



European Exploration & Colonization

Portugal, Spain, England, & France



Teachers:

Print out the following slide (one copy for each student). Have the students complete the notes/questions while discussing the presentation.

***The Word document of the following slide is included in this file (in case it prints out blurry).**

European Exploration and Colonization



I. Causes of European Exploration

1. Why did Europeans go exploring? (3 G's)

2. Even though the Crusades were a time of mass killing, three positive results include:

- a) Europeans learned to draw _____
- b) Europeans learned to build _____
- c) Europeans were exposed to _____

3. Why did European countries begin looking for trade routes that did not pass through Italy?

4. In the 1400s, new trade routes were created from Europe to Asia. This contributed to the expansion of the empires of which 4 European countries?

II. Portugal's Empire

5. Portugal wanted to find a trade route around _____ to _____.

6. Portugal wanted to spread _____ around Africa.

7. Prince Henry the Navigator created a _____ that taught students mapmaking, navigation, & astronomy.

8. Who did Prince Henry bring to work on his sugar plantations?

9. Which colony was the most profitable for Portugal?

III. Spain's Empire

10. Spain was looking for a trade route through or around _____ and _____ America to _____.

11. Christopher Columbus was sponsored by Spain to find a quick route to Asia, but instead, he landed in the _____ in 1492.

12. In the 1500s, Spanish _____ conquered the Inca and Aztec civilizations in South America.

IV. England's Empire

13. *Great Britain* united which three countries?

14. Great Britain had the _____ empire in history. It once controlled _____, _____, India, and much of Africa.

15. When Great Britain first colonized Australia, they used it as a _____ colony, or a place to send prisoners.

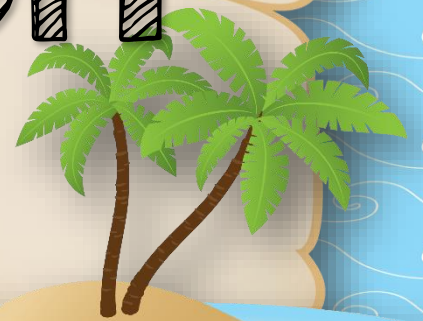
V. France's Empire

16. France maintained influence and established colonies in _____, South America, Southeast Asia, & Northwest Africa.



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The 3 G's...

Why did Europeans go exploring?

1. GOLD

New trade routes opened up opportunities for wealth.

2. GOD

Missionaries wanted to spread Christianity.

3. GLORY

Explorers were considered famous heroes; countries competed for colonies.





The Crusades

- **The Crusades were military expeditions sent by the Catholic Church to capture the Holy Land from the Muslim Turks.**
- **They were not successful, but did have a few positive results:**
 - 1. Europeans learned to draw better maps and build better ships.**
 - 2. Exposed Europeans to spices & goods from the East.**

Trade Routes

- In the 1400s, major trade routes from the East to Europe went through 2 Italian cities (Venice & Genoa).
- Italian merchants marked up the prices on the goods & sold them throughout Europe.
- Other European countries resented the huge profits made by Italians & began to look for other routes to the East...



Trade Routes

- **Europeans created new trade routes to bring products from Europe to India, China, & the Spice Islands.**
- **This greatly contributed to the expansion of the empires of Portugal, Spain, England, and France.**





