Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 1 The Age of Exploration

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How does technology change the way people live?

GUIDING QUESTIONS
1. Why did Europeans begin to explore the world?
2. Which leaders were responsible for European exploration of the world?

Terms to Know
conquistadors Spanish soldiers who conquered people in other lands
circumnavigate to go completely around something, such as the world

Where in the world?

When did it happen?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1450</th>
<th>1500</th>
<th>1550</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1488 Bartolomeu Dias sails to southern tip of Africa</td>
<td>1494 Treaty of Tordesillas signed</td>
<td>1535 Jacques Cartier sails on the St. Lawrence River</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1492 Christopher Columbus reaches the Americas | | }

You Are Here in History

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Europe Gets Ready to Explore

In the 1400s and 1500s, countries in Western Europe began exploring the world. They wanted spices, silk, and other goods from Asia.

Political change in the countries between Europe and Asia made it more difficult and expensive to trade goods by land. If European traders could not get there by land, maybe they could get there by sea. Their ships, however, were not equipped to travel the Atlantic Ocean.

By the 1400s, they had the tools they needed. From the Arabs, they learned about the astrolabe and the compass. The astrolabe was an ancient Greek tool used to find latitude. The compass was a tool that sailors used to figure out which direction they were going.

European shipbuilders made better ships. They used sails invented by the Arabs that were shaped like triangles. These sails let a ship go in any direction. No longer did they have to go just where the wind blew.

By the 1400s, many people in Europe knew the world was round. However, they had maps of only Europe and the Mediterranean region. Sailors began to study ancient maps and books.

What Europeans Needed to Find Asia

- astrolabe and compass for directions
- sails for ships
- maps from Ptolemy and al-Idrisi

A Greek geographer named Claudius Ptolemy had drawn maps of the world. He wrote down the latitude and longitude of over 8,000 places. Europeans began studying his maps. Sailors and explorers were able to get copies of the maps because of the invention of the printing press.

Sailors also studied the works of an Arab geographer named al-Idrisi. Europeans learned about the Indian Ocean. They decided that sailing around Africa was the best way to get to Asia.

Even though the Europeans had new tools, exploration was still dangerous and costly. During this time, towns and trade also grew. This made Europe’s governments stronger. By the 1400s, four kingdoms were looking for a sea route to Asia. All of them had ports on the Atlantic Ocean. The race was on between England, Portugal, Spain, and France.
Early Voyages of Discovery

In the early 1400s, England and France were still fighting each other, and Spain was battling the Muslims. Portugal was free to lead the way to explore new trade routes to Asia. Prince Henry of Portugal paid for many voyages of exploration. About 1420, his sailors traveled along Africa's west coast. They made maps of what they found.

In 1488 Bartolomeu Dias reached the southern tip of Africa. Nine years later, Vasco da Gama rounded the tip of Africa. He raced across the Indian Ocean to the southwest coast of India. He had found a water route to East Asia.

An Italian navigator then came up with a different plan to get to Asia. His name was Christopher Columbus. He decided to sail west, not east, across the Atlantic Ocean.

Columbus had three ships: the Santa María, the Niña, and the Pinta. They left Spain in 1492 and headed west. After many weeks, they finally saw land. Columbus thought he was in Asia. He did not realize he was in the Americas.

He made several more trips. He brought conquistadors, or Spanish soldier-explorers, with him to conquer the people of the new lands. Europeans eventually realized they had found new continents.

Major explorers:
- Bartolomeu Dias
- Vasco da Gama
- Christopher Columbus
- Ferdinand Magellan
- John Cabot
- Giovanni da Verrazano

The English heard about Columbus’s trip. They also wanted to find a route to Asia. In 1497 John Cabot headed across the Atlantic Ocean. Cabot came to the coast of Canada. He did not find a path to Asia. Cabot was lost at sea on his second trip. He was never heard from again.

In 1520 Ferdinand Magellan sailed south along the coast of South America. He found a way around the continent. He then went west. His sailors almost starved. After four months at sea, they reached the present-day Philippines. There, Magellan died in a battle between local groups.
Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 1 The Age of Exploration, Continued

His crew then went west across the Indian Ocean. They went around Africa and back to Spain. They were the first known people to **circumnavigate**, or sail around, the world.

In 1524 France sent Giovanni da Verrazano to find a northern route to Asia. He drew maps of the east coast of America, but he did not find a way to Asia. Ten years later, Jacques Cartier entered the St. Lawrence River. He claimed much of eastern Canada for France.

