Main Idea (Objective):



 Some people claim that Christopher Columbus found the Americas while trying to find a sea route to Asia.

Lecture Focus (Essential Question):



What is the most vivid memory you have of a place that you visited? We are going
to see just what the Spanish Explorers found when they set out to travel the world.

In 1492 the Aztec appeared to be unbeatable in combat.



 Around 250,000 Aztec's lived in Tenochtitlan, making it the largest city in the Americas and possibly the world.

• The Aztec's were not prepared for the violence of the Spanish Explorers.

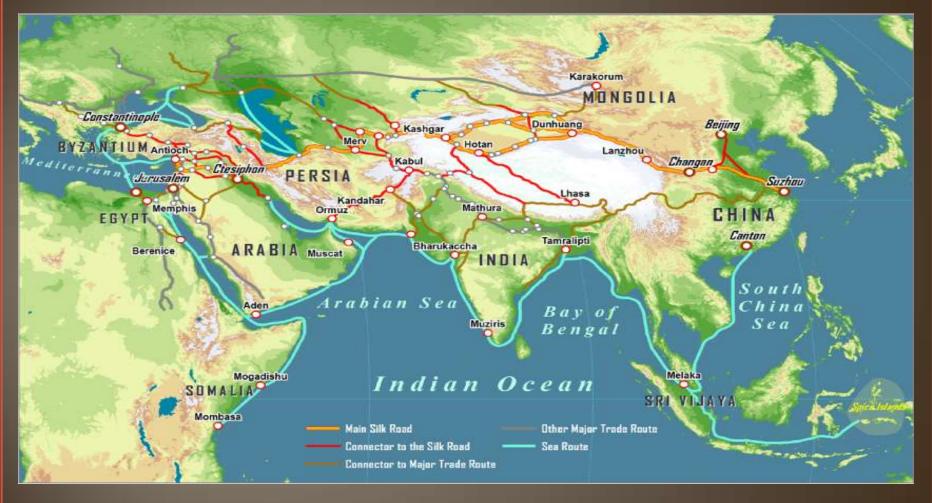


 Within just a few short years the Europeans would actually destroy the entire Aztec Empire.

• As you learned previously, by the 1400's C.E., several strong European kingdoms had developed in Western Europe.



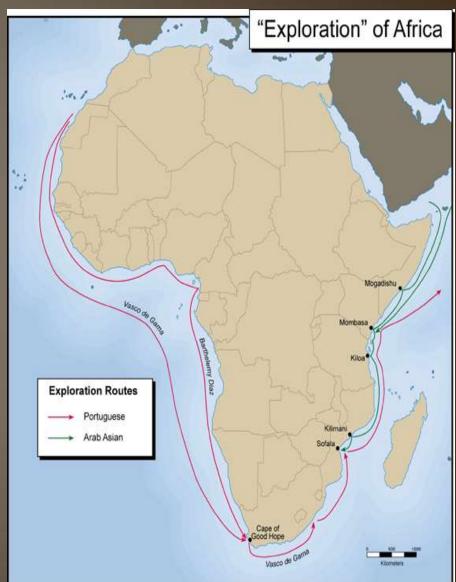
 The wars with the Franks, Spain and Portugal pushing out the Muslims from the Iberian Peninsula and Viking settling all across Europe creating Empires in Russia, England and Germany.



These kingdoms knew that money could be made if they could find a way
to trade goods with the countries of East Asia without having to deal with
the brutal Muslim kingdoms in between.

- One by one, the people of Western Europe took to the sea to find a safe and secure route into Asia.
- The first were the Portuguese, who began mapping Africa's east coast, expecting to find a fast travel route around Africa and into Asia.





 The next country to attempt this was Spain, who decided to finance a trip by an Italian sea captain named Christopher Columbus.

