

## Famous Explorers Game

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## GAME TITLE: FAMOUS EXPLORERS GAME

OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify the major nations, explorers and discoveries of the Age of Discovery. Students will participate in a fun activity while learning important historical facts.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Duplicate one bid sheet for each student.
2. Duplicate and distribute copies of the reading pages S1, S2 and S3.
3. The reading and question sheet may be used as either a class or homework assignment.

### HOW TO PLAY:

1. Pass out one bid sheet to each student and read the following introduction to the class: You are about to play a game on the Explorers who discovered the New World in the years between 1000 AD and 1682. Your task will be to bid for each of these explorers. If your bid is successful, you will receive as your reward additional gold pieces. The person with the highest number of gold pieces at the end of turn fifteen will be the winner. The value of each explorer should be estimated upon his important discoveries were.

NOTE: For an easier game, eliminate Numbers 5 and 6 below. All students may bid for all the explorers. Instruct players to cross out Column B1 for all turns. Column B1 will not be used.

2. Students should fill in the turns, numbering from one to fifteen. The first row on the first bid sheet may be used for practice. See # 11 for example.
3. Each player starts with 100 gold pieces. Write 100 under Column A to the right of the first turn.
4. Begin the game by reading the first question on the teacher question sheet. Next, read (or write on chalkboard) the three explorers. Instruct the students to write the name of the explorer they believe answers the question in Column B1 of the proper turn. After each student has written his or her answer tell them the correct explorer and have them write that explorer in Column B2.
5. If the student has written down the incorrect explorer they are out of play for the rest of this turn only! Instruct them to write X's in the remaining boxes of the current turn. They do not lose any gold pieces. They will start the next turn with the same amount of gold they started the current turn with.
6. For the students that have written the correct explorer, tell them they will be able to bid for the explorer. The students that make the minimum or greater bid will win the explorer and receive additional gold pieces. Write the bid range on the board. (High Bid 51 to 100, Medium Bid 31 to 50, Low Bid 5 to 30). Next, announce the range of the bid for the current turn's explorer, High, Medium or Low. Tell the

students to write the amount they wish to bid, based upon how important they believe the explorer to be, under Column C for that turn.

7. After all students have written their bids, tell them the correct minimum bid. If a student's bid was LESS THAN the minimum bid they do not win the explorer or additional gold. They do not lose any gold, and will start the next turn with the same amount they began the current turn with. They write X's in the remaining boxes of the turn.
8. If the student has written the minimum or more than the minimum bid they win the explorer and additional gold. Instruct these students to subtract the number in their Column C from the number they have in Column A, and write the result in Column E.
9. Tell them the amount of gold they have won (see Teacher Question Sheet). They write that number in Column F. To figure their new gold total they should add the number in Column E with the number in Column F and write the result both in Column G of the current turn and in Column A of the next turn.
10. Repeat the above steps fifteen times. At the end of turn fifteen the student with the most gold in Column G is the winner.
11. EXAMPLE OF PLAY:

Have students write practice under the first turn column and 100 under Column A.

- a. The question, "Who was the first president of the United States?" Answers: 1. George Washington 2. A. Lincoln 3. R. Hayes
  - b. The student writes G. Washington under Column B1. Tell them the correct answer is Washington and have them write it in Column B2. Next, tell them it is a High Bid and refer to the Bid ranges. They may bid from 51 to 100. Have them write their bids in Column C. Tell them to write 51 for their Bid.
  - c. Tell them that the correct bid is 51. They should then subtract 51 (in Column C) from 100 (in Column A) and write the result (49) in Column E.
  - d. Tell them that they have won 100 gold pieces which they should write in Column F.
  - e. To figure their new gold total they should add their number in Column E (49) to the number in Column F and write the answer in Column G and in Column A of the next turn.
12. If the game is to be played more than once, a randomizing table is included that will alter the minimum bid each time the game is played. To use the table, roll one die and add or subtract the result from the minimum bid given on the Teacher Question Sheet. This now becomes the new Minimum Bid. See Teacher Question Sheet page two.

ANSWER TO QUESTION SHEET:

1.A	6.C	11.B	16.N	21.I
2.B	7.B	12.J	17.D	22.E
3.B	8.A	13.L	18.F	23.C
4.A	9.A	14.G	19.H	24.M
5.A	10.D	15.K	20.A	

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TEACHER QUESTION SHEET

HOW TO USE: First read the question and the three explorers, see #4 on the HOW TO PLAY section. The correct explorer is underlined. High, Medium and Low represent the type of bid. Next is the minimum winning bid and last is the amount of Gold the successful bid has won.

