

Explorer Stations

<p style="text-align: center;">VASCO DE GAMA</p> <p>1. Why did the king hire Vasco de Gama?</p> <p>2. What religion did people in East Africa practice?</p> <p>3. Did Vasco de Gama reach India? How do you know?</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SCURVY</p> <p>1. What causes scurvy?</p> <p>2. What are some of the effects of scurvy?</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SPICE TRADE WITH INDIA</p> <p>1. Why were spices easy to trade?</p> <p>2. After Vasco de Gama reached India, why did spices become cheaper?</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EXPLORATION OF EAST AFRICA:</p> <p>1. Describe the people of Mozambique.</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>

<p>THE PORTUGUESE CONQUER EAST AFRICAN SWAHILI CITYSTATES:</p> <p>1. Who were the Swahili people and where did they live?</p> <p>2. Describe how Portugal took control of the Swahili city-states.</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>
<p>CABRAL CLAIMS BRAZIL:</p> <p>1. To where was Cabral originally sailing?</p> <p>2. Why did Brazil belong to Portugal?</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>
<p>VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA:</p> <p>1. Balboa was the first European to discover what area?</p> <p>2. Why was Spain the “owner” of the area Balboa discovered?</p>	<p>The central idea is...</p> <p>Illustration:</p>	<p>I think the most important piece of information that I need to know is...</p> <p>I believe this is the most important information because...</p>

Stations Reading(s):

VASCO DE GAMA: In 1497 Vasco de Gama was hired by his king to see if it was possible to reach India by using the route around the southern tip of Africa. De Gama left Portugal with four ships and 170 men and sailed for Africa. De Gama hired sailors who helped guide him to Mozambique on the east coast of Africa. The Sultan of Mozambique boarded de Gama's ship and was offered many small gifts from Portugal. The sultan was not impressed with the gifts. The people of Mozambique (who were Muslim) were not very happy about having a Christian European interfering with their trade. DeGama continued up the East African coast and eventually crossed the Indian Ocean to India. After a journey of over 13,000 miles, the ships finally landed in Calicut, India. De Gama made quick friends with Calicut's king and was able to establish direct trade between India and Portugal. Many of De Gama's men died from scurvy (170 men started on the journey but only 55 survived to return to Portugal). De Gama brought back great wealth to Portugal and paved the way for many more explorers.

SCURVY: Explorers would take long sea trips, usually lasting from 4-6 months, one-way. During these trips, many men died due to a variety of diseases. A major disease was scurvy, which cost many lives. Fresh food was very hard to come by after being at sea for many months. A lack of vitamin C was the cause of scurvy. Victims would suffer from terrible sores, lose their teeth and waste away to nothing. Horsemeat was a favorite type of meat but coating it with salt could only preserve it. Salt can make you very thirsty and it was very difficult to keep water fresh for long periods. Thus, the sailors often drank large quantities of beer. The sailor's diet was low in vitamins as a result, sailors suffered terribly from scurvy.

SPICE TRADE WITH INDIA: Spices originally grew only in southern Asia and Southeast Asia. Spices were excellent trade goods. They were easy to handle and look after, and large quantities can be broken into smaller portions for sale. Before Portugal started trading with India, the price of spices was very expensive. After Vasco de Gama opened trade with India, the price of spices slightly dropped, as there was more competition for the goods.

EXPLORATION OF EAST AFRICA: When Vasco de Gama set out to find a route to India, he sailed up the coast of East Africa. It was in 1498 that de Gama reached the country of Mozambique. De Gama expected to find cow herders and farmers on the East coast of Africa but instead found intelligent businessmen and ship captains who were highly advanced in using the compass and navigational charts. The people of Mozambique were even dressed in linen trimmed with gold and silk! East Africa was a Muslim area and the people disliked Christians. These feelings often produced unfriendly relationships between the two groups but the posts along the east coast of Africa provided new ports of trade for explorers.

THE PORTUGUESE CONQUER EAST AFRICAN SWAHILI CITY-STATES: When the Portuguese first arrived in Africa; they found a continent full of diverse kingdoms, languages and cultures. The people who lived on the East coast of Africa called themselves the SWAHILI, meaning "people of the coast." Ports in East Africa were full of ships loaded with animal skins, gold, ivory, silk, etc. Some of the Swahili lived in small towns while others lived in large and wealthy city states. Trade in gold and other riches supported these wealthy city-states. After Vasco de Gama returned to Portugal and told of the wealthy Swahili city-states, the Portuguese decided they would seize them for their own. They sailed heavily armed ships to the east African harbors, took control over the local governments and seized many valuable goods. Any town that resisted was destroyed. Portugal gained control of the Swahili city-states and remained in control for over 100 years.

CABRAL CLAIMS BRAZIL: After Vasco de Gama successfully sailed to India; Pedro Cabral decided to lead another expedition to India. As he was sailing, his ships went far off course and he sailed across the Atlantic Ocean. He landed on the coast of South America where the country juts east into the Atlantic Ocean, pointing to the bulge of Africa. He called this new land Brazil. This land belonged to Portugal because it was to the east of the Treaty of Tordesillas' line.

VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA: When Columbus reached America in 1492, Balboa was just seventeen years old. Columbus' voyages influenced Balboa to become an explorer, and in 1513, Balboa was the first European to see (and stand in) the waters of the Pacific Ocean. Balboa did not name the Pacific Ocean but he claimed the water and all of the shoreline for Spain. This opened the way for Spanish exploration and conquest along the West coast of South America. Upon reaching the Pacific Ocean, Balboa and his men found gold and pearls and sent them back to King Ferdinand of Spain.