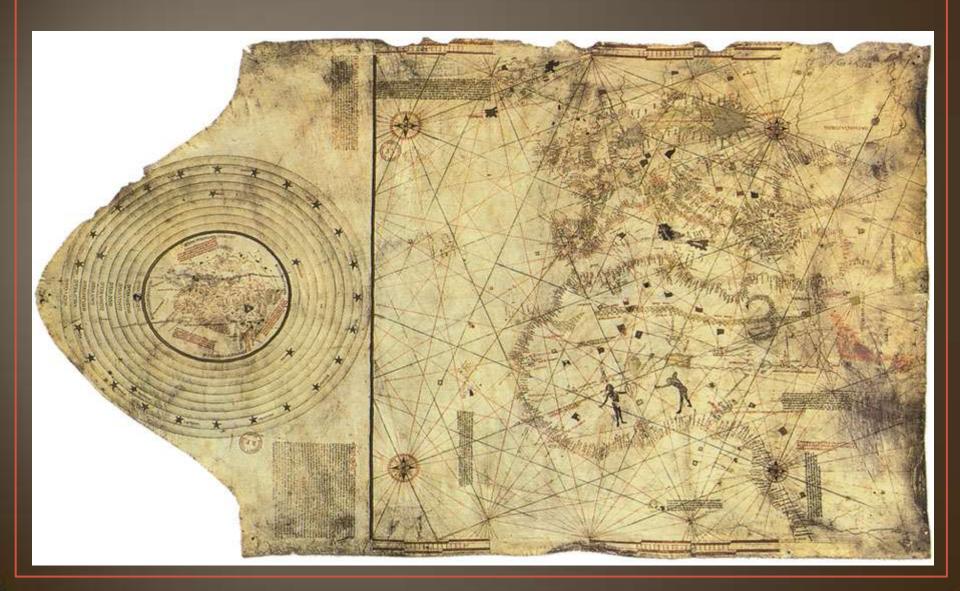




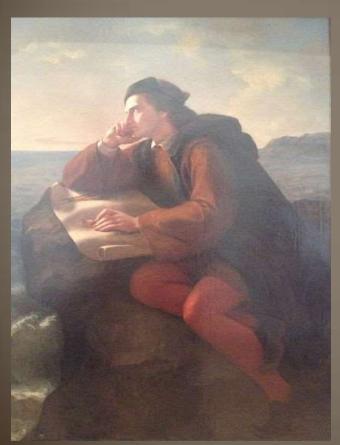




 Columbus convinced Spain's rulers that he could reach Asia by sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean...this of course he claimed had never been tried before!



Columbus claims that he had no idea about the two continents and various islands that were laying in wait across his travel route.



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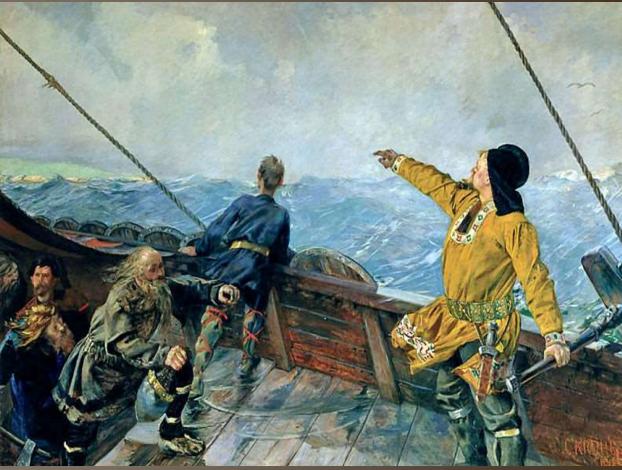
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 There are actually various documented travels from people in Europe and Asia who had reached these "unknown" continents.





1) Leif Eriksson: The son of the Viking Eric the Red, who colonized Greenland,
Leif Ericson is credited with traveling even further from Europe around 1,000 C.E.,
exploring a part of North America the Vikings called Vinland.

Ericsson's father Eric the Red was a native of Iceland.





After the government exiled him for three years in 982 C.E., Eric sailed west to
explore an island earlier Vikings had described...he returned to Iceland and
encouraged the people to join him colonizing the place he named Greenland.

• Viking stories credit Bjarni Herjolfsson as the first Viking to see North America, after a storm blew him away from Greenland.