England

France

Spain

Portugal

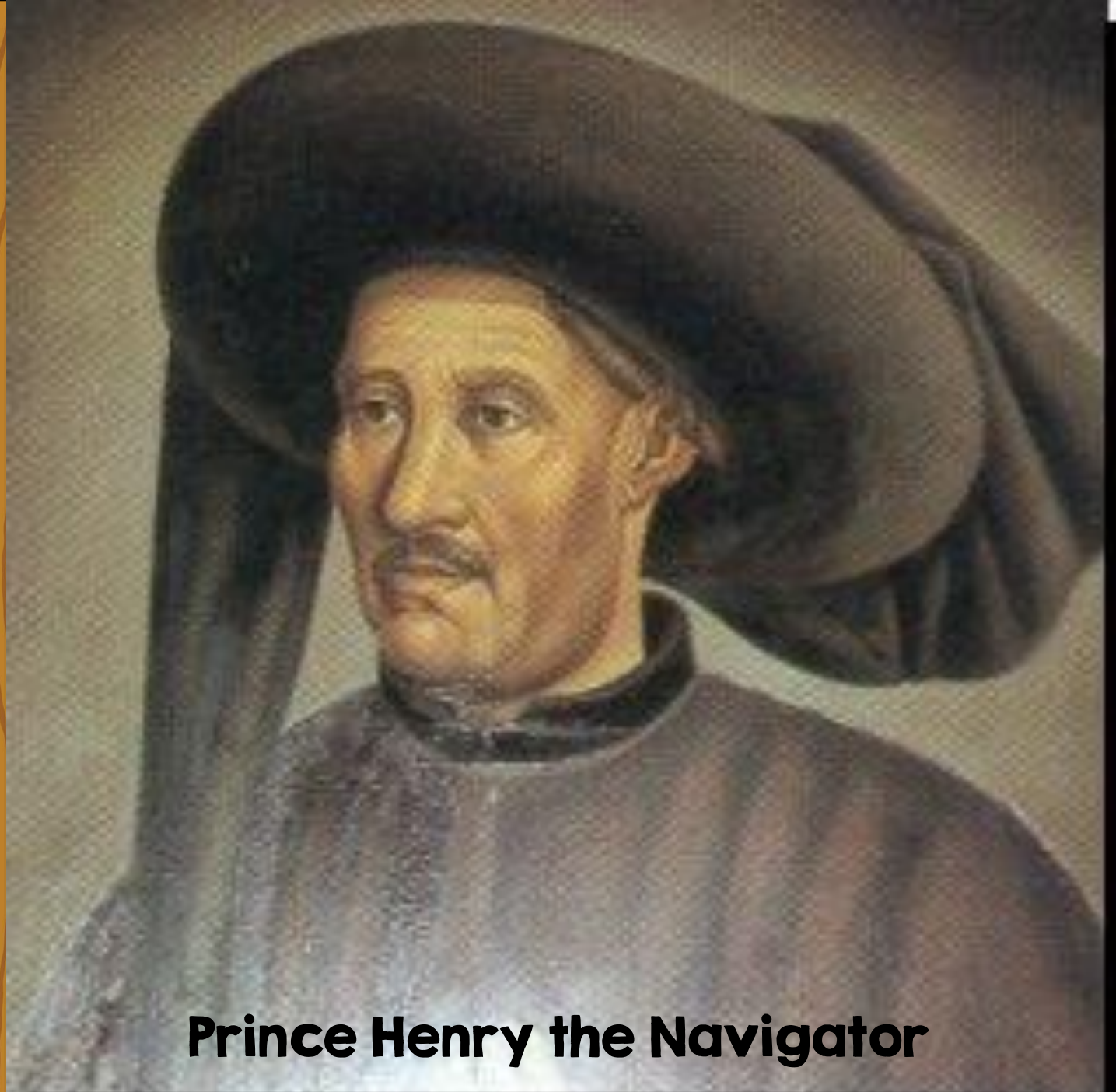
Turkish
Empire

Portugal's Empire

- **In the 15th century , Portugal led the world in sea exploration and explored the western coast of Africa.**
- **The Portuguese wanted to find a trade route around Africa to Asia because:**
 - **They believed they could make a lot of money as traders if they could get Asian goods for a cheaper price.**
 - **They also wanted to spread Christianity along Africa's west coast.**

Prince Henry the Navigator

- He was the son of the Portuguese king.
- He sent more than 50 expeditions down the west coast of Africa.
 - He wanted to establish Portuguese colonies & break the Muslim hold on trade routes.
- He also created a naval observatory that taught students navigation, astronomy, & cartography



