Routes That Changed Shores

Trace three voyages and the settlements that followed.

SS24.6.2b "Trace the routes of key European expeditions in North America and describe their effects on colonization in the New World."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the places that show each explorer's route. Underline one effect of each route on later colonization.

Across the Atlantic

1. In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed west from Spain across the Atlantic Ocean, hoping to reach Asia. Instead, his ships reached islands in the Caribbean, including the Bahamas and Hispaniola, where Indigenous peoples already lived. His reports drew more Spanish ships across the same ocean route. Spain soon built settlements on Caribbean islands and used them as bases for voyages to the American mainland. Spanish colonizers seized land and forced many Indigenous people to work. Diseases carried by Europeans also killed many people who had no earlier exposure to them.

2. Five years later, in 1497, John Cabot sailed west from England across the North Atlantic. He reached land near Newfoundland, though historians still debate his exact landing place. Cabot did not found a colony, but his voyage helped England claim a stake in North America. Reports of plentiful fish near Newfoundland also attracted European fishing boats to the region. Their crews crossed the Atlantic each season, and some began trading with Indigenous peoples. England used Cabot's voyage to support later plans to settle along North America's Atlantic coast, far south of Newfoundland.

3. France sought an ocean route. In 1534, Jacques Cartier sailed from France across the Atlantic into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. On a later voyage, he followed the St. Lawrence River inland as far as the area of present-day Montreal. Cartier met Indigenous communities who already knew and used this waterway. He returned to France with news of a route into the continent, but he did not establish a lasting French settlement. Decades later, French settlers used the St. Lawrence waterway to build trading connections and communities, including Quebec in 1608.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Trace Columbus's route from Spain. How did that route help Spain begin colonizing the Americas?

2. Where did Cabot sail from and where did he reach land? Explain one way his voyage shaped England's later plans.

3. Trace Cartier's route on his first voyage and his later inland voyage. How did French settlers later use that waterway?

4. How did the routes of Columbus and Cartier lead to different kinds of colonization?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are advising a leader who wants to start a trading post. In five sentences, compare Cabot's and Cartier's routes, explain one later effect of each, and recommend one region for the post using evidence from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Routes That Changed Shores

GRADE 6 · SS24.6.2b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the places that show each explorer's route. Underline one effect of each route on later colonization. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Trace Columbus's route from Spain. How did that route help Spain begin colonizing the Americas?	**Columbus sailed west from Spain across the Atlantic to Caribbean islands, including the Bahamas and Hispaniola. Spain later built island settlements and used them as bases for voyages to the mainland.**
2	Where did Cabot sail from and where did he reach land? Explain one way his voyage shaped England's later plans.	**Cabot sailed from England across the North Atlantic and reached land near Newfoundland. England used his voyage to support later plans to settle on North America's Atlantic coast.**
3	Trace Cartier's route on his first voyage and his later inland voyage. How did French settlers later use that waterway?	**Cartier sailed from France into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, then followed the St. Lawrence River toward present-day Montreal on a later voyage. French settlers later used the waterway for trading connections and communities.**
4	How did the routes of Columbus and Cartier lead to different kinds of colonization?	**Columbus's route to the Caribbean led Spain to build island settlements and use them as bases for mainland voyages. Cartier's route into the St. Lawrence region later helped French settlers build trading connections and communities.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Cabot sailed from England across the North Atlantic to land near Newfoundland. His voyage drew fishing boats to the region and supported England's later settlement plans. Cartier sailed from France into the Gulf of St. Lawrence and later followed the river toward present-day Montreal. French settlers used that waterway to build trading connections and communities. I recommend the St. Lawrence region because those trading connections would help a new post exchange goods.

Accept accurate route descriptions without exact landing sites for Cabot. For the open task, look for two routes, one supported effect for each, and a recommendation tied to passage evidence.