- | TYPE OF BID   | MINIMUM WINNING BID   | GOLD WON                |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <p>1. Who were the earliest known European explorers of North America that landed around 1000 AD?</p>   |                       |                         |
| 1. <u>Vikings</u>   | 2. Colombians         | 3. English              |
| LOW   | FIVE                  | TEN                     |
| <p>2. An Italian who journeyed to China in the 13th Century. He later wrote a book that made people interested in the riches of the East?</p> |                       |                         |
| 1. Vikings  | 2. Dias               | 3. <u>Marco Polo</u>    |
| LOW   | TEN                   | TWENTY                  |
| <p>3. A Portuguese sailor who in 1486 rounded the Cape of Good Hope at the Southern tip of Africa?</p>  |                       |                         |
| 1. <u>Dias</u>  | 2. La Salle           | 3. Vikings              |
| LOW   | FIFTEEN               | TWENTY                  |
| <p>4. A Portuguese sailor who in 1498 reached India by rounding the Cape of Good Hope at the Southern tip of Africa?</p>                      |                       |                         |
| 1. La Salle   | 2. Cartier            | 3. <u>Vasco da Gama</u> |
| MEDIUM  | FORTY FIVE            | ONE HUNDRED             |
| <p>5. An Italian, sailing for Spain, who discovered the new world in 1492?</p>  |                       |                         |
| 1. <u>Columbus</u>  | 2. Vasco da Gama      | 3. John Cartier         |
| HIGH  | NINETY FIVE           | TWO HUNDRED             |
| <p>6. An Italian, sailing for England, who explored New Foundland and other areas of North America in 1497 to 1498?</p>                       |                       |                         |
| 1. <u>John Cabot</u>  | 2. J. Cartier         | 3. Columbus             |
| MEDIUM  | FORTY                 | SEVENTY FIVE            |
| <p>7. A Portuguese who discovered Brazil in 1500?</p>   |                       |                         |
| 1. <u>Pedro Cabral</u>  | 2. Amerigo Vespucci   | 3. Vasco da Gama        |
| LOW   | TWENTY                | FORTY                   |
| <p>8. An Italian, sailing for Portugal, who made several trips to the New World in 1501 to 1503 and had the new world named after him?</p>    |                       |                         |
| 1. C. Columbus  | 2. <u>A. Vespucci</u> | 3. S. de Champlain      |
| LOW   | TWENTY                | THIRTY                  |
| <p>9. A Spaniard who discovered the Pacific Ocean by land in 1513?</p>  |                       |                         |
| 1. Cabral   | 2. Magellan           | 3. <u>Balboa</u>        |

- |     | MEDIUM  | THIRTY-FIVE               | SIXTY                 |
|-----|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10  | A Portuguese, sailing for the Spanish, who made the first circumnavigation of the earth between 1519 and 1521. This explorer was killed during the voyage but one of his ships made the complete journey. |                           |                       |
|     | 1. Balboa   | 2. S de Champlain         | 3. <u>Magellan</u>    |
|     | HIGH  | SEVENTY FIVE              | ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY |
|     |   |                           |                       |
| 11. | An Italian, sailing for France, who made several voyages of discovery to the new world in the 1520's. He was captured and eaten by Carib cannibal Indians in 1528.  |                           |                       |
|     | 1. Magellan   | 2. <u>Verranzano</u>      | 3. La Salle           |
|     | LOW   | TWENTY                    | THIRTY FIVE           |
|     |   |                           |                       |
| 12. | A French explorer who sailed to parts of Canada between 1533 and 1544 and founded the City of Montreal.   |                           |                       |
|     | 1. Verranzano   | 2. <u>Cartier</u>         | 3. Magellan           |
|     | MEDIUM  | THIRTY FIVE               | SIXTY                 |
|     |   |                           |                       |
| 13. | The man who began the French Empire in North America. He founded the City of Quebec in 1608.  |                           |                       |
|     | 1. La Salle   | 2. <u>S. de Champlain</u> | 3. Cabot              |
|     | MEDIUM  | FORTY                     | SEVENTY FIVE          |
|     |   |                           |                       |
| 14. | An Englishman who explored the coast of North America in 1609.  |                           |                       |
|     | 1. Verranzano   | 2. <u>Hudson</u>          | 3. Cabot              |
|     | MEDIUM  | THIRTY                    | SIXTY                 |
|     |   |                           |                       |
| 15. | A great French explorer who claimed the Mississippi River for France in 1682.   |                           |                       |
|     | 1. <u>La Salle</u>  | 2. Cabot                  | 3. Cartier            |
|     | HIGH  | FIFTY FIVE                | ONE HUNDRED           |

