

Explorers Study Guide (1295-2000)

Eras	Explorers	Nation they Explored for	Region Explored	Motive
1295	Marco Polo	Personal (Italian Nationality)	Followed ancient trade route and renewed interest of Europeans in the Far East	Trade
1450-1500	Bartholomeu Diaz	Portugal	Rounded southern tip of Africa	Trade
	Vasco da Gama	Portugal	Rounded southern tip of Africa and reached India (the "Indies")	Trade
	Christopher Columbus	Spain	Discovered the New World; West Indies and Central America	Wanted to find a trade route to the Far East, by sailing west
	John Cabot	England	North America	Trade; looking for a Northwest Passage to the Far East
	Amerigo Vespucci	Portugal	South America; reported that South America extended much further confirming that this was a New World	Trade with the Far East
1500-1550	Vasco Nunez Balboa	Spain	Discovered the Pacific Ocean	God, Gold Glory
	Juan Ponce de Leon	Spain	Florida; looked for mythical "fountain of youth"	God, Gold Glory
	Ferdinand Magellan	Spain	Sailed around the world; proved that the world was round; died in the South Pacific at the hands of natives	God, Gold Glory
	Giovanni da Verrazano	France	North America; east coast; died eaten by cannibals in the Caribbean	Trade with the Far East
	Hernan Cortes/z	Spain	Central America; conquered Aztecs	God, Gold Glory

	Francisco Pizarro	Spain	South America; conquered the Incas	God, Gold Glory
	Hernando de Soto	Spain	Southeast of North America; discovered the Mississippi River	God, Gold Glory
	Francisco Coronado	Spain	Southwest of North America; discovered the Grand Canyon & Colorado River	God, Gold Glory
	Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo	Spain	San Pedro!!!	Trade; looking for the fabled Northwest Passage to the Far East
	Jacques Cartier	France	North America; He discovered the St Lawrence River allowing France to lay claim to the lands that would be Canada	Trade; looking for the fabled Northwest Passage to the Far East
1550-1600	Don Juan de Onate	Spain	Led expedition to conquer the province of New Mexico	God, Gold Glory
	Sir Francis Drake	England	Sailed to harass and capture Spanish ships loaded with gold, silver & spices; discovered coffee; later started Drake's coffee cakes; knighted by Queen for attacking the Spanish ships	Trade
1600-1650	Samuel de Champlain	France	Northeast North America (Eastern Canada)	Trade
	Henry Hudson	England	Discovered Hudson River and Hudson Bay	Sought a water route to India
	Louis Joliet	France	Mississippi River Valley & Great Lakes	Trade
1650-1700	Robert de La Salle	France	Mississippi River Valley	Trade
	Father Rene Menard	France	Mississippi River Valley	Share Christianity
1701-1750	Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle & Henri Tonti	France	Claimed the entire Mississippi Valley for France	Trade

	Vitus J Bering	Russia	Proved that North America & Asia were not connected	Search for a Northwest Passage to India
	Daniel Boone	United States	Created the first settlement west of the Appalachians	Fur Trade
	Junipero Serra	Spain	Founded Spanish missions in California	Share Christianity, establish control of most northern point of New Spain
1751-1800	Antonie de Cadillac	France	Established Detroit	To stop the British from expanding into the interior of North America
	James Cook	England	Mapped out New Zealand, Eastern Australia and discovered Hawaii	Trade
	George Vancouver	England	sailed around the world and explored northwestern coast of North America	Search for a Northwest Passage to India
	Lewis & Clark	United States	Explored the Louisiana Purchase	Establish claim to interior of North America
1801-1850	Zeblun Pike	United States	Southwestern US; discovered Pike's Peak	
	John Fremont	United States	Discovered northern route over Rocky Mtns	Fur Trade
	Jedediah Smith	United States	Crossed the Great Basin, Mojave Desert, Rocky Mountains	Fur Trade
	John Franklin	England	Explored Northern Canada	Search for a Northwest Passage to India
	Fredrick Jackson Turner	United States	Declared that the frontier was closed in North America -1893	Questioned how this would effect American society
1901-1950	Robert E. Peary	United States	North Pole; he and four Eskimos reached the North Pole, 1909	<i>To find out if he was on the naughty or nice list!</i>
1950-Present	Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin	United States	Moon	President Kennedy answered Turner's question of a New Frontier