



KEY FACTS

- Throughout history people have always wondered what was beyond the next mountain, ocean, river, or even planet. Explorers are people who travel to and discover new places.
- The Age of Exploration took place between the 15th and 17th centuries. During this time many countries in Europe sent out explorers to discover new lands, find trade routes, seek treasure, and gain territory for their country. During this time much of the world was mapped and many world civilizations came into contact with each other. Sometimes it is called the Age of Discovery.
- The reasons for exploration can vary widely. Most explorers certainly like the adventure of going to a new place, meeting new peoples and cultures, or taking on new challenges.
- **Gold** - Often explorers have been in search of riches and treasure. The Conquistadors were primarily searching for gold and silver when they conquered the Native Americans of the New World.
- **Science** - In many cases, explorers are scientists hoping to learn about nature and new parts of the world. They may be hoping to find a new species of animal or type of plant.
- **Land** - Many explorers claimed the land they found in the name of their country. Countries like Spain, Portugal, and Great Britain amassed huge empires during the Age of Exploration.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM AIMS

- They should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented
- They should ask and answer questions, choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that they know and understand key features of events

TOPIC VOCABULARY

Change – When something is made or becomes different

Impact – When an event or action changes something

Explore – Travel through a new area to learn more about it

Discover – To find when searching

Adventure – An unusual, exciting or daring experience

Voyage – A long journey involving travel by sea or in space.

Past – Events and things that have happened before this present time

Present – Things and people that exist now. The time now

Explorer – A person who explores a new or unfamiliar area.

Atlantic Ocean – The ocean between Europe and America

Navigate – Plan and direct the course of a ship, aircraft, or other form of transport

Compass – An instrument with a magnetic pointer that shows the direction of North.

New World – What explores and people at the time called America and other new places they discovered

Colonies – When a group of people live in a foreign place

ONLINE RESOURCES AND FURTHER READING

Amelia Earhart (Little People, Big Dreams) by Isabel Sanchez Vegara (author) and Mariadriamantes (illustrator)
 Journey by Aaron Becker
 Out and About: A First Book of Poems by Shirley Hughes

OTHER USEFUL VOCABULARY

Ship, sail, new, learn, land, journey, live, travel, find