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USE THE FOLLOWING TABLE TO RANDOMIZE THE MINIMUM BIDS. (SEE #12 ON INSTRUCTOR'S SHEET page two)

<u>DIE ROLL</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
ONE	add four to the minimum bid
TWO	add six to the minimum bid
THREE	add ten to the minimum bid
FOUR	subtract four from the minimum bid
FIVE	subtract six from the minimum bid
SIX	subtract ten from the minimum bid



## READING FOR FAMOUS EXPLORERS GAME

One of the great chapters in History was the Age of Exploration. It began in the late fifteenth century and continued well into the 1700's. During this time period almost all of the planet was explored and claimed by European countries. The Age of Exploration began when ships from Portugal and Spain began edging out into the unknown Atlantic Ocean.

There were several reasons why the Age of Exploration began when it did. One of the most important reasons was the closing of the eastern trade routes in 1453 by the Ottoman Turks. The Ottoman Turks were a powerful people whose armies conquered vast lands in North Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. The Turks prevented Europeans from obtaining the spices, silks and other products they had been buying from eastern lands. These products had become an important part of the European economy so other ways of reaching the eastern markets had to be found. The first route to the East attempted was by sailing around the Southern tip of Africa. This route was pioneered by the Portuguese under the leadership of Prince Henry. The Portuguese were the first to discover a water route to the riches of the East.



A second route was proposed by Christopher Columbus, an Italian. He believed that the eastern lands of China, India and Japan could be reached by sailing westward into the Atlantic Ocean. He persuaded the monarchs of Spain to finance an expedition and he departed in 1492. After a month of sailing, Columbus' fleet of three small ships landed on an island that he believed was in the Indies. But he was wrong. Columbus had not discovered an island in the Indies but a new world, the continents of North and South America. Columbus was soon followed by explorers from other nations.

The Age of Exploration could not have taken place without the many technological inventions that Europeans accomplished during the period we call the Renaissance (rebirth of learning). New and better types of ships were built that could withstand the rigors of the Atlantic Ocean. Better weapons such as cannon and firearms enabled Europeans to defeat much larger native armies.



Map making and navigation aids such as the compass enabled Europeans to sail the vast oceans without getting lost. There were many such inventions and discoveries that contributed to the success of the Europeans' voyages of discovery.



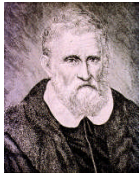
There were many explorers from several nations responsible for the discoveries that took place. The nation of Spain was the first to explore and claim lands in the New World. Her Conquistadores (conquerors) destroyed the advanced Aztec and Inca civilizations and enslaved their Indian citizens. Spanish priests and others brought their religion, language and customs to the New World.

Explorers from several other countries were active and made important discoveries. Below is a list of these explorers and their accomplishments. Study them carefully for the questions and game.



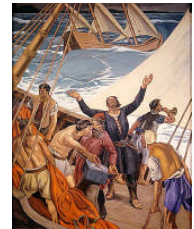
## Student Sheet of Explorers

1. Vikings: The Vikings, or Norsemen, were Scandinavians who made voyages to Iceland, Greenland and North America around 1000 AD. They were probably the first Europeans to discover North America. They told no other European peoples of their discovery and it had no effect on the Age of Exploration



2. Marco Polo: He was an Italian who journeyed with his father in the 13th Century from Venice to China. He later wrote a book that made people interested in the riches of the East.

3. Bartholomeu Diaz: He was a Portuguese sailor who rounded the Cape of Good Hope at the Southern tip of Africa in 1486. His voyage showed that a sea route to the riches of the East was possible.



4. Vasco da Gama: He was a Portuguese sailor who voyaged to Calcutta, India in 1498 by rounding Africa. He returned with a load of jewels and spices. His journey proved that a sea route to the east was possible

5. Christopher Columbus: He was an Italian from the City of Genoa who sailed for Spain. He discovered the New World in 1492 while searching for a Western sea route to the East. In other voyages from 1492 to 1504 he discovered Cuba, Jamaica, Venezuela, Nicaragua, and more.



