**THE EXPLORERS**

**Vasco de Balboa**... from Spain, sailed for Spain, inspired by Columbus. Looking for pearls on the north coast of South America, he was the first to cross the Isthmus of Panama and find the Pacific Ocean. He took 190 and 1000 native slaves to hack through the jungle. He set up farming colonies, but it was a failure. But he did find the Pacific, so achieved that as a goal.

**John Cabot**... an Italian, born in 1450, sailed for Henry VII of England. He got one ship with 18 men on his first trip, as he was looking for the Northwest Passage. He had convinced the king that he shouldn’t let Spain take over the entire New World. He had four ships on his 2nd voyage, and may have or may not have returned to England safely. He did discover Newfoundland in northern Canada, and couldn’t go further because he was stopped by ice.

**Jacques Cartier**... from France, explored for the French probably, was looking for markets of Asia by trying to find the Northwest passage by traveling west through America. He did find Iriqois natives and claimed the area of the St. Lawrence river (in present day Quebec) for France... that is why Quebec is French today. On his trip he took two natives who were sons of chiefs, and took them back to France, to meet with the French king (Louis XIV).

**Christopher Columbus**... found the Bahamas for Spain on four seperate voyages, was looking for China and Cathay... died penniless and disrespected for losing control of colonies in Haiti and Cuba. An Italian, he sailed for Isabella and Ferdinard of Spain.

**Samuel de Champlain**... He was born in France, sailed for France, and went to Quebec, and founded the colony. He explored the Ottawa River. He explored the Great Lakes, claiming those for France. He was the first European to explore Niagra Falls. His goals were to map North America, spread Christianity, and find the Northwest Passage. He was successful on the first two, but not the final goal.

**Vasquez de Coronado**.... Born in Spain, in 1510, and died in 1554. He sailed to Mexico and became the governor and put down a slave rebellion against the natives who lived there. He heard about gold, so he took an expedition with 300 Spanish soldiers to look for it. He went into the Southwestern part of the modern day United States. He discovered the Navajo and Hopi people, and called them Pueblo Indians, based on their housing. He ended up in Kansas, still with no riches. He then enslaved even more natives, this time the Wichita people. He thought of himself as a failure and was found guilty of enslaving and murdering native peoples.

**Ponce deLeon**.... a Spaniard, he spent his adult life in search of the fabled Fountain of Youth, which he was convinced was somewhere in Florida. He wandered up and down the peninsula, avoiding Indian attacks and mosquito-born diseases. The search made him age much faster.

**Hernando De Soto**... Born in Spain in 1500, died in 1542. He sailed for Spain and went to America. He landed on the Florida coast, looking for gold. He had on board the first livestock and horses brought to the modern United States. In 1541, he found the Mississippi River and named it “Rio Grande” or “Great River.” He introduced the Mustang to America. He killed and tried to enslave many natives in modern day Mississippi and Alabama. He never found the gold he was looking for, and died in the Mississippi River.

**Bartolmeu Dias**... from Portugal, sailed for Portugal. He went around the cape of Africa, and then to India--is given credit for being the first person to sail around Africa and go to the East. Established an important trade route between India and Europe, claiming land for Portugal along the way.
Vasco Nunez de Gama: This Portugese captain followed up on what Dias did, continuing to sail around the tip of Africa and heading north and east all the way toward India. It was here he learned about the seasonal Monsoons and how to sail between Africa and India depending on the seasons. He did find a lot of trading partners in spice, a valuable commodity to the Europeans.

Sir Francis Drake... his goal was to explore North America for England and Queen Elizabeth I. He was attacked by the Spanish, motivating him to hate Spain and sail against the Spanish. A “pirate”, he plundered ships he attacked, sending much gold to Elizabeth’s treasury. He died of dysentary.

Leif Ericcson... from Iceland, a Viking... first European (probably) to find North America... called it Vinland (or Wineland)--present day Newfoundland in Canada. His father, Eric the Red, got kicked out of Iceland and moved, with his family to Greenland. Leif sailed back to Greenland but couldn’t find it, and found Vinland accidentally. He did know that he found new land, but he thought it was an island. He landed in Vinland in 1000 AD.

Prince Henry the Navigator... Portugese, born in 1394. His three goals were to explore the unknown lands, spread Christianity to Africa and Asia, and wanted to find a water route around those continents. He started a new school for cartographers. He went in debt before he died, but inspired explorers who came after him.

