

# Christopher Columbus

by Katie Clark

Christopher Columbus is often given credit for discovering the American continent. What this means is that his discovery of America was when people from Europe first found the land. We know native people had been living on the land for a long time before he arrived.

We also know other explorers had been there for years before, but they didn't know it was a new world.

Christopher Columbus was one of the explorers who found the land and set up colonies.

Most people believe he was born in Genoa, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. He had a talent not only for sailing but also for understanding positions, and tides. People were looking for a way to get to China.

The people of Europe wanted to get to China. They could not get there from their nations to the east. They had to go through the lands between them and Asia.

Christopher Columbus believed that if anyone could find a path through the water to China, it was him. He went to the rulers in Italy, where he was born, but they were not interested in funding his mission.

Next, Columbus went to the rulers of Spain. They agreed to fund, or pay for, his expedition. Columbus prepared for the trip by securing three ships and a large crew.



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On August 3, 1492, he and his crew set sail. Their ships were the Nina, Pinta, and the Santa Maria. Columbus guided the ships to sail south. From there they followed the tide and the winds toward the west. They finally found land on October 12, 1492.

The place where they landed is now called the Bahama Islands, near the state of Florida. However, Columbus believed he had found Asia. The people of Europe did not know about the American continent. Because of this, Columbus assumed he was either on the island nation of Japan, or on the mainland of China.

Columbus and his crew found not only gold, but also exotic birds called parrots.

When Columbus returned back to Europe, he would find many people who thought that he should go on another ship again.

Christopher Columbus discovered the American continent. It wasn't until the third time that he found a new land.

More ships were sent to explore the new land.

Christopher Columbus died shortly after his fourth voyage. He didn't accomplish what he set out to do, but he paved the way for the European colonization of the Americas.

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# Christopher Columbus

- 1) Come up with textual evidence from the text to support the following assertions or inferences.

Assertions/ Inferences	Textual evidence
Columbus had a talent for sailing and navigating. (assertion)	
Columbus was talent for sailing	
Neither Columbus believed that the America. (asser	

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- 2) Find out the cer
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) Why do you think the Italians didn't want to fund the idea of Columbus?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# Christopher Columbus

4) Explain how the last paragraph contributes to consolidate the central idea.

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5) What does the v  
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# Christopher Columbus

1) Come up with textual evidence from the text to support the following assertions or inferences.

Assertions/ Inferences	Textual evidence
Columbus had a talent for sailing and navigating. (assertion)	<b>He could understand wind currents, star positions, and tides.</b>
Columbus was talented for sailing.	<b>ed that if anyone through the water im.</b>
Neither Columbus believed that there was America. (assertion)	<b>o idea about the ent. Because of this, ed it was either</b>

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2) Find out the central idea of the text. **The central idea is that Columbus and his team discovered the Americas with this achievement.**

3) Why do you think the Italians didn't want to fund the idea of Columbus?  
**This is because the Italian rulers either were not convinced of its success or they simply didn't have sufficient evidence of Columbus's talent.**

# Christopher Columbus

4) Explain how the last paragraph contributes to consolidate the central idea.

**The last paragraph reiterates this idea as it says he never found a path to Asia and even though he didn't fully accomplish his goal, he will be remembered as someone who opened the way for the European colonization of the Americas.**

5) What does the v  
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