



History

Tudor Explorers



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Tudor Explorers

During the Tudor times, many people started to explore new parts of the world.

Henry VII sent an explorer to find a route to **Asia**.

During Queen Elizabeth's reign, many **sailors were sent in search of unknown lands**.

Some sailors were looking for adventure but many were also looking for **money**.



Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was an **Italian explorer** who lived **1451 - 1506**. He was paid by the King and Queen of Spain to set sail and find **a new route to India**.

He left during September 1492 and when he saw land one month later he believed he had found India and named the people living there **Indians**.

He hadn't actually found India but had in fact found **Central America**. He claimed the land for Spain and they called it the New World.



Columbus completed 4 voyages in his lifetime
All his voyages took him to Central America.

Walter Raleigh

Walter Raleigh was born in **Devon in 1554**.
He was one of **Queen Elizabeth I's courtiers**.

Walter made two trips to South America in search for '**El Dorado**' the legendary **city of gold**. He did not find the city but instead found **tobacco and potatoes** which he brought back to England. He also **attacked Spanish ships and ports for treasure, which Elizabeth admired**.

King James I took the throne following the death of Elizabeth and he did not trust Walter. Walter was **sentenced to life imprisonment** and was **executed in October 1618!**



New Word

Courtier - a person who attends a royal court as a friend or advisor to the king or queen.



Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake was born in **1540**. He was a brilliant sailor and was encouraged by Queen Elizabeth **to capture Spanish ships off the coast of America**. Francis was the **first Englishman to sail around the world**.

It took him **3 years** (1577 - 1580) in his ship **'The Golden Hinde'**.

On his journey, he landed in what is now **California** and claimed it for Queen Elizabeth. He returned with spices from around the world as well as Spanish **silver and treasure**. Francis also played a major part **in defending against the Spanish Armada**. He was one of the most famous men in Tudor times.



You can visit a full-sized replica of The Golden Hinde in London!

John Cabot

John Cabot was born in Italy in **1450**.
He came to live in England during **Henry VII's reign**.

In 1497, Henry instructed John to **find a shorter route to Asia**.
He was desperate to reach Asia because he thought he would find riches. John set off from Bristol and after a month he found an unknown land which he called '**new found land**'.

This place is still know as **Newfoundland in Canada** today.
John was hailed a **hero** when he arrived back in England.

There is a 300 foot sandstone tower in Bristol that commemorates John Cabot. There is also a school and a shopping centre named after him!




Independent Task

Choose **one** of the Tudor explorers that we have learnt about.

Your task is to write a fact file about them.


You might need to conduct further research to find out more specific details about your chosen explorer.

Christopher Columbus




Date of Birth:
Place of Birth:
Date of Death:
Reason of death:
Married?
Children?

What made this person an explorer?




Sir Francis Drake




Date of birth:
Place of birth:
Date of death:
Reason of death:
Married?
Children?

What made this person an explorer?




Walter Raleigh




Date of Birth:
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John Cabot



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