



Presents

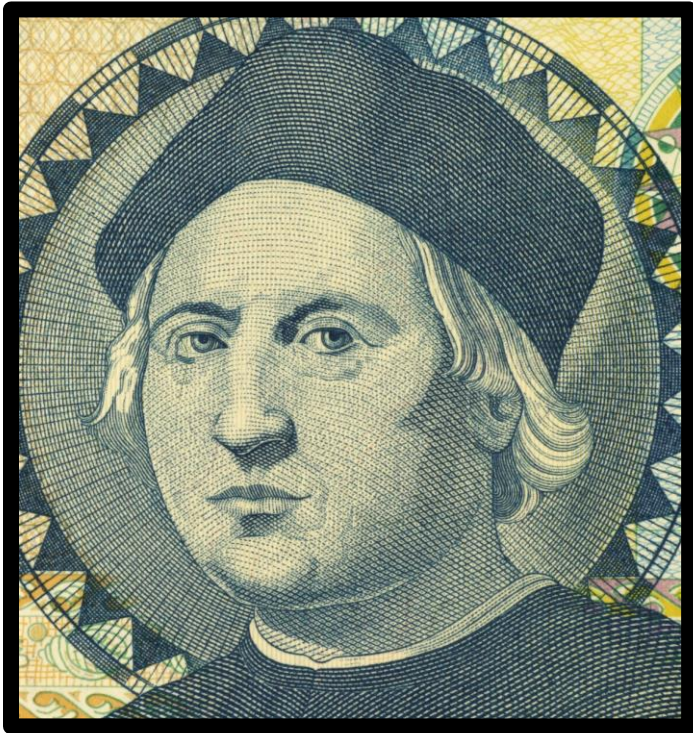
Christopher Columbus



By Janet Giel-Romo, Ed.D.



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Christopher Columbus was born in Italy about 600 years ago. He was an explorer. He wanted to find a better route to the East Indies.



Back then, people in Europe wanted **tea and spices** from the East Indies



The East Indies was far away from Europe. Traveling there was dangerous. Pirates stole things from ships.



Columbus had an idea. He wanted to try a new route to the East Indies. Columbus needed **money** to pay for the voyage.



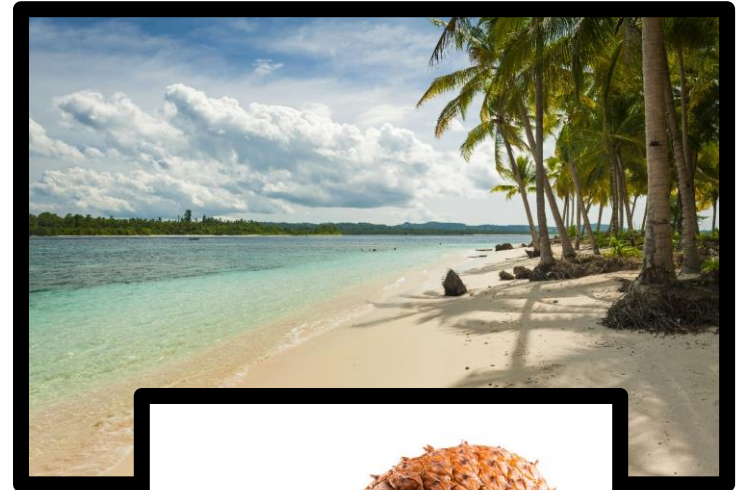
Columbus asked kings and queens to pay for the voyage. They all said "No"! Finally, the **King and Queen** of Spain said YES!



Columbus was given 3 **ships** for the voyage. The ships were the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria.



Columbus had 90 crew members. They sailed for about 60 days. They got nervous. They wanted to go home. Finally, they saw land! They were happy!

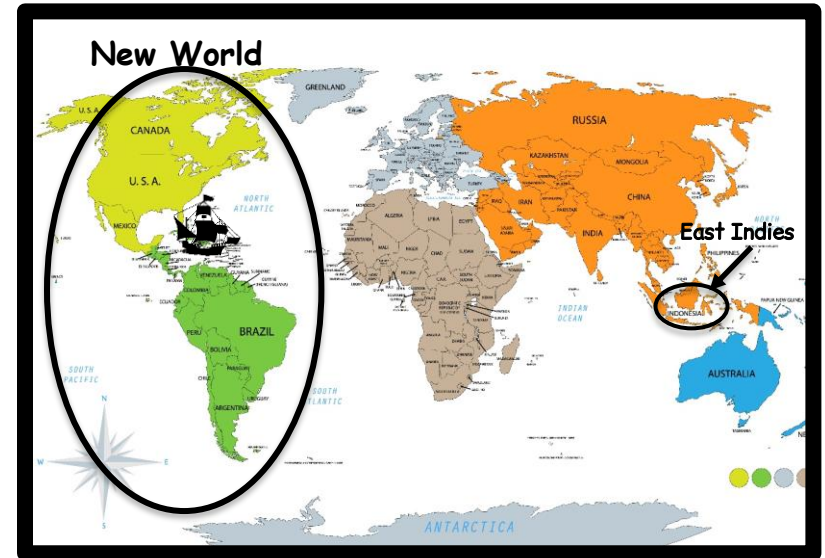


Pineapples were a new fruit that Columbus found in the Bahamas.

Columbus was excited. He found several beautiful islands. The islands are now called the **Bahamas**.



Columbus was confused. He called the Native Americans **Indians**. He thought he was in the East Indies.



Columbus was not in the East Indies. He was far away from it. Columbus was on land the Europeans did not know about. They called it the **New World**.



The Bahamas and other islands in that area now belonged to Spain. The land was now a **Spanish Colony**.



Columbus was excited. The King and Queen of Spain were happy. The **Native Americans** were confused. That was their home.



After Columbus, many explorers looked for ways to get to the East Indies. Many of the explorers found new land to explore in the New World.



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