Age of Discovery

SSWH10 The student will analyze the impact of the age of discovery and expansion into the Americas, Africa, and Asia.
Reasons for Exploration

- **Marco Polo**: people were fascinated by Marco Polo’s account of his travels to the court of Kublai Khan and the exotic East

- **European Monarchs**: had expanded their power and resources to a point of being able to support ambitious expansion by the fifteenth century
Reasons for Exploration

- **Ottoman Empire**: made traveling to the East by land difficult in the fourteenth-century. Europeans wanted a route by sea.
Reasons for Exploration

- **God**: the desire to spread the Catholic faith to native peoples
- **Glory**: Adventure comprised another motive for European expansion
- **Resources**: the need for basic resources and land suitable for farming
- **Technology**: reached a level of technology that made a series of regular, long voyages possible
Reasons for Exploration

• **Gold**: the desire for wealth was a large part of European expansion
  
  – Merchants & adventurers, hoped to find precious metals and expand trade with the East, especially trade in spices
  
  – Europeans wanted to find a direct sea route to Asia **to avoid paying inflated prices for good.**
  
  – desire to establish new trade routes to Asia
Explain the roles of explorers and conquistadors.
Explorers and Conquistadors

• Explorers: those who ventured into unknown regions to discover new things (trade routes, lands, the unknown)

• Conquistadors: Those, especially the Spanish, who traveled to other lands to conquer and subjugate the people: often in search of fame and fortune
First to Launch

Because of its location, Portugal became the first European country to launch large scale exploration voyages.

Portuguese sailors used new inventions, such as navigation tools and cartography to aid their exploration.
Zheng He

- Sailed from China around 1405-1433
- first voyage consisted of a fleet of around 300 ships holding almost 28,000 crewmen
- fleets visited Arabia, East Africa, India, Indonesia and Thailand.
Zheng He

• Led 7 voyages that went to Southeast Asia and eastern Africa

• expeditions of Zheng He were *tributary*, meaning he sailed with the purpose of enriching the emperor

• After the 7th voyage he withdrew and went into isolation
Christopher Columbus

- Sailed from Spain around 1492-1502
- Discovered the “New” World
- Landed in Caribbean Islands and South America
- 1492 opened the way for Spain to colonize North and South America.
Vasco da Gama

- Sailed from Portugal around 1497-1498
- First European to reach India by sea
- His route was intended to bypass the Venetian (Italian) trading monopoly
da Gama's Route: 1497-1499

North America
Europe
Asia
Africa
South America
Australia
Antarctica

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Ferdinand Magellan

• Sailed from Spain around 1519-1522
• Led first exploration that sailed around the world
• His crew made it even though Magellan died during the trip
• **Ferdinand Magellan** and his crew are credited with the initial discovery of the need for an International Date Line.
Samuel de Champlain

- Sailed from France around 1604-1606
- Established fur trade settlements in Canada
- A map maker and sailor
James Cook

• Sailed from England around 1769 & 1770
• Sailed around the world
• Claimed New Zealand and parts of Australia for England
Hernando de Soto

- 16th-century Spanish Conquistador
- major expedition in 1538 to conquer Florida for the Spanish crown
- In 1541, de Soto and his men became the first Europeans to encounter the great Mississippi River
- Catches a fever in 1542 and dies
Francisco Pizzaro

- Spanish Conquistador
- In 1532, Pizarro and his brothers conquered Peru.
- Pizarro conquered Cuzco and then founded the city of Lima, now the capital city of Peru.
- Pizarro was assassinated in June of 1541
Hernan Cortes

- Spanish Conquistador
- Cortés returned to defeat the natives and take the city of Tenochtitilán in 1521
  - Created a new settlement, Mexico City, built on the ruins and settled with Spanish colonists, becoming the centre of Spanish America
- He died in Spain in 1547.
The European maritime exploration that followed 1450 upset the known world, ending American isolation and bringing about greater global interaction.

These unlikely victories were made possible with the help of local dissidents, guns, horses, and a smallpox epidemic that severely weakened the Amerindians.

These conquests were notable for the ways the Spanish plundered resources and forced conversion to Christianity.
Explain the role of improved technology in exploration.
How was it possible?

