

Name _____ Date _____

Explorers of the Americas

Choose an explorer to research from the list. Use the Internet to find information about him or her. Then write a journal entry about the explorer's experiences and motivations. Use the questions listed below to guide your writing. Include a map showing the explorer's routes.

North America

Vitus Bering
John Cabot
Jacques Cartier
Hernán Cortéz
Samuel de Champlain
Robert Cavelier de la Salle
Panfilo de Narvaez and Alvar
Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca
Hernando de Soto
Eric the Red
Leif Ericson

John Franklin
Charles Fremont
Martin Frobisher
Henry Hudson
Meriwether Lewis and William
Clark
Father Jacques Marquette and
Louis Jolliet
Nils Nordenskjöld
Zebulon Pike
Sacajawea
David Thompson

South America

Charles Darwin
Charles Marie de la Condamine
Ferdinand Magellan
Francisco Pizarro
Richard Spruce
Alexander von Humboldt
Alfred Wallace and Henry Bates

North and South America

Christopher Columbus
James Cook
Francis Drake

Questions to Consider

1. Where did the explorer's journey start?
2. Why did he or she go to the Americas? What was the explorer seeking?
3. How did the explorer travel?
4. What did the explorer find? How was it different from today?
5. Who did the explorer meet along the way?
6. What challenges did the explorer encounter?
7. How did the explorer's experience change our understanding of the Americas?
8. What impact did the explorer have on the people and future of the Americas?