

# Unit 1c-The Age of Exploration

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 5**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Chapter 2**  
Status: **Published**

## Essential Questions

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- Why do people explore?

## Big Ideas

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- The desire to expand trade spurred European explorers in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries to seek new opportunities, some of which had unexpected results.
- The Age of Discovery launched a period of interaction and exchange among Europe, Africa, and the Americas, which had both beneficial and tragic results, and long lasting effects.
- This period of time resulted in advances in technologies such as map-making, and other navigational tools, that would have lasting impact on future travel.

## African American History Studies

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### Juan Garrido Speaks

The Age of Exploration was a time when explorers were searching for a route to Asia for riches. As the students learn about the Spanish conquistadors and explorers during this time, they will also learn about Juan Garrido. The students will read an article about Juan Garrido who was a free African American who was a Spanish conquistador. This article explains his experience as an explorer at this time.

## Social Justice

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See Appendix C

Book 2: [Lost and Found Cat: The True Story of Kunkush's Incredible Journey by Doug Kuntz and Amy Shrodes](#) (Kindness Week)

## Enduring Understandings

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## **6.1 U.S. History: America in the World by the End of Grade 5**

### **Geography, People, and the Environment: Global Interconnections**

6.1.5.GeoGI.1 [M]: Use multiple sources to evaluate the impact of the movement of people from place to place on individuals, communities, and regions.

6.1.5.GeoGI.2 [M]: Use historical maps to explain what led to the exploration of new water and land routes.

### **Economics, Innovation, and Technology: Global Economy**

6.1.5.EconGE.5 [M]: Evaluate the economic impact of science and technology innovations on European exploration.

### **Economics, Innovation, and Technology: Exchange and Markets**

6.1.5.EconEM.1 [M]: Explain why individuals and businesses specialize and trade.

6.1.5.EconEM.5 [M]: Explain why individuals and societies trade, how trade functions, and the role of trade.

### **History, Culture, and Perspectives: Continuity and Change**

6.1.5.HistoryCC.4 [M]: Use evidence to document how the interactions among African, European, and Native American groups impacted their respective cultures.

6.1.5.HistoryCC.5 [M]: Analyze the power struggle among European countries and determine its impact on people living in Europe and the Americas.

### **History, Culture, and Perspectives: Understanding Perspectives**

6.1.5.HistoryUP.3 [M]: Use multiple perspectives to evaluate the impact of the Columbian Exchange on ecology, agriculture, and culture.

### **Geography, People, and the Environment: Human Population Patterns**

6.1.5.GeoPP.6 [M]: Compare and contrast the voluntary and involuntary migratory experiences of different groups of people and explain why their experiences differed.

## **History, Culture, and Perspectives: Historical Sourcing and Evidence**

6.1.5.HistorySE.1 [M]: Examine multiple accounts of early European explorations of North America including major land and water routes, reasons for exploration, and the impact the exploration had.

### **Focus Areas**

- Discuss explorers and where they came from.
- Place key events and people involved in the Age of Exploration in chronological sequence and context with each other using timelines, maps, and other visuals.
- Analyze the impact of advancements in innovations such as improved maps, faster and safer ships, the sextant, the astrolabe, the magnetic compass, and the chronometer.
- Explain the motivations of the monarchy in Spain to find a route west to Asia.
- Draw conclusions about the lasting impact of the Columbian Exchange on the cultures of Europeans, American Indians, and African peoples.

### **Activities and Assessments**

Graphic Organizers

Tests – multiple choice / open-ended

Quest: Ahoy, Sailors!

DBQ: Develop a creative solution to a class or school problem

### **Geography**

Locate countries and continents on the trade routes (Europe, Africa, and Asia)

Geography research as part of the unit project