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# Exploration and Colonization Study Guide

## Unit 1: Exploration

Traveling the Silk Road was a difficult task. Rugged mountains and deserts had to be navigated. Animals such as horses, camels, and donkeys were used to transport goods. Wagons pulled by some of these animals allowed large quantities of goods to be moved with little human power.

When Constantinople fell, Europeans were now cut off from Asia. Prices on goods in the city rose and some Europeans were not even allowed to enter the city. Europeans needed to find new routes to Asia. This led to exploration by sea and the discovery of the New World. (North and South America, and the West Indies). The Biological and Cultural exchange of goods and ideas that would take place between the Europeans and the people of the New World was called the Colombian Exchange.

### Famous Explorers

Vasco Da Gama-First to travel by sea around Africa to India.

Ferdinand Magellan-First to navigate the earth, died during journey.

Christopher Columbus-Sailed through the West Indies (Cuba, Jamaica, etc.)

Giovanni da Verrazano-First to sight New York.

Sir Francis Drake- First Englishman to travel around the world.

### Colombian Exchange

#### Introduction of plants, animals, and bacteria.

Old World Crops: wheat, barley, rice, and turnips, apples.

Old World Animals: horses, cattle, sheep, or goats.

Old World Diseases: Had the biggest impact on the natives of the New World. Smallpox was the deadliest, but measles, chickenpox, influenza, malaria, and yellow fever also caused the death of many natives.

New World crops: maize (corn), white potatoes, sweet potatoes. Native Americans taught the European how to grow these new crops. Europeans now had diets healthier which increased lifespan

Europeans used the gun to conquer many civilizations in the New World. The introduction of horses to the New World allowed Native Americans to increase hunting accuracy, movement in battles, and the transportation of goods.

## Unit 2: Colonization/Atlantic Slave Trade

Europeans first tried to make Native Americans slaves.

These indigenous people, meaning native to the America', were not immune to many of the Europeans diseases and a large percentage of the population died. Europeans then looked to West Africa, and began to use them as slaves.

From Europe to West Africa: *Guns, Cloth, iron, and other goods*

From West Africa to the Americas. (South America, Caribbean (West Indies), and North America) . *Slaves*

From the Americas to Europe: *Tobacco, Sugar Cane, and Cotton*

### 4 Steps of the Slave Trade

- Africans or Europeans captured future slaves from different tribes and brought them to the coast.
- They were then imprisoned at trading posts along the west coast of Africa.
- Slaves would then be put in ships and transported to the Americas
- Europeans would then auction off slaves so they could work on their plantations

Middle passage: The journey from Africa to the Americas. Conditions were very unsanitary and many died from disease.

Dysentery: Disease of the intestines which causes severe diarrhea and stomach pain

Some of the first plantations in the America's harvested Sugar Cane. Tobacco and Cotton would later become very important to the European economy

## People

Hernan Cortez: Conquered the Aztec Empire

Bartolome De Las Casas: Dominican Friar who fought for the rights and fair treatment of the Native Americans

King Leopold: Dominated the rubber trade in the Congo. Was ruthless to the Africans, kidnapping the wives of Africans and forcing the men to go into the jungle to harvest rubber.

Cecil Rhodes: English business man who created a monopoly of the diamond trade. De Beers

Missionaries: People who travel around the world to help people and share their religion

Imperialism: A smaller country that takes over another country and forces them to follow their laws

Europeans began dividing the continent of Africa: The Berlin Conference was an agreement on how Africa would be divided. "Scramble for Africa"

Joint Stock Company: Several companies that own part of the business. Sell and buy stocks.