

Florida Expedition Clues

Read closely to connect each explorer with a purpose.

SS.4.A.3.1 "Identify explorers who came to Florida and the motivations for their expeditions."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each explorer's name. Circle the words that tell why he came to Florida, then draw a line from each name to a reason.

Why Explorers Came

- ① In 1513, Juan Ponce de León sailed north from Puerto Rico for Spain. His expedition reached the peninsula he named La Florida, meaning "flowery land." Ponce de León wanted to explore and claim land for Spain. A later story connected him with the Fountain of Youth, but records show that his expedition also sought new lands and possible riches.
- ② More than twenty years later, Hernando de Soto led soldiers and settlers into Florida. He had taken part in Spanish conquests in the Americas and hoped to find gold and other wealth. De Soto also wanted glory for himself and Spain. His group traveled through Florida and farther north, but it did not find the rich kingdoms de Soto expected.
- ③ Other Spanish leaders came for different reasons. In 1559, Tristán de Luna tried to start a settlement at Pensacola Bay so Spain could control the area. In 1565, Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine. He aimed to protect Spain's claim to Florida and remove the French settlers at Fort Caroline. These expeditions show that explorers sought land, wealth, power, and safety for Spain.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Who named the peninsula La Florida? Give two reasons his expedition came to the area.

2 What kind of wealth did Hernando de Soto hope to find, and what else did he want?

3 Why did Tristán de Luna try to start a settlement at Pensacola Bay?

4 Who founded St. Augustine, and what did he want to do about the French settlers at Fort Caroline?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Create an expedition recommendation for Spain. Choose one explorer from the passage and write three sentences that name him, state his motivation, and explain why that goal mattered to Spain.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each explorer's name. Circle the words that tell why he came to Florida, then draw a line from each name to a reason. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who named the peninsula La Florida? Give two reasons his expedition came to the area.	Juan Ponce de León. He came to explore and claim land for Spain and to seek possible riches.
2	What kind of wealth did Hernando de Soto hope to find, and what else did he want?	He hoped to find gold and other wealth. He also wanted glory for himself and Spain.
3	Why did Tristán de Luna try to start a settlement at Pensacola Bay?	He wanted Spain to control the area.
4	Who founded St. Augustine, and what did he want to do about the French settlers at Fort Caroline?	Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine. He wanted to remove the French settlers at Fort Caroline.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Spain should support Tristán de Luna's expedition. He wanted to build a settlement at Pensacola Bay so Spain could control the area. Controlling the area would help Spain strengthen its claim to Florida.

Accept any explorer from the passage if the student accurately states a motivation and gives a reasonable explanation of why it would matter to Spain. The explanation may mention control, land claims, wealth, glory, or protection from rivals.