6. John Cabot: He was from Florence, Italy but sailed for England. He explored the Newfoundland and Labrador areas of North America in 1497-1498.



7. Amerigo Vespucci: He was a resident of Venice, Italy but was employed as an explorer for Portugal. He made several voyages to the New World and had the new lands named after

him (America). The years of his voyages were 1501-1503.

8. Pedro Alvares Cabral: He was a Portuguese explorer who discovered Brazil in 1500.



9. Vasco Nunez de Balboa: A Spaniard who discovered the Pacific Ocean by land in 1513.

10. Ferdinand Magellan: He was a Portuguese who sailed for the Spanish. His expedition made the first circumnavigation of the globe between 1519 and 1521. Magellan himself was killed in the Philippines, but one of his five ships made it back to Spain. His voyage was one of the greatest exploits in the history of exploration.



11. Giovanni da Verranzano: He was an Italian who sailed for France. He made several voyages of discovery to the Carolinas, Maine, Brazil and the Antilles. He was captured and eaten by Carib Indians in 1528.

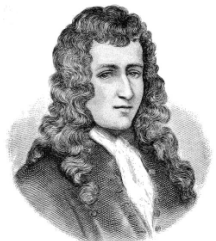


12. Jacques Cartier: He was a Frenchman who explored Labrador, New Foundland and other parts of Canada between 1533 and 1542.



13. Henry Hudson: An Englishman who explored the Hudson River and other areas of North America in 1609.

14. Samuel de Champlain: He began the French Empire in North America by founding the City of Quebec in 1608.



15. La Salle: One of the greatest French explorers. He claimed the Mississippi River Basin for France in 1682.

QUESTION SHEET

DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION READING QUESTIONS

1. Which nation was the most successful in discovering and conquering new lands during the Age of Exploration?  
A. Spain B. England C. France D. Germany
  2. Which two nations were the first to begin sending out explorers?  
A. England and France B. Spain and Portugal C. Germany and France D. Spain and Holland
  3. Which of the following explorers made the most important discovery?  
A. John Cabot B. C. Columbus C. Marco Polo D. B. Diaz
  4. The Renaissance was a period when....  
A. there was a rebirth of learning B. the Aztecs discovered America. C. the Romans conquered Britain D. the American Revolution took place.
  5. Which of the following was a New World Indian Civilization?  
A. Aztecs B. Indochinese C. Huns D. Magyars
  6. Which of the following explorers had the least importance in the Age of Discovery?  
A. Diaz B. da Gama C. Vikings D. Columbus
  7. Which of the following was not one of the countries in the East?
  8. A. India B. Portugal C. Japan D. China
  9. Which of the following was an invention that helped European explorers navigate on the oceans?
  10. A. Compass B. Tripod C. Gunpowder D. Computers
  11. Which of the following countries did not send out any explorers?
  12. A. United States B. England C. Portugal D. Spain
  13. What people blocked the Europeans from trade routes with the East in 1453?
  14. A. Arabs B. Armenians C. Dutch D. Ottoman Turks
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MATCHING

- A. claimed the Miss. basin for France
- B. Italian who traveled to China in 1271
- C. began the French empire in N. America
- D. showed a sea route to the East was possible
- E. explored the Hudson River in 1609
- F. in 1498 went to Calicut, India
- G. explored parts of Canada, 1533-1542
- H. discovered the New World in 1492
- I. eaten by Carib Indians in 1528
- J. explored N. America for England

\_\_\_\_\_K. circumnavigation of the earth  
\_\_\_\_\_L. had the New World named after him  
\_\_\_\_\_M. discovered the Pacific Ocean  
\_\_\_\_\_N. discovered Brazil in 1500

11. Marco Polo
12. John Cabot
13. A. Vespucci
14. J. Cartier
15. F. Magellan
16. P. Cabral
17. B. Diaz
18. Vasco da Gama
19. C. Columbus
20. La Salle
21. G. Verranzano
22. H. Hudson

BID SHEET: AT START EACH PLAYER RECEIVES ONE HUNDRED GOLD PIECES

TURN	A GOLD AT START	B1 YOUR CHOICE OF EXPLORER	B2 CORRECT EXPLORER	C YOUR BID	D BID NEEDED TO WIN	E IF YOUR BID WAS HIGH ENOUGH SUB- TRACT NUMBER IN COLUMN C FROM NUMBER IN COLUMN A	F GOLD YOU WON	G NEW GOLD TOTAL, ADD NUMBERS IN COLUMN E AND F
Practice								
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								

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