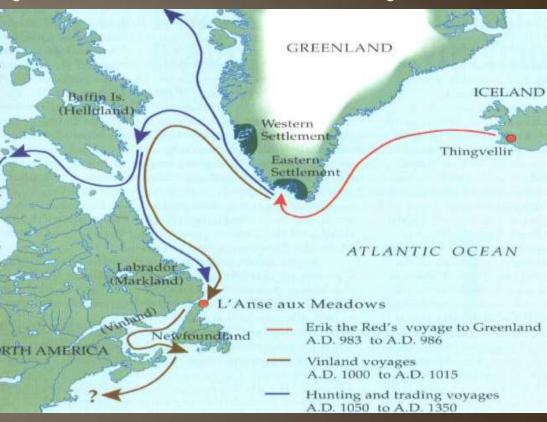




 Lief Ericsson was frustrated living in Greenland under the thumb of his powerful father...traveling to Norway, he heard Bjarni's stories of the new land to the west and decided to explore what would be known as "Vinland."

If Ericson said why he went west, the words are lost to history, he may have gone
because Bjarni described Vinland as thick with forests, and Greenland is
notoriously lacking in wood for house or boat building.







 More than 2400 Viking objects have been excavated from the area, conclusive proof that the Viking settlers discovered North America long before Columbus.

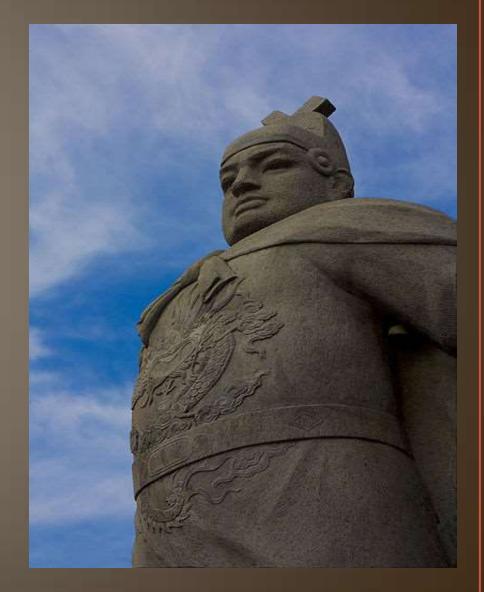


• 2) The Ming Dynasty: also a began massive explorations throughout Asia and eventuality throughout most of the world.



What would you say if everything you know about **Christopher Columbus** is wrong...and another explore who sailed decades prior may have been the first to reach North America... meet **Zheng He** the most famous of the Chinese Explorers.

- Zheng He was a Chinese explorer and admiral, who made voyages all over the world for China during the Ming Dynasty from 1405 to 1433.
- Zheng He was placed in control of a fleet of around 300 ships and almost 28,000 crewmen.
- These would later become known as the "treasure ships"





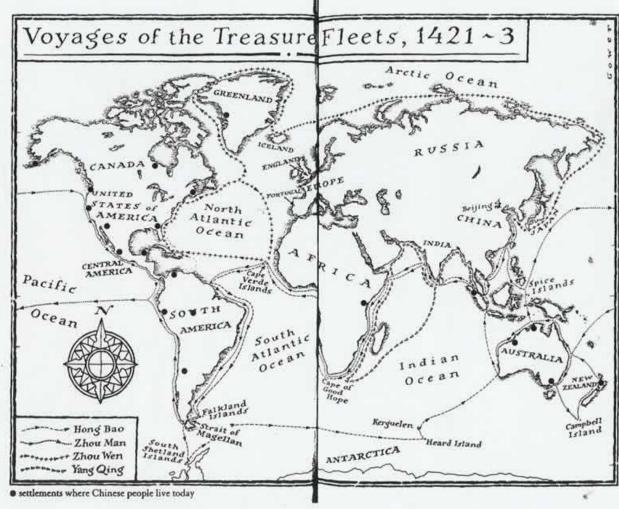
Massive Treasure Ships...

- 1421: Chinese fleets set off to complete voyages throughout the entire world
- 1423: Chinese cartographers create an accurate world map complete with latitude and longitude.
- 1424: a Venetian Niccolo dei Conti, arrived in Italy with this map and gave it to a Portuguese Prince in Venice.
- 1428:From this map the Portuguese produced a complete world map. Explorers from Columbus to Cook relied on this 1428 map.

