

## Exploring Americas:

### **New Ideas, New Nations:**

***Where did the Renaissance take place?***

**What was the initial purpose of the Crusades?**

*To take back control of Christian holy sites in the Middle East from Muslims.*

**How did the Crusades influence trade?**

*Europeans met Arab merchants while in the Middle East who sold them spices, sugar, silk and other goods from China and India.*

Europe and Asia trade routes:

We see the movement Asian goods to Europe.

**What do you think the long, difficult journey meant for the price and availability of Asian goods in Europe?**

*They were expensive and rare.*

**Why did Europeans want to try to find a sea route?**

*It would take less time to get the items from Asia.*

### **Summarizing:**

In the 1400s and 1500s, Europe was going through a period known as the *Renaissance*.

*Renaissance-rebirth*

**What does rebirth have to do with the Renaissance?**

*There was a rebirth of interest in classical learning and in discovering new things.*

Trade with Asian and Middle Eastern peoples also allowed for the exchange of cultural ideas.

It also influenced science and art.

During this time, too, powerful nations emerged in Europe.

**What resulted from the development of powerful nations?**

*Answers may include the establishment of armies, national laws, courts, taxes, and expansion of trade.*

## **The Effects of New Technology:**

### **GUIDING QUESTION:**

***What technological advancements paved the way for European voyages of exploration?***

The introduction of the printing press was an important piece of technology.

### **Why was the printing press important to the Age of Exploration?**

*The printing press made it easier to print books and more people had access to information. People read Polo's book and it encouraged them to travel.*

### **How does a compass help sailors at sea?**

*A compass points out magnetic north, which allows sailors to determine their direction at sea.*

The Earth's magnetic field interacts with the compass.

### **How did the astrolabe and the quadrant help navigation?**

*They measured the position of the sun and the stars, which helped sailors locate themselves on the open seas.*

## Early Explorers:

### **What are the risks of such a voyage?**

*For the first European ocean explorations, there were no ways to track ships or communicate with sailors.*

### **What would make people want to make such a voyage anyway?**

*Exploration of oceans was for curiosity.*

*Finding resources and wealth.*

*claiming land for the explorer's country*

*possibly for colonization*

## **The Search for New Trade Routes:**

### **GUIDING QUESTION**

#### ***Which country took the lead in finding a trade route to India?***

Explorers were sponsored by Portugal and Spain.

#### **What did Columbus expect to find on the other side of the**

**Atlantic Ocean?:** *Asia, India, the Indies, riches, spices.*

Early European explorers did not know about the Americas.

*Maps showed one huge landmass—Europe, Asia, and Africa—bordered by the Western and Eastern Oceans.*

Columbus was sailing on behalf of Spain, Portugal and was the first

European power to explore the boundaries of the world by sea.

#### **Why did Portugal want to find a new route to China and India?**

*They did not have access to a port on the Mediterranean Sea and could not use existing trade routes.*

#### **Why did the Portuguese not want to travel overland to Asia?**

*They wanted to bypass Arab merchants because they charged high prices. They also knew it took too long.*

#### **Who was Henry the Navigator?**

*A Portuguese prince who promoted exploration by setting up a school of navigation.*

**What types of knowledge did Henry the Navigator explore?**

*Information about astronomy, geography, mathematics, cartography, and navigation.*

**How did the Portuguese decide to try to reach Asia?**

*By sailing around Africa.*

Cape of Good Hope:

**What dangers did Dias encounter here?**

*Fierce storm, wind*

Trips of both of other explorers:

**How did da Gama's trip differ from Dias's?**

*He stayed very close to the coast.*

How did the explorations by Pedro Alvares Cabral differ from that of Dias and da Gama?

**1. Which direction did he travel in?**

*West*

**2. How far west did he go?**

*He went far enough to discover Brazil.*

**3. Where did he go after that?**

*He went on to India*

**How did this impact Portugal?**

*The cargo from the trips to India made Lisbon, Portugal's capital, a marketplace of Europe.*