and

 different colors for each explorer.

 Create a Power-point Presentation slide of each explorer.

**“Select” Side Dishes**

Your explorer is being honored with a new holiday. Design a monument to honor your explorer, which will be revealed at a special ceremony. Also, write at least two paragraphs highlighting information from the target questions. Be sure to use opening and closing sentences on each paragraph. You will make a triorama to hold your monument (use the triorama directions/template).

Write a persuasive letter from the perspective of an explorer with facts and pictures back to your worried family. Describe your experiences, progress, feelings, hopes, and problems (write in first person). The letter should be several paragraphs.

 Create a report card to evaluate your explorer. Justify each grade on the report

 card with an explanation (use the report card template).

 Pretend you were on board the ship of your chosen explorer. Write a news article

 detailing the voyage (use the news article template – write in third person).

 You have been hired by a travel company that is recreating your explorer’s journey.

 Your assignment is to create a travel brochure that will advertise and highlight

 important information about your explorer (use the brochure template).

Just like the Cabot and Columbus, you want to explore new territories. Let your teacher know the project idea you have. Once you have approval from her, you may begin reaching new places and demonstrating mastery in your own way!



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