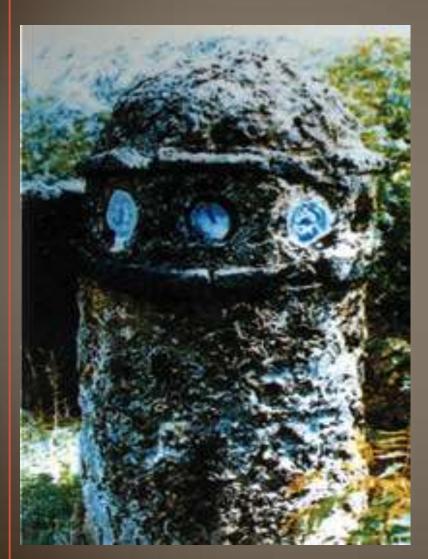








Zheng He Map, transcription of "North America"







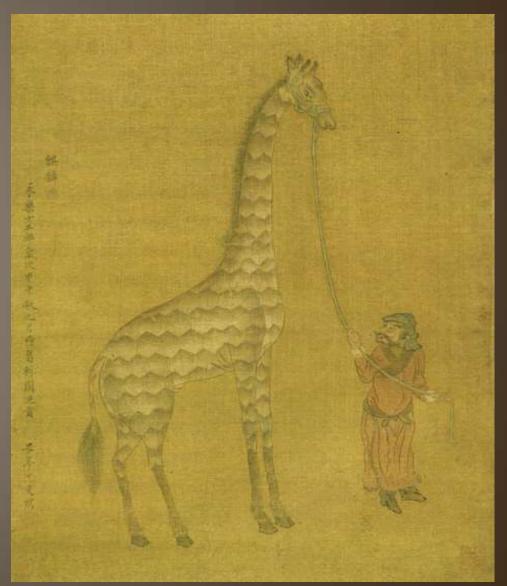
Ming porcelain found in a Muslim tomb column in Kenya







A giraffe brought from
 Somalia in 1415 to the Yongle
 Emperor





China created a replica of the treasure ships for the 2008 Olympics







 Back to Columbus ...who set sail with three ships in August of 1492 C.E., in October, he landed on an island in the Caribbean Sea.



Columbus truly believed he had arrived in Asia.



 Columbus traveled farther into the Caribbean and landed on the island of Hispaniola, which is today split between Hati and the Dominican Republic.

Columbus then returned home carrying colorful parrots, gold, spices and several
 Native American captives.



 His successes astonished and pleased Spain's rulers and he actually convinced them to pay for another trip.

- Questions:
- 1) What country was the first to began mapping the east coast of Africa? What were they trying to find?
- 2) What country did Columbus sail for?
- 3) Who was the Viking explorer who found North America? What did he name this new land?
- 4) What was the name of the most famous Chinese Treasure explorer
- 5) What was the name of the island that Columbus landed on, that today has two countries on it?
- 6) What items did Columbus bring back for the rulers of Spain?

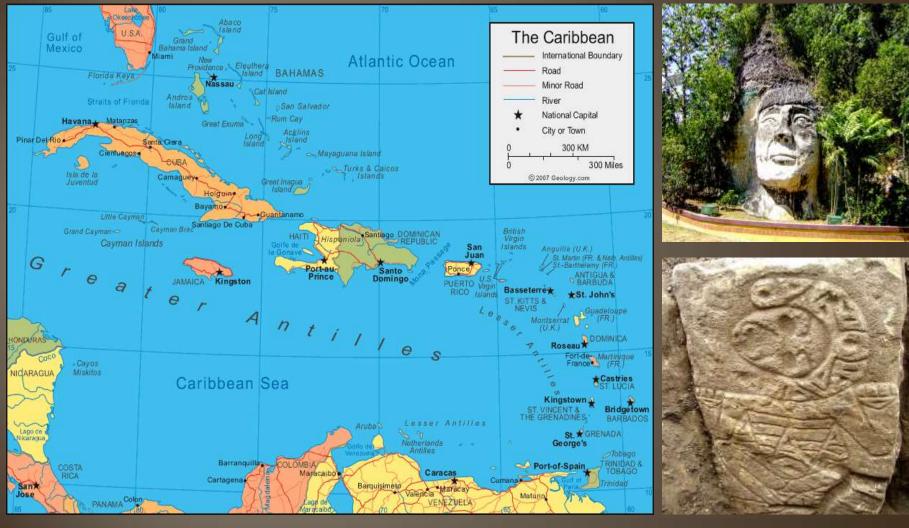
- Questions:
- 1) What country was the first to began mapping the east coast of Africa? What were they trying to find?
 - Portugal, a safe and secure route into Asia
- 2) What country did Columbus sail for?
 - Spain
- 3) Who was the Viking explorer who found North America? What did he name this new land?
 - Lief Eriksson, Vinland
- 4) What was the name of the most famous Chinese Treasure explorer
 - Zheng He
- 5) What was the name of the island that Columbus landed on, that today has two countries on it?
 - Hispanoila, Dominican Republic and Hati
- 6) What items did Columbus bring back for the rulers of Spain?
 - Animals, Gold, Spice and slaves

