

Unit 1: The Age of Exploration

Major Topics

Famous European Explorers
Geography of Exploration
The Interaction between Cultures
Culture of Europe Pre-Columbus

Unit Information

Era: 1200's-1600's
Length of Unit: 2 Weeks
Next Unit: Age of Colonization

Understandings

- * European desire for a water route to Asia was driven by barriers (ex: the closing of the Ottoman Empire, The African continent) and the need for new avenues of trade (ex: sea routes).
- * New technology and a desire for resources allowed Europeans to explore other lands, which influenced their future development (caravel, compass, astrolabe, map making).

Essential Questions

- * What barriers forced Europeans to discover new trade routes?
- * What factors influenced European exploration?
- * What is the impact of competition for resources?
- * What Impact did Prince Henry's School of Navigation have on the Age of exploration?

Key Vocabulary

1. Caravel:
2. Christopher Columbus:
3. Circumnavigate:
4. Colony:
5. The Columbian Exchange:
6. Ferdinand Magellan:
7. Giovanni da Verrazano:
8. King Ferdinand:
9. The New World:
10. Prince Henry the Navigator:
11. Queen Isabella:
12. Vasco da Gama:
13. Gil Eannes:
14. Cape Verde Islands:
15. Strait of Magellan:
16. Cartography: