

## EXPLORERS

Name	Country of Origin	Dates	“Discovery”
Marco Polo	Italy	1271-1296	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• brought back “riches” from China</li> <li>• found a sea and land route to Asia called the “Silk Road”</li> </ul>
Prince Henry	Portugal	early 1400’s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expert navigator</li> <li>• explored the West coast of Africa</li> <li>• set up a navigation school</li> </ul>
Bartholomew Dias	Portugal	1488	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• found the Cape of Good Hope, Africa while looking for a sea route to Asia</li> </ul>
Vasco da Gama	Portugal	1497	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• found a sea route to Asia around the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian Ocean (he made it!)</li> </ul>
Christopher Columbus	Born in Italy Sailed for Spain	1492	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first to sail west</li> <li>• found San Salvador, Cuba, Puerto Rico met Taino Indians, led 3 more expeditions to islands</li> </ul>
Amerigo Vespucci	Italy	1501	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• crossed the Atlantic Ocean</li> <li>• sailed along the Eastern coast of South America</li> <li>• two continents get his name</li> </ul>
Vasco Nunez de Balboa	Spain	1513	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• landed on the isthmus of Panama</li> <li>• spotted the Pacific Ocean</li> </ul>

Ferdinand Magellan	Born in Portugal Sailed for Spain	1519-1522	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first to lead an expedition around the world, he was killed during the voyage</li> <li>• <u>circumnavigated</u> the world (sailed around completely)</li> </ul>
Hernando Cortes (conquistador)	Spain	1519	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• landed in Mexico</li> <li>• conquered the Aztecs</li> </ul>
Francisco Pizarro (conquistador)	Spain	1532	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conquered the Incas in Peru, South America</li> </ul>
Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca	Spain	1528	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• traveled Southwest region looking for the riches of Cibola (7 cities)</li> </ul>
Hernando De Soto	Spain	1540	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sailed to Florida and searched for riches in the Mississippi River Valley area</li> </ul>
Francisco Coronado	Spain	1540	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• searched for Cibola (7 cities of gold) in the Southwest</li> <li>• first to see the Grand Canyon</li> </ul>
Juan Ponce de Leon	Spain	1513	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• searched for “fountain of youth”</li> <li>• landed on Puerto Rico and the peninsula of Florida</li> </ul>
Bartholome de las Casas	Spain	1500’s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fought for rights of Native people to be paid for work they did</li> </ul>