Explorers Study Sheet

Explorer	Date of Exploration	Sponsoring Country	Reason for Exploration	Obstacles	Major Accomplishments
Christopher Columbus	1492-1504	Spain	Hoping to find a new route to Asia to trade spices	*no maps *frightened crew *shipwreck on 1st voyage	*Reached what is today San Salvador *thought he was in India (Indies) so he called the local people Indians *traveled to the islands of Hispaniola (now Haiti and Dominican Republic), Cuba and other smaller islands (Central and South America)
John Cabot	1497-1498	England	Searching for a Northwest Passage across North America to Asia (an all water route)	*no maps	*explored many Canadian islands and capes *expeditions were the 1st of Britain's to claim Canada *one of his three sons, Sebastian, also went with Cabot on one of his voyages
Vasco Nunez de Balboa	1500-1513	Spain	*looking for new land for Spanish settlers to claim *searching for a quick route to the Pacific Ocean	*treated the Native Americans very badly	*sailed to present-day Panama in Central America *crossed the mountains and jungles of Panama and became the 1st European to reach the eastern part of the Pacific Ocean

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Exploration Country	Exploration		·
Juan Ponce 1513-1521 Spain	Searching for the	*treated the	*first European to set foot in Florida
de Leon	legendary fountain	Native	*established the oldest European
	of youth and other	Americans	settlement in Puerto Rico
	riches like gold	very badly	*discovered the Gulf Stream (a current in
			the Atlantic Ocean)
			*sailed with Columbus on his 2 nd
			voyage
			*stayed in Dominican Republic
Jacques 1534-1541 French	looking for a route	*crew caught	*paved the way for French exploration of
Cartier	to the Pacific	many	North America
	through North	diseases	*sailed over 1,000 miles along the St.
	America (a		Lawrence River
	Northwest Passage)		*named Canada
Henry 1607-1611 England	England sent him	*mutinied in	*explored parts of the Arctic Ocean and
Hudson	to find a	the cold	Northeastern North America (New York)
	Northwest Passage	climate	*The Hudson River, Hudson Strait, and
		*He was left	Hudson Bay are named for him
		with his sons	
		and 7 others	
		adrift in the	
		Hudson Bay	