

Age of Exploration Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:

- 18 Age of Exploration fact cards (pages 2–6)
- Age of Exploration questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the Age of Exploration questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 Age of Exploration fact cards around your classroom where students will be



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Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.



Scavenger Hunt

Age of Exploration

Fact Card

1



The Chinese, Polynesians, and others explored by sea long before the Age of Exploration.

The name is specifically used for

Scavenger Hunt

Age of Exploration

Fact Card

2



The Ottomans began closing land routes to the East in 1453. This helped kick off the Age of Exploration since it made



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Exploration

3

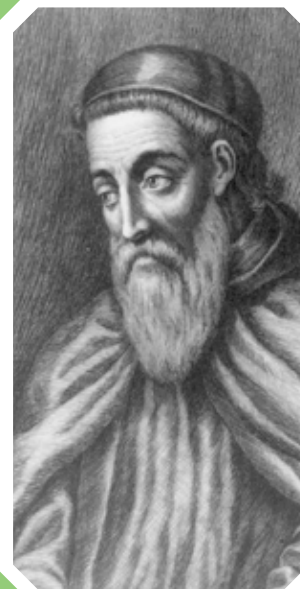


Christopher Columbus first landed on an island the native Taíno called Guanahaní. By 1504 he had also explored

Cuba, Hispaniola, some Central and northern South American coasts, and more.

Exploration

4



Most people think the Americas are named after Amerigo Vespucci. The first known use of the name was by a German mapmaker in 1507.



Scavenger Hunt

Age of Exploration

Fact Card

5



Ferdinand Magellan, far left, and Juan Sebastian Elcano were the

first to sail around the globe. It took exactly two weeks shy of

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Age of Exploration

Fact Card

6



In 1498, Vasco da Gama became the first to sail around Africa to reach India. He hired a man from what is now Kenya in the last month

of the trip. The man helped da



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Exploration

7



Hernán Cortés is known for fighting the Aztecs, but he was not the first to reach Mexico. Francisco Hernández de Córdoba, pictured, is thought to have been the first European to explore there in 1517.

Exploration

8



Jacques Cartier explored the Gulf of St. Lawrence and St. Lawrence River in the 1530s. He had lots of contact with native tribes. It's believed he named Canada after their word for "village," *kanata*.



Scavenger Hunt

Age of Exploration

Fact Card

9



When Bartolomeu Dias sailed around the southern tip of Africa in 1488, he was too far from shore

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Fact Card

10



Juan Ponce de León is known for mapping the Florida coast and helping

set up the first Spanish city in Puerto Rico. The story of him looking for the Fountain of Youth



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Exploration

11



The Americas weren't the only "new" continents for Europe at the time. In 1606, Dutch

explorer Willem Janszoon became the first confirmed European to see Australia.

Exploration

12



Hudson Bay and Strait are named after the first European to see them, Henry Hudson. He came across them in 1611 on his final trip. It was his fourth in five years.



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Age of Exploration

Fact Card

13



Although famous for mapping the Great Lakes and founding Quebec City, Samuel de Champlain

went all over. Most travel in his

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Age of Exploration

Fact Card

14



Spanish explorers came to Brazil first, but Portugal's Pedro Álvares Cabral was the first to really

claim it. Brazil is still the only



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Exploration

15



Giovanni da Verrazzano mapped much of North America's east coast. He did make mistakes, though. He thought Pamlico

Sound in North Carolina was the start of the Pacific Ocean!

Exploration

16



After about 50 days at sea, John Cabot landed in North America in 1497, likely in Newfoundland or Nova Scotia. He was the first European on the continent since the Vikings.



Scavenger Hunt

Age of Exploration

Fact Card

17



Vasco Núñez de Balboa was the first European to see the Pacific Ocean. He first came to

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Age of Exploration

Fact Card

18



There is no specific end date for the Age of Exploration. Most



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Name: _____

Side A

Age of Exploration Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: The term "Age of Exploration" is used specifically for which explorers?

Fact Card 2: What did the Ottomans do in 1453 to help start the Age of Exploration?

Fact Card 3: What was the Taíno name for the place Columbus first landed?



Fact Card 6: Da Gama completed his trip with the help of a man from...

Fact Card 7: Who is thought to have been the first European in Mexico? When?

Fact Card 8: What word does the name Canada come from? What does it mean?

Fact Card 9: About when in his trip did Bartolomeu Dias see the Cape of Good Hope?

Age of Exploration Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: The story of Ponce de León looking for the Fountain of Youth began in...

Fact Card 11: Who was the first European confirmed to have seen Australia?

Fact Card 12: Hudson's four trips happened over how many years?



Fact Card 15: Verrazzano thought the Pacific Ocean started in which modern-day state?

Fact Card 16: About how long did it take Cabot to sail across the ocean?

Fact Card 17: How long was Balboa in the Americas before he saw the Pacific Ocean?

Fact Card 18: True or false: The Age of Exploration ended once the Americas were mapped.

Age of Exploration Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: The term "Age of Exploration" is used specifically for which explorers?

European

Fact Card 2: What did the Ottomans do in 1453 to help start the Age of Exploration?

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Fact Card 9: About when in his trip did Bartolomeu Dias see the Cape of Good Hope?

two months after he turned around

Age of Exploration Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: The story of Ponce de León looking for the Fountain of Youth began in...

... 1535.

Fact Card 11: Who was the first European confirmed to have seen Australia?

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Fact Card 18: True or false: The Age of Exploration ended once the Americas were mapped.

false