

Colonization and Settlement

Part One



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

Icons



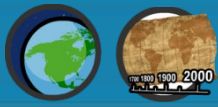
Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.





Pre-Columbian timeline





The 15th century was the start of a period of European exploration and expansion led by England, France, Spain and Portugal.

The Italian sailor Christopher Columbus reached America in 1492, having been financed by the Queen of Spain. Exploration became possible due to improved:

- knowledge of the world's geography
- shipbuilding technology
- navigational skill.



Where was Columbus actually trying to get to?

Many factors motivated the European explorers to search for new lands:

- As European countries grew in population and became more powerful, they started to look to other lands to expand their influence across the world.
- The search for resources, such as precious metals and spices, and new markets to trade with.
- Missionaries often traveled to spread Christianity and non-Protestants often had to escape persecution following the **Reformation**.
- Opportunity for personal gain, inspired by a new belief in human capabilities.





The European settlers

England: English colonization started in 1607 on the East Coast of North America. Some settled to found a new society, not just for gain.

France: The French explored and settled in some areas of inland North America, including what is now the Midwest and eastern Canada.

Spain: The Spanish sponsored the earliest expeditions of the Americas, starting with **Columbus** in 1492. Most of Central and South America was conquered by Spain.



Portugal: The Portuguese took the lead in exploration in the 15th century under Henry the Navigator.





Before the arrival of Europeans, **indigenous** peoples had been living in America for thousands of years.

Depending on the environment in which they lived, there were hundreds of diverse cultures among many different tribes.



These Native American cultures flourished across North America and developed agriculture, hunting and trade.





Native American tribes



The European settlers colonized the New World using the **plantation** system of agriculture, forced labor and domination.



The Native Americans tried to resist but were no match for the superior weapons of the Europeans. The settlers also carried deadly diseases that the natives had never encountered before, such as smallpox, measles and typhus.

The natives had no natural resistance to these diseases, which killed up to 80% of their population.





As European traders explored new lands, they began to interact with the societies of West Africa. They introduced them to new ideas, beliefs and goods.

The Europeans turned to Africa for slaves due to disease ravaging the Native American workforce.

12 million African people were taken before the slave trade ended.



Through Native Americans, European settlers and African slaves, three worlds met in the Americas.



The Columbian exchange