Henry Hudson.... An Englishman who explored the Arctic Ocean and northeastern Canada for England in the early 1600’s. The Hudson River, Hudson Straight, and Hudson Bay are named after him. He was looking for the Northwest Passage, like many others of his time. He died on Hudson Bay. He took two trips to find the Northwest Passage, but it didn’t really exist, so he didn’t find it. He also sailed north of Norway to an island called Spitzberggen... and sailed through the Arctic Ocean.

Joliet and Marquette... Marquette was French and became a Jesuit priest. He asked to be sent to Quebec to spread Christianity amongst the natives. He and Joliet heard about a large river to the south, and found the Mississippi River. They went down through Lake Michigan to Green Bay, and to the Fox River in Wisconsin. There they met the Ilini. The French claimed all the lands from Wisconsin to Louisiana.

Ferdinand Magellan ... He was born in 1470 in Portugal, and is most famous because his expedition was the first to sail around the world (circumnavigate). He did this under the Spanish king, and on his fourth trip, meant to sail around the world. He would have, but he was killed in the Phillipines during a native rebellion. He proved once and for all that the world was round.... only 18 of his men arrived back in Spain out of the original 300+ who had left.

Francisco Pizzaro: ... from Spain, sailed for Spain. He was looking for Peru, and found it, along with the entire Inca civilization. He found gold from the Incas, and took it from the Incas, enslaving and murdering along the way. He did achieve his goals by finding gold and claiming Peru for Spain. He did murder thousands of Incas.

Marco Polo... He was Italian, from Venice, in 1254. He traveled (maybe) to China and the courts of Ghengis Khan. He wrote about his journeys in a book, inspiring other travelers, including Columbus. Whether or not he really did go all the way to China is open to debate... many historians think he got as far as Afghanistan, and made the rest of the stuff up. He has been given credit for “discovering” China.

Robert LaSalle... Born in France, sailed for France. He started training as a priest, but wanted adventure instead. Louis XIV financed his voyages. He was looking for the Northwest Passage, but found the Mississippi River, exploring everything between Louisiana and Wisconsin along the way. He became a fur trader in Montreal.

Amerigo Vespucci.... from Italy, sailed for Spain. His goal was to explore South America. He took seperate voyages to South America, sailing as far south as Argentina. He was looking for gold too, but never found large amounts. “America” is named after him, because a German cartographer named the new land in honor of him.
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THE EXPLORERS TREASURE HUNT PAGE

NAME: ____________________________________________________

1. ____________________ This is the last name of the kind man who gave you this activity.

2. ____________________ Drake sailed for the Queen of this country.

3. ____________________ Frenchman who looked for the Northwest Passage along the Mississippi.

4. ____________________ Claimed the St. Lawrence River for France.

5. ____________________ Explorers had to sail on these big bodies of water to get anywhere.

6. ____________________ The first to circumnavigate.

7. ____________________ Couldn’t find Greenland, and bumped into North America instead.

8. ____________________ The man whom this continent was named after... first name.

9. ____________________ Joliet and Marquette sailed through this to get to Green Bay.

10. ____________________ Joliet & Marquette claimed all lands for France between Wisconsin and this state.

11. ____________________ The Canadian province to the west of Quebec.

12. ____________________ Spainard who slaughtered Incas for Gold... first name too.

13. ____________________ The greatest river of North America.

14. ____________________ The Channel between Cuba and the Yucatan Peninsula.

15. ____________________ deChamplain claimed the Great Lakes for this country.

16. ____________________ The peninsula that Spain and Portugal are on.

17. ____________________ The route that the Europeans thought would be a shortcut to China.

18. ____________________ The Monarch who defeated the Spanish Armada. Review from 7th Grade.

19. ____________________ Marco Polo reported that he had met this ruler of China... Ghengis __.

20. ____________________ Columbus was born in this country.

21. ____________________ The first to go around the Cape of Good Hope.

22. ____________________ Died in the Mississippi River after terrorizing natives in Mississippi... De __.
23. ____________________ This American state was originally claimed by Spain, then Mexico.

24. ____________________ This state was first “discovered” by Lewis & Clark when they reached the Pacific.

25. ____________________ Englishman who explored Arctic Regions.

26. ____________________ Prince Henry the Navigator was this to future explorers.

27. ____________________ The most powerful country in the world until 1587.

28. ____________________ The original name of Mexico City (Challenge question!)

29. ____________________ De Leon found this orange colored fruits in Florida.

30. ____________________ What DeSoto originally called the Mississippi River.

