

# Travel and Survival

How explorers responded to oceans, wetlands, and cold.

**SS3G3.b** "Describe how the early explorers (SS3H2a) adapted, or failed to adapt, to the various physical environments in which they traveled."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline each action people took to handle a physical environment. Circle the words that name the environment, then write A beside an adaptation and F beside a failed or harmful choice.

### Explorers in Different Places

- ① Christopher Columbus reached islands in the Caribbean in 1492. His ships had crossed the Atlantic Ocean, so crews had to save fresh water and food for the long trip. On the islands, Columbus used small boats to travel along coasts. He did not understand the new lands or the people who lived there. His search for Asian trade routes failed.
- ② Hernando de Soto led Spanish soldiers through the hot, wet Southeast from 1539 to 1542. They walked through forests, crossed swamps, and forded rivers. The group took food from American Indian communities instead of growing or carrying enough. This choice harmed communities and made the expedition depend on others. De Soto found no great supply of gold, and he died near the Mississippi River.
- ③ Henry Hudson sailed into a cold northern bay in 1610 while seeking a water route to Asia. When ice trapped his ship for winter, the crew built shelter on land and used stored supplies. Those actions helped them face the cold at first. By spring, food was low and the crew was angry. Mutineers left Hudson, his son, and others in a small boat.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** What did Columbus's crews save during the Atlantic crossing, and why did they need to save it?

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**2** Name two physical places de Soto's group traveled through. Why did the group's food choice make the expedition depend on others?

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**3** How did Hudson's crew adapt when ice trapped the ship? What problem did the crew have by spring?

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**4** How were Columbus's crew and Hudson's crew alike? Give one way each group prepared for a physical challenge.

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Imagine a group of explorers must cross a dry desert for six days. Write three sentences that name the challenge, describe two ways the group can adapt, and tell what could happen if the group does not adapt.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline each action people took to handle a physical environment. Circle the words that name the environment, then write A beside an adaptation and F beside a failed or harmful choice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                         | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                           |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What did Columbus's crews save during the Atlantic crossing, and why did they need to save it?                                   | <b>They saved fresh water and food because the Atlantic crossing was a long trip.</b>                                                                            |
| 2 | Name two physical places de Soto's group traveled through. Why did the group's food choice make the expedition depend on others? | <b>They traveled through forests, swamps, and rivers. They took food from American Indian communities instead of growing or carrying enough food.</b>            |
| 3 | How did Hudson's crew adapt when ice trapped the ship? What problem did the crew have by spring?                                 | <b>They built shelter on land and used stored supplies. By spring, food was low and the crew was angry.</b>                                                      |
| 4 | How were Columbus's crew and Hudson's crew alike? Give one way each group prepared for a physical challenge.                     | <b>Columbus's crew saved food and fresh water for the ocean crossing. Hudson's crew built shelter and used stored supplies when winter ice trapped the ship.</b> |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

A group of explorers travels across a dry desert. They carry water in containers and travel early in the morning when the air is cooler. If they do not save water or find shade, they may become sick from heat and thirst.

Accept equivalent details from the passage and clear cause-and-effect explanations about adapting to an environment. For the open response, accept sensible desert adaptations, two specific actions, and a realistic result of failing to adapt.