

Voyages and Clues

Trace who traveled, why they sailed, and what they accomplished.

SS.5.A.3.2 "Investigate (nationality, sponsoring country, motives, dates and routes of travel, accomplishments) the European explorers."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each explorer's nationality, circle the first country named as that explorer's sponsor, and number 1 through 4, in passage order, the phrases that tell what each explorer reached or explored.

Four Atlantic Voyages

- ① In 1492, Christopher Columbus, an Italian sailor, sailed west across the Atlantic Ocean for Spain. He hoped to find a sea route to Asia and its valuable trade goods. Instead, his ships reached islands in the Caribbean. Columbus made four voyages for Spain. His first voyage opened lasting contact between Europe and the Americas, although he did not reach Asia.
- ② John Cabot, an Italian explorer, sailed for England in 1497. Seeking a western route to Asia, he crossed the North Atlantic and reached the coast of North America, probably near Newfoundland. England used his voyage to support later claims in North America. In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León sailed from Puerto Rico to Florida for Spain, seeking lands and wealth. He explored Florida's coast for Spain.
- ③ Hernando de Soto, a Spanish explorer, led a Spanish expedition that Spain sponsored from Cuba in 1539. He wanted gold and new land for Spain. His group traveled through parts of what are now Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana. In 1541, the expedition was the first documented European expedition to reach the Mississippi River. De Soto died in 1542, but the expedition continued briefly.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What motive did Columbus and Cabot share? How were their routes different?

2 What was Juan Ponce de León's nationality, sponsoring country, and motive for sailing to Florida?

3 When did Spain sponsor de Soto's expedition, where did it begin, and name three places his group traveled through.

4 What did Cabot reach, and how did England use his voyage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two explorers from the passage. Complete the chart with evidence about each explorer's nationality and sponsor, motive, date and route, and accomplishment.

EXPLORER	NATIONALITY AND SPONSOR	MOTIVE, DATE, AND ROUTE	ACCOMPLISHMENT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each explorer's nationality, circle the first country named as that explorer's sponsor, and number 1 through 4, in passage order, the phrases that tell what each explorer reached or explored. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What motive did Columbus and Cabot share? How were their routes different?	Both sought a western sea route to Asia. Columbus crossed the Atlantic to Caribbean islands, while Cabot crossed the North Atlantic to the coast of North America.
2	What was Juan Ponce de León's nationality, sponsoring country, and motive for sailing to Florida?	He was Spanish, sailed for Spain, and sought lands and wealth.
3	When did Spain sponsor de Soto's expedition, where did it begin, and name three places his group traveled through.	Spain sponsored the expedition in 1539, and it began in Cuba. His group traveled through any three of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana.
4	What did Cabot reach, and how did England use his voyage?	Cabot reached the coast of North America, probably near Newfoundland. England used his voyage to support later claims in North America.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

EXPLORER	NATIONALITY AND SPONSOR	MOTIVE, DATE, AND ROUTE	ACCOMPLISHMENT
John Cabot	Italian, England	Sought a western route to Asia. In 1497, he crossed the North Atlantic.	Reached the coast of North America, probably near Newfoundland.
Hernando de Soto	Spanish, Spain	Wanted gold and new land. In 1539, he left Cuba and traveled through parts of the Southeast.	His expedition was the first documented European expedition to reach the Mississippi River.

Accept accurate details from the passage, including any three states listed for de Soto's route. For the chart, accept any two explorers when each row includes all four requested categories.