Columbus Returns

Columbus set out again in 1493 C.E.



• This time, he came to conquer, bringing well equipped soldiers with him.



• In the spring of 1494, Columbus and the Spanish landed on Hispaniola.



 The Taino's got their first look at the Conquistadors, the soldier explorers sent to the Americas by Spain.

 The Tainos were seafaring indigenous peoples of the Caribbean Islands and at the time of Columbus' arrival in 1492, there were five Taino chiefdoms and territories on Hispaniola









• At the time of the Spanish conquest, the largest Taíno population centers may have contained over 3,000 people each.

• What they saw of the Conquistadors frightened them...armor-clad men rode on armor-clad horses, with snarling dogs running by their sides.



 In a show of power, the soldiers fired guns that spit flames and launched lead balls of death.

 The Conquistadors claimed the island for Spain, enslaving the Taino and forced them to work for the Spanish as slaves.



• Spain had officially gained the first strong foothold in the Americas.

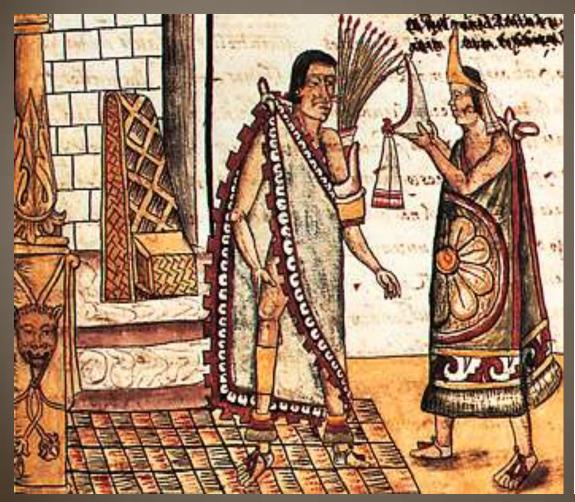
- Questions:
- 1) During Columbus' second voyage, what island did he land on in 1494?
- 2) Who were the Conquistadors?
- 3) What was the name of the Native American tribe that lived on Hispaniola?
- 4) What did the Conquistadors have that frightened the tribes of Hispaniola?

- Questions:
- 1) During Columbus' second voyage, what island did he land on in 1494?
 - Hispaniola
- 2) Who were the Conquistadors?
 - Spanish, soldiers explorers
- 3) What was the name of the Native American tribe that lived on Hispaniola?
 - Taino
- 4) What did the Conquistadors have that frightened the tribes of Hispaniola?
 - They wore armor, carried guns, armored clad horses and snarling dogs



Linking Past Events!!!!!

Chocolate: Then





• The Aztec ruler Montezuma found chocolate more valuable than gold!

 Montezuma offered the bitter tasting drink made from the Cacao bean to Spanish explorer Hernan Cortes.





The explorer took the bean back to Europe after conquering the Aztec.









After the Europeans mixed it with milk and sugar, the drink became very popular among the rich.

Chocolate Now:







In the United States people eat an average of 12 pounds of chocolate each year.







 Hawaii is the only state that grows Cacao Beans, however the United States has more than 1,000 companies that produce chocolate.











Reading Response:

- In a well written paragraph response, answer the following question:
- Why do you think only the rich in Europe enjoyed Chocolate in the 1500's? Think about the expenses of the process!