Prince Henry the Navigator

Institute of Sagres



Prince Henry the Navigator

- **He was unable to make much money trading gold, so he tried creating sugar cane plantations.**
 - **Sugar cane was a very profitable crop, but required lots of labor.**
- **Prince Henry imported slaves from Africa to work the fields.**
 - **This was successful & was later copied in the New World.**
 - **His actions encouraged a slave trade that lasted another 400 years...**

Portugal's Empire

- **For the next 300 years, Portuguese sailors continued to explore Africa where they established forts & trading posts.**
 - **By 1571, a string of outposts connected Portugal to Africa, India, South Pacific Islands, & Japan**
- **Portugal grew wealthy from these trade routes, but its most profitable colony was Brazil.**

Spain's Empire

- **Spanish explorers were searching for a trade route through or around North & South America to Asia.**
 - **They wanted to find a quicker route to the gold & spices in Asia.**



Christopher Columbus

- **In the 1490s, Columbus, an Italian, was given ships & sailors by the Spanish monarchy.**
 - **They wanted him to try to find a quick route through the Atlantic Ocean to Asia.**
- **He discovered the Bahamas, but thought he was in Asia.**
 - **Later, it was realized that he discovered 2 new continents!**
- **Exploration of these areas brought great wealth to Spain.**



Christopher Columbus

Spain's Empire

- **Spain had a huge empire that spanned the globe.**
- **Spanish conquistadors conquered the Inca and Aztec civilizations in the 1500s (South America).**
 - **They were looking for gold & spices.**
 - **They used missionaries to convert natives to Christianity.**
- **Spain claimed huge areas of North & South America & ruled over them for 300 years.**

England's Empire

- In the past, England was one of three countries-- England, Scotland, & Wales.
- In the 1700s, the three united and became *Great Britain*.
- The British empire was the largest in history.
 - At its peak, Great Britain controlled: Canada, Australia, India, much of Africa, and numerous islands all over the world.

England's Empire

- **North America came under British control in the 1700s.**
 - **It lost the American colonies in 1776, but maintained control over Canada until the 20th century.**
- **Great Britain colonized Australia in 1788.**
 - **It was used as a penal (prison) colony to relieve overcrowded jails in England.**

France's Empire

- **France possessed colonies around the world from 1600 to 1900.**
- **It also dominated much of the European continent.**
 - **By 1812, France controlled much of Germany and Italy.**

France's Empire

- **France established other colonies in the 16th-17th centuries:**
 - **--Islands in the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, the South Pacific, the North Pacific, & the North Atlantic**
- **France also maintained influence in Canada, South America, Southeast Asia, & Northwest Africa.**