After these early trips, France stopped exploring for a time. By the mid-1500s, France and England were involved in religious conflicts and civil wars. It wasn’t until the early 1600s that these countries began exploring again. Spain and Portugal had territories in South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. So France and England began to establish their colonies in North America.

**Check for Understanding**

List five things Europeans needed to find a new route to Asia.

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________
5. ____________________________

List two explorers who reached Asia from different directions.

6. ____________________________
7. ____________________________

**Defining**

8. **What does it mean to circumnavigate something?**

   ____________________________

**Reading Check**

9. **Why was it important for the explorers of the Americas to use information they learned from earlier explorers?**

   ____________________________

   ____________________________

**Foldables**

10. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line. Title the anchor tab **Technology & Exploration**. Label the two tabs **Advances in Ships and Sailing** and **Explorers Try to Reach Asia**.

    On both sides of the tabs, write five or more words that you remember about technology and exploration.
Age of Exploration and Trade
Lesson 2 Spain’s Conquests in the Americas

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why do civilizations rise and fall?

GUIDING QUESTIONS
1. How did Spain conquer Mexico?
2. How did Spanish conquistadors conquer the Inca?

Terms to Know
- **allies**: those who support each other as helpers for a common purpose
- **smallpox**: a disease that causes a high fever and often death
- **ambush**: a surprise attack
- **hostage**: someone held against his or her will in exchange for something

When did it happen?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1500</th>
<th>1525</th>
<th>1550</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **1513**: Balboa reaches the Pacific Ocean
- **1519**: Cortés travels to Mexico
- **1521**: Spanish destroy Aztec capital
- **1532**: Pizarro invades Inca lands

What do you know?

Read each statement. Circle T if you think the statement is true. Circle F if you think the statement is false.

1. Native Americans had small, disorganized civilizations. **T**
2. The Spanish used armies to fight a war against the Aztec. **F**
3. The Native Americans were nearly wiped out by diseases. **T**
4. The Incas conquered the Spanish. **F**
5. Spain eventually controlled most of South America. **T**
6. The Aztecs were able to overthrow the Spanish. **F**
Age of Exploration and Trade
Lesson 2 Spain’s Conquests in the Americas, Continued

The Spanish Conquer Mexico
Poor Spanish nobles such as 19-year-old Hernán Cortés were inspired by Christopher Columbus. They wanted to become conquistadors and travel to the Americas to search for riches. By 1519 Cortés was in Mexico and hoping to find gold.

He brought about 500 soldiers, 16 horses, 14 cannons, and a few dogs. How could such a small number of soldiers conquer the huge Aztec Empire that ruled most of Mexico? Cortés used his horses and guns to scare Native Americans. He forced thousands of them to surrender.

He also found another weapon. It was a Mayan woman named Malintzin. She spoke to Cortés through a translator who knew the Mayan language and Spanish.

Malintzin told Cortés that many Native Americans were angry with their Aztec rulers. She believed they would fight with Cortés against the Aztec. Malintzin helped Cortés find allies, or helpers, among the Native Americans. Another factor that helped was invisible: germs and sicknesses. The measles, smallpox, and other diseases killed more Aztec people than Spanish swords.

The Spaniards traveled hundreds of miles to the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlán. Spies told the Aztec leader, Montezuma, about the Spaniards' every move. The Aztec believed in a god named Quetzalcoatl. According to legend, this god with light skin had sailed away long ago. He promised to come back someday to take back his land. Montezuma was afraid that Cortés was this god coming home. So Montezuma did not want to attack the Spanish right away.

As Cortés marched closer, Montezuma decided to attack the troops. Cortés heard about the planned ambush.

How Cortés Defeated the Aztec:
1. He had guns and horses.
2. He had other Native American allies.
3. He attacked first.
4. Disease weakened the Aztec.

Identifying
1. Who was the Mayan who helped Cortés?

Making Connections
2. Why do you think the Native Americans were scared of horses and guns?

Marking the Text
3. Underline the cause of death for most of the Aztec people.

Drawing Conclusions
4. How was Cortés able to defeat the Aztecs?
Age of Exploration and Trade
Lesson 2 Spain’s Conquests in the Americas, Continued

In November 1519, the soldiers marched into the Aztec capital. They took control of the city. Cortés captured Montezuma and told the Aztec to stop sacrificing people.

Cortés made the Aztec people angry. They fought back. The Spanish killed thousands of Aztec. However, there were more Aztec than Spanish soldiers. The Spanish had to fight their way out of the city. They moved into the hills with their allies.