The voyages of European exploration during the 15th and 16th centuries were made possible because of the many new or improved technologies available to explorers. These included stronger hulls on ships, better sails, and more accurate navigation instruments.
Compass

- helped to figure out which direction sailors were traveling North, South, East, or West
- also how many degrees they were sailing
- Had the MOST direct impact on European exploration
- Adapted from Muslim sailors
So you can print, now what?

The printing of maps and navigational charts helped tremendously in the exploration of the New World.

People were able to spread the new maps of the uncharted waters and territories.
Maps

• The Gridded Map
• measured longitude and latitude
• helped sailors:
  – measure the distance between one place and another
  – find routes to places they traveled to or wanted to discover
Sextant

• measure the angle of an astral body from the horizon
• allowed navigators to solve half the problem of fixing a position at sea
• could determine vessel's latitude
Quadrant

- Determined the location of a ship at sea
Astrolabe

An angle-measuring tool
- measure a star (sun)
- Determined latitude at sea
- Had the greatest impact on navigation skills
- Adapted from Muslim sailors

Use during the 1400s to 1600s
Sailing

Caravel:
• a boat with a rounded bottom with room for lots of cargo that would be useful for carrying goods for trade
• favored for its speed and maneuverability
• Able to withstand the trans-Atlantic route due to their stronger and sleeker hulls
Sailing

Lateen Sail:
• a triangular shaped sail
• much better than a square sail
• lighter in the air
• easier for sailors to steer
• for coastal sailing
Analyze the global, economic, and cultural impact of the Columbian Exchange.
Columbian Exchange

- Plants were spread from one continent to another.
- Animals and diseases were introduced to new areas.
- Populations were destroyed by foreign contact.
- The process began in the late 15th century.

- a period of cultural and biological exchanges between the New and Old Worlds
  - plants
  - animals
  - diseases
  - technology
- transformed European and Native American ways of life
The GREATEST impact of the Columbian Exchange was the transfer of plants, people, and ideas between the Americas, Europe, and Africa.
Pros:
● Most important item transferred from the Americas to Europe? Corn
● Improved diet of those in the Americas and Europe
● Exchange of goods also caused an exchange of culture

Cons:
Depopulation of the Americas, the overall effect was an increased population growth worldwide.
Mercantilism

• Economic belief that a nation was trying to establish a favorable balance of trade
  – Meant they made a profit when they exported more than they imported

• Establishment of colonies became essential to this competition that grew between European nations
  – Provided raw materials
  – Source of trade of manufactured goods
What is this called?

The MOST LIKELY impact of the Columbian Exchange was the transfer of diseases, ideas, and livestock from Europe to the Americas.
Examine the effects of the Transatlantic Slave Trade on Africa and on the colonies in the Americas.
Trans-Atlantic Trade

- trade moving across the Atlantic Ocean
- also known as the triangular trade
Impact on Slavery

• A Spanish ship carried the first boatload of African slaves to the Americas in 1518
• trade grew tremendously in the next two centuries
• became part of the New World’s economy of the triangular trade
Middle Passage

• Refers to the journey to the Americas that was the middle leg of the triangular trade route
Slave Trade

- central to the Triangular Trade
- led to the prosperity of port cities in the Americas, Europe, and Africa
- Estimates of slaves captured and transported across the Atlantic to New World colonies run as high as 11 million
- Europeans needing slaves for plantation labor in the New World traded muskets, tools, and textiles with African elites for African slaves.
Slave Trade

- African rulers and merchant elites remained in control of the African continent
  - After war: victorious tribes sold their prisoners to slave traders
  - supplied Europeans with slaves captured inland and brought to the coast
- caused the decline of some African societies
- Other African societies rose in power as a result of in the slave trade.
- In the Americas, the slave trade allowed colonies to become huge economic successes by providing unpaid labor on tobacco, rice, and sugar plantations.
Slave Trade

• The arrival of slaves in the Americas contributed to the development of strict race based social hierarchies that led to the long-term suppression of both slaves and free people of African descent.
• Slaves also suffered from poor working and living conditions; this contributed to high mortality rates
• The importation of slaves to the Americas brought a rich and vibrant African culture to the Caribbean, South America, and parts of North America. This culture contributed to the language, diet, religion, and music of all of the region.