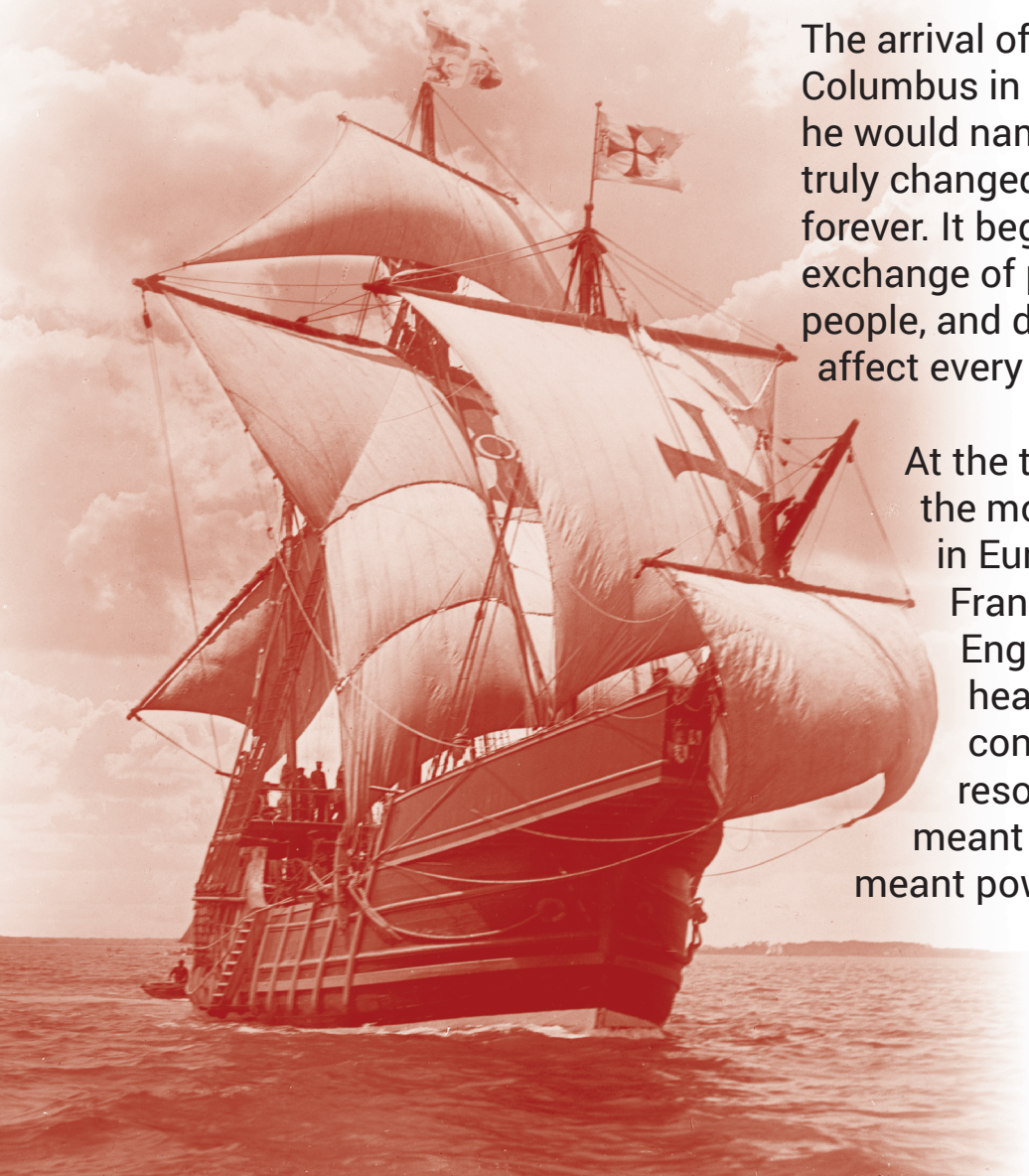


Exploring the Seas

SPANISH ARRIVAL LESSON 1



The arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492 on the island he would name San Salvador truly changed the entire world forever. It began a global exchange of plants, animals, people, and diseases that would affect every part of the globe.

At the time of his journey, the most powerful nations in Europe – Portugal, France, Spain, and England – were in a heated competition for control of the world's resources. Resources meant money, and money meant power!

What sparked this competition among the European powers? One big factor was advancement in *sea exploration*. The 1400s saw great technological and scientific development that led to larger, faster, and stronger ships, as well as tools that made it possible to better navigate the seas and travel great distances.

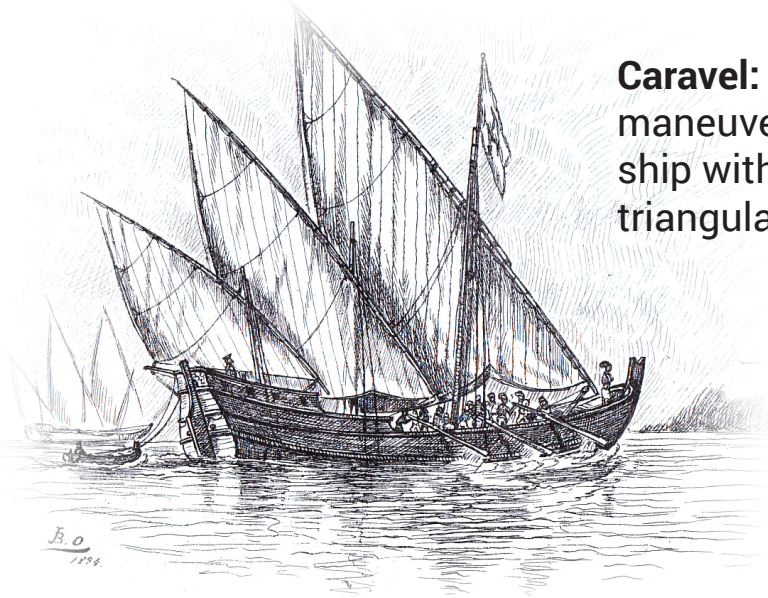
These advancements allowed Columbus to make his long journey, eventually stumbling upon the land that would come to be known as the Americas. Following this, the powerful European nations began a race to explore and claim as much of the Americas as they could.

