



# Seventh Grade Social Studies

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*\*There will be a short video lesson of a Knox County teacher to accompany this task available on the KCS YouTube Channel and KCS TV.*

7.58 - Analyze why European countries were motivated to explore the world, including religion, political rivalry, and economic gain.

7.59 - Identify the significance of the voyages and routes of discovery of the following explorers by their sponsoring country: England: Henry Hudson, France: Jacques Cartier, Portugal: Vasco da Gama, Bartolomeu Dias, Spain: Christopher Columbus, Hernando de Soto, Ferdinand Magellan, Amerigo Vespucci

Task: To make a map and trading cards of explorations of famous explorers and to put them into categories.

Directions: Check off the steps below as you complete them.

\_\_\_\_ read the passages below      \_\_\_\_ annotate as you read      \_\_\_\_ answer the questions

Historically, most explorations began as searches for new trade routes. However, the discovery of the Americas changed all that. It created new desires in the hearts of kings, emperors and explorers. Land was hard to get in Europe as populations grew as most of it was already claimed. The prospect of vast open lands in the Americas excited sailors and rulers. The lands were reportedly full of rich resources (GOLD) as well. The prospect of land and riches encouraged rulers to put up the money for the journeys in hopes of receiving far more riches in return.

Religion (GOD) was another reason for exploration and colonization. When Protestants began the Protestant Reformation the Catholic Church did everything they could to convert new believers to Catholicism. Starting a new colony in a new land would be a great opportunity to get more believers.

Another main reason that explorers and rulers set out across the world was to make a name for themselves and their country. Explorers wanted to be known for their explorations and discoveries (GLORY). The explorers would be famous in their countries and well supported by the rulers.

The explorations changed the world. It made the world a smaller place where countries, people and resources became interconnected. Rulers and explorers set out to gain GOLD, GOD, and GLORY with explorations and though many failed, many succeeded and opened up the world for more explorations and knowledge.

What are 3 reasons for exploration?

What are 2 reasons explorers wanted glory?

What is 1 way that explorations changed the world?

Bartolomeu Dias (1450 - 1500) sailed for the country of Portugal. In August 1487, Dias took three ships in search of the southern tip of Africa. In January 1488, he passed the tip, but he did not see it. It was very stormy at the time. After he turned around and reached the southern coast of Africa, he realized what had happened. Dias wanted to go on to India, but his crew would go no farther. Upon rounding the tip of Africa again, Dias named it the Cape of Storms because of the weather he had battled on the voyage out. It was later renamed the Cape of Good Hope. This was the first European expedition around the southern tip of Africa and opened the way for sea trade between Europe and Asia. Dias's journey was the first to find a passage between the Atlantic Ocean and the Indian Ocean.

Vasco da Gama (1460 - 1524) sailed for the country of Portugal and made three sea voyages to India between 1497 and 1524. In 1495, the Portuguese king asked da Gama to lead an expedition eastward to India. In da Gama's time, Europeans wanted many goods from the East, particularly spices. Muslim traders controlled the land routes to the East. The Portuguese and Spanish monarchs knew that if they could control another trade route to the East, they would gain great wealth and power. Another Portuguese explorer, Bartolomeu Dias, had earlier discovered that there was a passage around the bottom of Africa called the Cape of Good Hope, but he had not made it to India. Da Gama made three

voyages to India. It took three voyages to secure trade agreements with the ruler of the city. His success opened a sea route from Western Europe to the East and made Portugal a world power.

Ferdinand Magellan (1480 - 1521) sailed for the country of Spain though he was from Portugal. He and his sailors were the first Europeans to cross the Pacific Ocean. One of his ships was the first to circumnavigate the globe. In 1519, Magellan began his journey with five ships. He sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and down the coast of South America. In 1520, he found a passage to a new ocean. Magellan named it the Pacific Ocean. The passage, at the southern tip of South America, bears his name and is now called the Strait of Magellan. With three ships left, Magellan crossed the Pacific. After about 100 days he reached the islands now called the Philippines. On April 27, 1521, he was killed in a fight with the native people of the islands. After Magellan's death two of his ships continued westward. One ship made it across the Indian Ocean and around the southern tip of Africa. It returned to Spain on September 8, 1522 after traveling around 42,000 miles.

