

Explorers

Christopher Columbus: Exploring the New World

Christopher Columbus, an Italian explorer, is often credited with discovering the New World in 1492. Born in Genoa in 1451, Columbus became fascinated with the idea of finding a westward route to Asia, which would facilitate trade



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Columbus continued his exploration, making subsequent voyages to the Caribbean and South America. Despite his repeated claims that he had reached Asia, it became evident that he had stumbled upon a completely new continent. This discovery had profound consequences for both Europe and the indigenous people of the Americas. Columbus's voyages initiated a period of exploration and colonization by

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European powers, leading to the exchange of plants, animals, and cultures between the Old World and the New World.

However, Columbus's legacy is a subject of controversy. While he is celebrated for opening the door to the Americas, his expeditions also led to the exploitation and suffering of indigenous people, the spread of diseases, and the destruction of ancient civilizations.

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1) Where was Christopher Columbus born?

- a) Spain b) Italy c) Portugal d) England

2) Which monarchs sponsored Columbus's 1492 voyage?

- a) King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain

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5) What was a negative consequence of Columbus's voyages in the Americas?

- a) Increased cooperation between Europe and Asia
b) The exchange of diseases between continents
c) A decline in European exploration
d) The establishment of a peaceful relationship with indigenous peoples

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6) What motivated Christopher Columbus to embark on his journey?

7) Describe Columbus's first encounter with land during his 1492 voyage.

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10) What were some of the consequences of the clash of civilizations between Europeans and indigenous peoples?