In 1513, a Spanish explorer named Juan Ponce de León landed on a peninsula (he thought it was an island) that he named *La Florida*. He explored along the coast and found the Gulf Stream – a discovery that would aid future Spanish explorers in navigating to and from the Americas. Ponce de León opened up the area for further exploration by the Spanish and other European nations, which would shape the history of Florida forever.

While Spain remained the major power in Florida all the way into the 19th century, competition for the area between Spain, England, and France was ongoing.



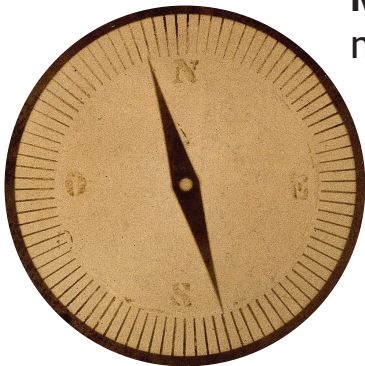
ADVANCEMENTS IN SEA EXPLORATION



Caravel: A small, highly maneuverable sailing ship with lateen, or triangular, sails

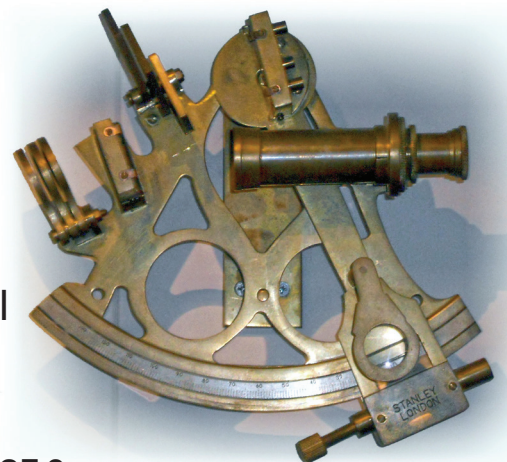


Carrack: A three- or four-masted sailing ship for long voyages



Magnetic compass: A device using magnetic ore to aid directional navigation

Sextant: A device used to measure the angle between the horizon and an object in the sky, allowing sailors to navigate using celestial objects as their guide



Exploring the Seas

ACTIVITY

Design and build ships like the explorers used and race them to be the first to land in Florida!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Sponges
- Wooden skewers
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- School glue
- Plastic tub (like a storage container or dishpan – the longer the better)

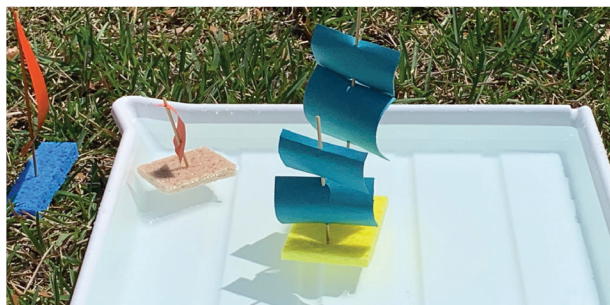


Exploring the Seas

WHAT TO DO:

1. Decide if you want to make a caravel or a carrack and cut the sponges to the best size for that ship (or you can make more than one).
2. Cut out your sails. Remember, small caravels used fewer triangular sails, and large carracks used more rectangular sails.
3. With a grown-up's help, poke your mast (wooden skewer) through the top and bottom of the sail, making sure to leave a few inches at the pointy end. Ask a grown-up to help you trim any extra wood from the top of your mast. If your sail is slipping, you can use a little glue to hold it in place.
4. With a grown-up's help, poke the mast (wooden skewer) through the sponge. Leave an inch or so of the skewer sticking out of the bottom of the sponge.
5. Take your basin outside and fill it with water, and place it somewhere where your sails will be sure to catch the breeze.

Let the boat races begin!



History AT HOME

ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL
**HISTORY
CENTER**

DOWNTOWN ORLANDO

TheHistoryCenter.Org

This lesson helps reinforce the following Florida State Standards for K-5th grade:

SS.1.A.2.1 Understand history tells the story of people and events of other times and places.

SS.1.A.2.2 Compare life now with life in the past.

SS.2.A.2.5 Identify reasons people came to the United States throughout history.

SS.4.A.1.2 Synthesize information related to Florida history through print and electronic media.

SS.4.A.3.1 Identify explorers who came to Florida and the motivations for their expeditions.

SS.4.A.3.6 Identify the effects of Spanish rule in Florida.

SS.4.A.3.7 Identify nations (Spain, France, England) that controlled Florida before it became a United States territory

SS.5.A.3.1 Describe technological developments that shaped European exploration.

SS.5.A.3.2 Investigate (nationality, sponsoring country, motives, dates and routes of travel, accomplishments) the European explorers.

