

# Christopher Columbus

by Katie Clark

Christopher Columbus is often given credit for discovering the American continent. What this means is that his discovery of America was when people from Europe first found the land. We know native people had been living on the land for a long time before he arrived.

We also know other explorers had been there for years before, but they didn't know it was a new world.

Christopher Columbus was one of the explorers who found the land and set up colonies.

Most people believe he was born in Genoa, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. He had a talent not only for sailing but also for understanding positions, and tides. People thought he was a genius.

The people of Europe wanted to find a way to China. They could not get there by land because of the mountains and the sea. So they went to the lands between



explorers who found

1492. He worked in ships. He had a knowledge of the wind currents, stars, and an expert navigator.

from their nations to the lands between

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Christopher Columbus believed that if anyone could find a path through the water to China, it was him. He went to the rulers in Italy, where he was born, but they were not interested in funding his mission.

Next, Columbus went to the rulers of Spain. They agreed to fund, or pay for, his expedition. Columbus prepared for the trip by securing three ships and a large crew.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

On August 3, 1492, he and his crew set sail. Their ships were the Nina, Pinta, and the Santa Maria. Columbus guided the ships to sail south. From there they followed the tide and the winds toward the west. They finally found land on October 12, 1492.

The place where they landed is now called the Bahama Islands, near the state of Florida. However, Columbus believed he had found Asia. The people of Europe did not know about the American continent. Because of this, Columbus assumed he was either on the island nation of Japan, or on the mainland of China.

Columbus and his crew found not only gold, but also exotic birds called parrots.

When Columbus returned back. He would find many more gold.

Christopher Columbus wasn't until the third time he sailed to the Americas.

More ships were sent to explore the new land.

Christopher Columbus died shortly after his fourth voyage, which was not what he set out to do, but he had discovered the Americas.

not only gold, but also his treasure.

that he should go on his second voyage.

American continent. It was a new land.

to Asia. He died because he didn't accomplish his goal. He paved the way for the

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

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1) Come up with textual evidence from the text to support the following assertions or inferences.

Assertions/ Inferences	Textual evidence
Columbus had a talent for sailing and navigating. (assertion)	
Columbus was talent for sailing	
Neither Columbus believed that the America. (asser	

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2) Find out the cer

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3) Why do you think the Italians didn't want to fund the idea of Columbus?

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# Christopher Columbus

4) Explain how the last paragraph contributes to consolidate the central idea.

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5) What does the v  
fund, or pay for,

nce: They agreed to

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