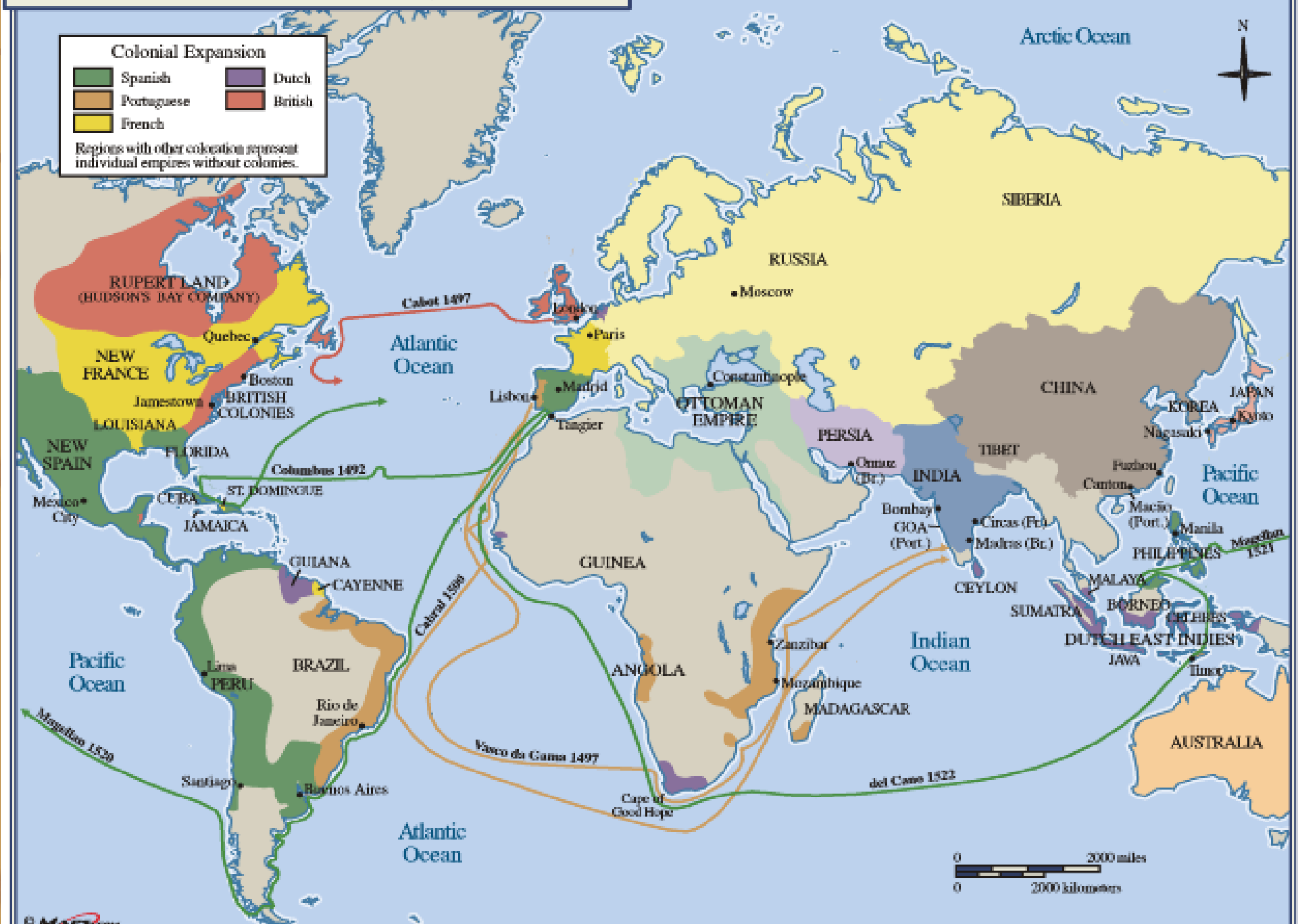
France

England

Spain

Portugal

EXPLORATION AND EMPIRES, 1400–1700



Teachers:

**Print out the following slide (there are 2 per page).
Have the students color the empires for the European
countries based on what they learned in the
discussion.**

European Empires Around the World

Directions:

1. Color the Portuguese empire **orange**.
2. Color the Spanish empire **green**.
3. Color the English empire **red** (include Australia).
4. Color the French empire **yellow**.



European Empires Around the World

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1. Color the Portuguese empire **orange**.
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Teachers:

Print out the following slide for each student. Have the students create a “famousbook” page for Prince Henry the Navigator and for Christopher Columbus.

famousbook

Name:

Location:

Parents:

Job:

Education:

Profile Picture

Activities:

Interests:

Accomplishments:

famousbook

Name:

Location:

Parents:

Job:

Education:

Profile Picture

Activities:

Interests:

Accomplishments:

Teachers:

**Print out the following slide (there are 2 per page).
Have the students complete the graphic organizer as
a review of the information learned during the
discussion.**

Early Explorers

Early Explorers

	Motivation	Obstacles	Achievements
	What motivated the explorers?	What obstacles did the explorers face?	What are some achievements that the explorers accomplished?
Portugal			
Spain			
England			
France			

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Teachers

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