

2-2 Notes

Voyages to the Americas

Columbus's Bold Idea

1. an Italian sailor from Genoa
2. his travels and studies convinced him there was a east by going west.

A Grand Dream

1. Columbus was well read and well traveled
 - a. sailed to Iceland (?)
 - b. read Marco Polo's book...Description of the World...
2. became convinced that you could cross the Atlantic in an effort to get to Asia (Indies)...extreme thinking for the time...
 - a. no one knew how big the Atlantic was...
 - i. 10,000 mi?
 - b. or did they...?
 - c. Columbus had his own theory...was wrong
 - d. how do you prepare for a voyage that long?
3. had great trouble convincing anyone to fund his journey

2-2 Notes

Voyages to the Americas

Columbus in Spain

1. Finally, Columbus approached King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain
 - a. Spain was involved in a war with Granada (last Moorish territory in Spain).
 - b. made Columbus wait 6 years for a reply...
 - i. looked to other during this time to no avail
 - c. FINALLY said yes!!!!!!
 - i. war was over
 - ii. desperately wanted to compete with Portugal!!!!
 - iii. agreed to make Columbus Viceroy of whatever he claimed for Spain
 - iv. 1/10 of the gold
 - v. 1/8 of the booty!!

Crossing the Ocean

1. First Voyage...8/3/1492
 - a. 3 ships...Nina, Pinta, (Caravels) Santa Maria (cargo ship w/ Columbus)
 - i. over crowded and stuffed 20/30 people and 1 years worth of supplies.
 - ii. first goal was the Canary Islands
 - iii. from there west...from there..?
 1. maps ended...after a while, crew panicked

2-2 Notes

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2. signs told columbus and crew there was hope
 - a. sticks in the water
- iv. 10/12/1492...Land!!!!
 1. 33 day voyage from CIs

The First Explorations

Named the first island he landed on San Salvador..."Holy Savior"

First Encounters

1. thought he was in the Indies near China...oops
 - a. not surprising he called the people he found "Indians"
2. traveled to many different islands. Hispaniola...
 - a. found the Tainos

Looking for Gold

1. "I do not wish to delap but to discover but to go to many island and find gold."
2. even with the Tainos help, found little gold
 - a. appreciated the physical beauty.
3. two months later...
 - a. had enough booty to head home
 - b. Santa Maria hits coral reef and sinks
 - i. not enough room for booty and people on the other two

2-2 Notes

Voyages to the Americas

- ii. builds a settlement using ship lumber and leaves 20 behind
- iii. leave for Spain in January 1493

Europe Learns of Columbus's Voyage

1. Columbus was still convinced he had reached Asia

Spain's Reaction

1. brought gold, other goodies, and 6 Tainos people
 - a. planned to teach them Spanish and use as translators on later trips
 - b. promised to treat Tainos people as Christians but also continued to support their enslavement
2. Ferdinand and Isabella made C an Admiral and Royal Governor
3. immediately began planning for future trips w/ bigger fleets

Territorial Conflict

1. Ferdinand convinced Pope Alexander VI
 - a. Line of Demarcation that gave exploration rights to Spain
 - b. Treaty of Tordesillas 1494
 - i. moved line to 800 miles west of Azores
 1. secured Dias' route for Portugal

2-2 Notes

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Columbus's Later Voyages

1. Made three more trips
 - a. Trip 2
 - i. found settlement destroyed and sailors he left dead
 - ii. created new settlement
 - b. Trip 3
 - i. became first European to see SA
 - ii. thought he had found “paradise at the end of the Orient”
 - iii. was happier exploring than “Governing”
 1. colonies suffered...couldn't grow crops they knew
 - a. moved into NA settlements
 2. continued to enslave Tainos despite Isabella's disapproval
 3. lost Governorship
 - c. Trip 4
 - i. shipwrecked on Jamaica
 1. “nothing to look forward to but death”
 2. spent a year on the island
 3. finally returned to Spain in 1504
 - d. Died in 1506...”forgotten” and still thinking he had found Asia