Cortés got ready for a second attack. Smallpox broke out in the city. Many Aztec died and the rest were weak. They were no match for Cortés. In June 1521, the Spanish destroyed the Aztec capital.

Spain Conquers Peru
In 1513 Vasco Núñez de Balboa led his soldiers across the mountains of present-day Panama. He was looking for a great empire filled with gold.

Balboa found a sea, known today as the Pacific Ocean, but he never found the golden empire. Francisco Pizarro was one of Balboa’s soldiers. Pizarro continued searching for the empire.

The empire that Pizarro wanted to find was the Inca Empire. By the 1530s, the Inca Empire had become weak. Even so, the Inca were not afraid of Pizarro. Pizarro had only 168 soldiers, one cannon, and 27 horses compared to the Inca’s 30,000 warriors. Pizarro, too, was unafraid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish Explorer</th>
<th>Land Explored</th>
<th>People Conquered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cortés</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Aztec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balboa</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizarro</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Inca</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In late 1532, Pizarro made a bold plan. The Spanish invited the Inca ruler, Atahualpa, to a meeting. He agreed to come. However, he made the mistake of not bringing his army of 80,000 men. He thought his 4,000 guards would keep him safe. He also thought they would not need any weapons.

When they met, Pizarro demanded that the emperor give up his gods. When Atahualpa laughed at this, Pizarro ordered an attack. Pizarro captured Atahualpa and made him a hostage. This means the Spanish held him against his will because they wanted something.
Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 2 Spain’s Conquests in the Americas, Continued

Atahualpa tried to buy his freedom. He said he would give Pizarro an entire room full of gold and silver. Pizarro accepted the offer but refused to release Atahualpa. He charged the emperor with many crimes. These crimes included planning a rebellion and worshiping false gods.

In 1533 a military court found the emperor guilty. Atahualpa was sentenced to death. As a reward, the Spanish king made Pizarro the governor of Peru. Pizarro chose a new emperor of the Inca. The new emperor had to obey Pizarro. Still, the Spanish could not completely control the Inca Empire.

Pizarro Conquers the Inca

Pizarro reaches the lands of the Inca Empire, but his small force is ignored.

Pizarro meets with Inca emperor Atahualpa and takes him hostage.

Pizarro puts Atahualpa on trial. Atahualpa is executed.

Pizarro becomes governor of Peru and appoints a new Inca emperor who must obey him.

Even after Pizarro died, Inca rebels continued to fight the Spanish. However, the conquest of Peru allowed Spanish rule to move into much of South America.

Check for Understanding

List two actions of Cortés when he invaded Mexico.

1. __________________________
2. __________________________

List two ways Cortés and Pizarro were similar.

3. __________________________
4. __________________________

Listing

9. Name two events that caused the Inca to fall from power.

   __________________________
   __________________________

Reading Check

10. How successful were the efforts of Atahualpa to free himself from Pizarro?

   __________________________
   __________________________

11. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover the Check for Understanding. Title the anchor tab Spanish Conquests. Label the top tab Aztec and the bottom tab Inca.

   Use both sides to record what you remember about how Spanish conquests affected the Aztec and Inca.
Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 3 Exploration and Worldwide Trade

ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Why do people make economic choices?

GUIDING QUESTIONS
1. How did European nations build empires in the Americas?
2. How did Europe’s merchants change the world trade system?
3. How did trade change the world?

Terms to Know
- plantation: a large estate or farm that used enslaved people or hired workers to grow and harvest crops
- cash crops: fruits and vegetables grown in large amounts to be sold for profit
- mercantilism: an economic system that depends on a greater amount of exports than imports
- commerce: exchange of goods; business
- entrepreneur: a person who organizes, pays for, and takes the risk of starting a new business
- cottage industry: a system for making goods in workers’ homes

When did it happen?

1500
- Pedro Álvares Cabral claims Brazil for Portugal

1600
- English settlers found Jamestown colony
- Samuel de Champlain founds Quebec

1700
- Dutch traders found New Amsterdam

What do you know?
Read the list of foods and animals. Write Europe if you think it first came from Europe. Write Americas if you think it first came from the Americas.

Cows _______________________________ Coffee _______________________________
Peanuts _______________________________ Wheat _______________________________
Corn _______________________________ Chocolate _______________________________
Horses _______________________________ Squash _______________________________
Potatoes _______________________________ Sheep _______________________________
Settling the Americas

By the 1600s, Spanish settlers were growing sugarcane on large farms called plantations. At first, Native Americans did all the work. Then disease and mistreatment caused most of them to die. Spain brought enslaved Africans to work on the plantations and in the gold and silver mines. The Portuguese also used enslaved Africans to do their hard work in Brazil.