Henry Hudson (c. 1560 to 1611) sailed for the country of England. He is best known for mapping the Hudson River and the North Atlantic Ocean. On his first two journeys he ran into ice and had to turn back. His first journey began in 1607. On his third journey he met Native Americans in Maine and then traveled south until he found a river. His group of ships explored the river which was later named the Hudson River. During this time he was sailing for the Dutch (a huge rival of England) so he claimed all of this land along the Hudson River for the Dutch. During his time as an explorer he said for both the Dutch and for England. Both groups established trading ports and settlements based on his explorations including the founding of the area of what is now New York City by the Dutch. In total, he made 4 explorations. On his last voyage his crew mutinied and he was placed in a small boat off the coast of the Hudson Bay with a few crew members. He was never heard from again.

Christopher Columbus (1451 - 1506) sailed for the country of Spain though he was born in Italy. He is most famous for starting the exploration and colonization of the Americas. His goal was to find a sea route to China as the Silk Road was dangerous and expensive to travel. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain sponsored his voyage. He set sail in 1492 and eventually believed that he had reached the islands off of East Asia known as the Spice Islands. However, he had landed on a small island in the Caribbean that he named San Salvador. He also visited Cuba and what today is known as the Dominican Republic. Because he believed that he was near India he named the natives that he met Indians. He made three more voyages during which time he saw and mapped more of the Caribbean and even saw mainland America. He never did find the riches that he was looking for but he did find a new continent.

Amerigo Vespucci (1454 - 1512) sailed for the country of Spain though he was originally from Italy. He was a banker for the Medici family in Florence in his younger years. He reached the continent of South America in 1497. He discovered the mouth of the Amazon River on his first voyage and on the second he sailed along the coast of Brazil. He demonstrated to Europe that the New World was not Asia (as thought of by Columbus) but actually an unknown continent. The new continent was named after Vespucci's first name Amerigo by a German mapmaker.

Hernando de Soto (1496 – 1542) sailed for the country of Spain. In 1514 he brought an expedition into Florida into what is now Tennessee. He crossed the Mississippi River then crossed back toward the Gulf of Mexico. He was originally looking for gold and a way to China. He did not find any gold or make any settlements however, he did cause the Spanish to concentrate on colonizing the area known as Florida and along the Pacific coast of North America. He is best known for being the first European explorer to venture into the modern day area of the United States and to discover the Mississippi River. He also explored Peru and was second in command to Pizarro who conquered the Inca Empire. He died of fever in Louisiana in 1542.

Jacques Cartier (1491 – 1557) was born in and sailed for the country of France. He set out to find a western passage to Asia. He was the first European to discover Canada and gave it its name. In 1534 he placed a cross and claimed the land of Canada for France. In 1535 he sailed up the St. Lawrence River and reached a native village that is today the modern day city of Quebec City. He is known as the first European to describe and map the St. Lawrence River. He made three voyages of exploration in dangerous waters without losing a ship and departed some 50 undiscovered harbors without a single mishap showing that Cartier might have been one of the most conscientious explorers of the time.

Task:

\_\_\_ Look over the map below. Use your pencil (colored or regular) to go trace the lines for the 8 explorers that this standard is about.

\_\_\_ Complete the trading cards using the reading and the map provided.

\_\_\_ Cut out the trading cards

\_\_\_ On the back draw a quick sketch of the route that this explorer took – this is a simple sketch only! Draw the continent that they sailed from and the continent they sailed to.

\_\_\_ Put these cards in categories that you choose or use the ones below:

Which explorers lived during the time of Columbus?

Which explorers traveled the Atlantic Ocean?

Which explorers explored the Americas?

Which explorers found gold?

Which explorers were originally from Italy but sailed for another country?