31. ____________________ What you can say, now that you got done.
Explorers Where They Went!

Name: ______________________________________________

1) Discovered the Pacific: ____________________________________________

2) Took three trips, German cartographer liked his name. ____________________________________________

3) Wandered around Southern US... found Mississippi, kind of a jerk. ____________________________________________

4) Discovered St. Lawrence for the French. ____________________________________________

5) 1000 AD. ____________________________________________

6) Went further north than any before him. ____________________________________________

7) Cape of Good Hope: ____________________________________________

8) Mapped much of N. America for France. ____________________________________________

9) Fountain of Youth ____________________________________________

10) Ended in Montreal. ____________________________________________

11) The inspiration for others ____________________________________________

12) Also inspired others, but after the one above. Opened a school. ____________________________________________
EXPLORERS PRE TEST PRACTICE GUIDE

Match the definitions on the right with the terms on the left.

1. DeSoto
2. Prince Henry
3. Isabella and Ferdinand
4. Balboa
5. Vespucci
6. Cabot
7. Magellan
8. Pizarro
9. LaSalle
10. Columbus
11. Marco polo
12. Hudson
13. Joliet and Marquette
14. Diaz
15. DaGama
16. Europe
17. Erickson
18. Drake
19. Catholic
20. deChamplain

a. ______ Was a great cartographer. Found Argentina. America!
b. ______ Italian who opened up the New World for Europeans.
c. ______ Went around the Cape of Good Hope and ended up in India.
d. ______ Frenchman who went down the Saint Lawrence to Lake Champlain.
e. ______ Spanish jerk who killed lots of natives while discovering Mississippi.
f. ______ Italian who sailed for England and found Newfoundland.
g. ______ Italian who inspired others to travel because of his 26 year journey.
h. ______ The continent that these explorers were from.
i. ______ Portugese who taught others to travel and explore.
j. ______ First to circumnavigate, even though he died in the Phillipines.
k. ______ Discovered northern Canada, where he died in his own bay.
l. ______ The first white man to set foot in the Americas.
m. ______ Rulers who financed Columbus’ voyages.
n. ______ Conquerer of the Incas.
o. ______ Trader and missionary who went down the Mississippi from Sconnie.
p. ______ English thorn in the side of the Spainards. Also circumnavigated.
q. ______ Crossed the Isthmus of Panama and found the Pacific.
r. ______ Found the Cape of Good Hope.
s. ______ The religion that the Spainards, Portugese, and French were.
t. ______ Frenchman who was the first to find the Mississippi and Gulf of Mexico.

ANSWERS: A5, B10, C15, D20, E1, F6, G11, H16, I12, J17, K12, L17, M3, N8, O13, P18, Q4, R14, S19, T9
VOCABULARY
If you can answer these short answer questions, you’ll be in good shape for tomorrow!

1. ____________________________ What word means to “go all the way around?”
2. ____________________________ What river was the gateway to the interior of North America?
3. ____________________________ Where did Marco Polo say he went to?
4. ____________________________ What is the French speaking part of Canada called?
5. ____________________________ In what year did Columbus sail the ocean blue?
6. ____________________________ How many total voyages did Columbus take?
7. ____________________________ Where did Marquette and Joliet enter Wisconsin?
8. ____________________________ How many years ago do some believe that Native Americans crossed the Bering Strait Land Bridge and enter America?
9. ____________________________ Name the explorers who found the Mississippi River.
10. ____________________________ What ocean did the explorers cross to get to America?
11. ____________________________ Name the three ships of Columbus
12. ____________________________ What was the first permanent settlement in the New World called?
13. ____________________________ What Indian nation was exterminated by Pizzaro?
14. ____________________________ What Indian nation was exterminated by Cortez?

On these maps, draw the route of Columbus (above) and Erickson here.

Identify the routes of the explorers from the map above.

A. ______________________
B. ______________________
C. ______________________
D. ______________________
E. ______________________
F. ______________________

More short answer...

1. ____________________ Where did Columbus think he had landed?
2. ____________________ What was the name of the island that Columbus first landed on?
3. ____________________ What religion did the Spainards want to bring to the New World?
4. ____________________ What was the name of the controversial map we studied about the Vikings?
5. ____________________ What was the name of the Spanish fort killed by the Indians, discovered when Columbus came back?

ANSEWERS: A. CABOT, B. COLUMBUS, C. VESPUCCI, D. MAGELLAN, E. DIAS, F. DAGAMA.