The French came to North America to set up fur trading posts. French merchants hired explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1608 to help them get furs. He set up a trading post named Quebec. It became the capital of the colony of New France.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops/Goods/Services</th>
<th>Colony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fur</td>
<td>French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tobacco</td>
<td>English, Portuguese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sugarcane</td>
<td>Spanish, Portuguese, French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trade</td>
<td>Dutch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1682 a French explorer named La Salle followed the Mississippi all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. He named the region Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. The French in southern Louisiana brought enslaved Africans to grow sugarcane, rice, and tobacco.

During the 1600s, the English came to North America for many reasons. Some people wanted to make money. Others wanted religious freedom. Others came because they did not have a job and needed work. England’s colonies grew quickly.

The Virginia Company established the first English settlement in North America in 1607. It was called Jamestown after King James I. Life in Virginia was very hard. There was not enough to eat. Some people died in the cold winters. Others were killed in fights with the Native Americans.

During those first years, the colony made no money. Settlers discovered that tobacco grew well in Virginia’s soil. Tobacco became the first cash crop of the English colonies. A cash crop is grown in large amounts to sell and make money.
Another European country, the Netherlands, wanted to explore North America. Henry Hudson sailed up the Hudson River and claimed land for the Dutch. In 1621 Dutch traders established a settlement called New Amsterdam. Today it is part of New York City.

**World Trade Changes**

Europeans came up with the idea of *mercantilism*. This is a theory that a country’s power depends on its wealth. Countries can increase their wealth by owning more gold and silver.

**Rules of Mercantilism**

- Power comes from having gold and silver.
- Export more goods than you import.
- Keep more gold and silver in country.
- Set up colonies.
- Colonies provide raw materials that are not found in home country.

In addition to their colonies in North America, Europeans set up trading posts and colonies in Asia. In the 1600s, Europeans started doing business a new way, called the Commercial Revolution. *Commerce* is the buying and selling of goods in large amounts over long distances.

Merchants needed a lot of money to trade goods far away. They had to buy and store a large amount of goods and ship them over land and sea. This new business created *entrepreneurs*. Entrepreneurs invest, or put money, into a business. Their goal is to make money.

Many projects were so large that a group of entrepreneurs had to work together. They would form a joint-stock company. This is a business that many people can invest in by buying shares, or stocks, of the company. By owning stocks, investors share the expenses, the risks, and the profits.

Some merchants believed that artisans charged too much for their goods and took too long to make them. They created the *cottage industry*. This is when merchants hire people who work from their homes.
A Global Exchange

Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas changed through trading. The world traded people, goods, tools, ideas, and even diseases. This is called the Columbian Exchange, after Christopher Columbus.

Corn and potatoes came to Europe from the Americas. Corn was fed to animals. The same amount of land could produce more potatoes than wheat. This fed more people. Tomatoes from America became popular in Italy. Chocolate came from Central America. European and Asian grains such as wheat, oats, barley, rye, and rice were planted in the Americas. Coffee and fruits were brought there, too.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Americas</th>
<th>Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>corn, potatoes,</td>
<td>wheat, oats, barley,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>squash, beans,</td>
<td>rye, rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tomatoes</td>
<td>horses, cattle, pigs,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chocolate, chili</td>
<td>sheep, chickens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peppers, peanuts</td>
<td>coffee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Animals were brought from Europe. Chickens changed the diet of people in the Americas. Horses allowed Native Americans to hunt buffalo more efficiently.

Europeans took sugarcane from Asia and began growing it in the Caribbean. They moved millions of enslaved Africans to the Americas to plant and harvest the sugarcane. Not everything that passed between Europe and America was good. Europeans gave germs to the Native Americans. Some diseases were deadly and killed millions of people.

Identifying

9. List the continents that were involved in the Columbian Exchange.
   1. ____________________________
   2. ____________________________
   3. ____________________________
   4. ____________________________

Reading Check

10. Was the Columbian Exchange a benefit or a problem for the Americas?
    _______________
    _______________

Check for Understanding

List two things that came from the Americas in the Columbian Exchange.

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________

List two goods that came from Europe in the Columbian Exchange.

3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________

11. Place a one-tab Foldable along the dotted line. Title the anchor tab World of Exchange.

List key words and phrases to explain how the movement of people and goods changed the world.