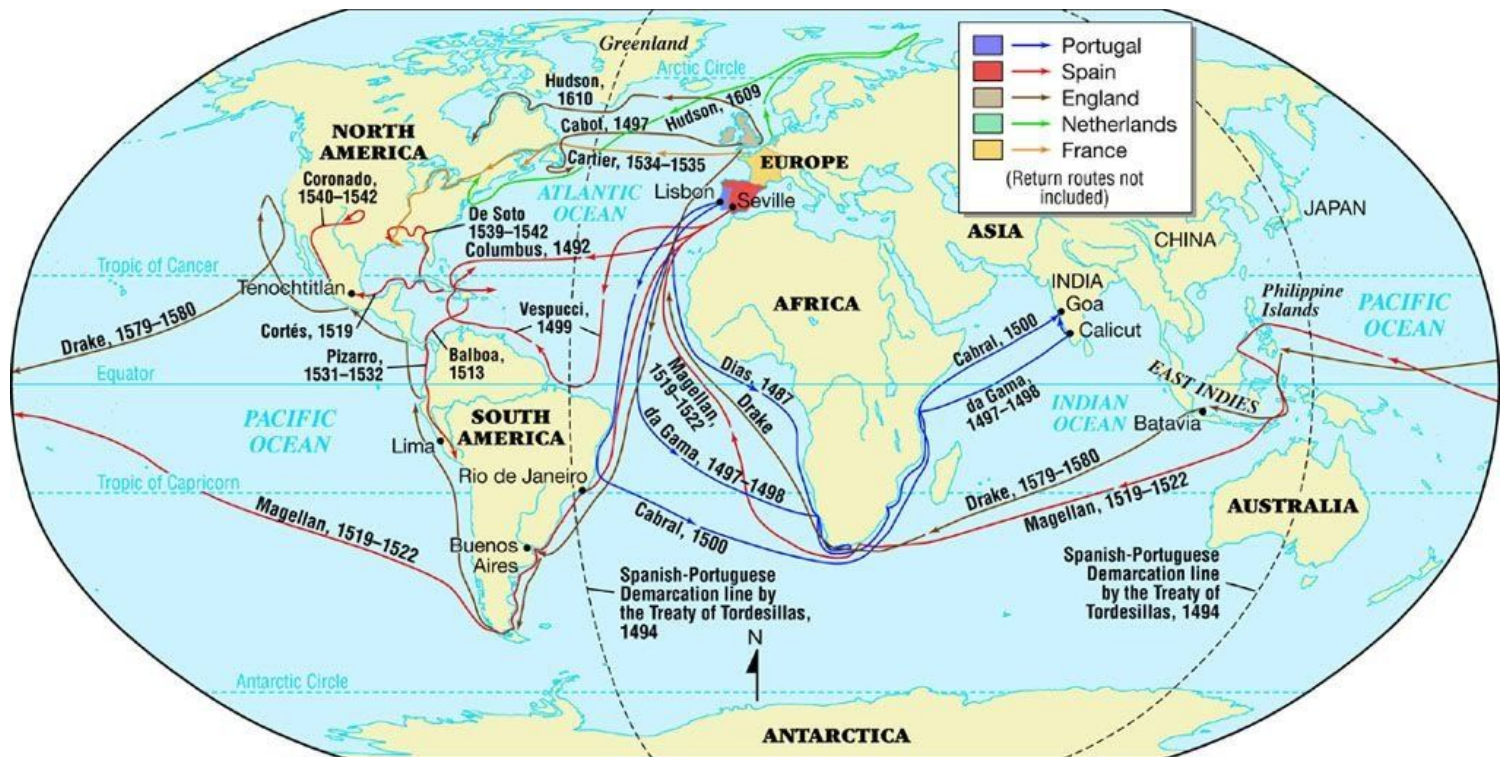
Which explorers sailed from France?

Which explorers do you think sailed for gold? Glory? God?

Can you come up with your own?

\_\_\_ Have your family try to put them in the categories that you chose!

\_\_\_ Once you have completed the map, cards, and categories, place the cards around the map and see if you can match them up to the place of origin (where they started) and where they went to!!



Explorer: <b>da Gama</b>	Explorer: <b>Magellan</b>	Explorer: <b>Cartier</b>	Explorer: <b>Dias</b>
Sailed For:	Sailed For:	Sailed For:	Sailed For:
Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:
Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:
Best Known For:	Best Known For:	Best Known For:	Best Known For:
Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:
Fun Fact:	Fun Fact:	Fun Fact:	Fun Fact:
Explorer: <b>Columbus</b>	Explorer: <b>Hudson</b>	Explorer: <b>de Soto</b>	Explorer: <b>Vespucci</b>
Sailed For:	Sailed For:	Sailed For:	Sailed For:
Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:	Born:      Died:
Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:	Voyage Date:
Best Known For:	Best Known For:	Best Known For:	Best Known For:
Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:	Sailed to and from:
Fun Fact:	Fun Fact:	Fun Fact:	Fun Fact: