

5th Grade

# Discover America

Course 1 - Teacher Guide



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5th Grade

# Teacher Guide



## Key Themes

- Adventure
- Bravery
- Discovery

## Core Values

- Faith
- Liberty
- Community
- Life

# Learning Objectives

## Students will be able to:

- Explain the important role of Christopher Columbus in American History.
- Describe the four voyages to the New World.
- Analyze challenges faced by Christopher Columbus during his voyages.
- Define colonization.



# Early America - 5th Grade

# Key Terms

- 01 **advocate** - a person who supports another by speaking up for them.
- 02 **Christopher Columbus** - a European explorer who discovered America.
- 03 **colonization** - building homes in a new place for new people to live.
- 04 **discovery** - gaining knowledge about something that was previously unknown.
- 05 **exonerate** - to set free from guilt.
- 06 **indigenous** - existing naturally or always having lived in a place.
- 07 **mandated** - required.
- 08 **morality** - honest and excellent behavior.
- 09 **native** - related to the place where someone or something came from.
- 10 **resistance** - the act of opposing someone or something.
- 11 **vicious** - cruel and dangerous.
- 12 **voyage** - a long journey.



# Early America - 5th Grade

# Introduction

## ASK Students

Do you know the story of Christopher Columbus?  
What do you remember about him?

(allow students to respond)

## TELL Students

Did you know that Christopher Columbus, the man credited with discovering America, was actually on a journey to reach the continent of Asia? To understand more about Columbus, you must know he was born in Italy, and lived a life serving God and his Christian faith. Columbus quoted Psalms 65:5 as his inspiration:

the God who is *"The hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea."*

Columbus had four total voyages to The New World, which is what we now know as the United States of America and some of the surrounding countries. Let's take a look at those four voyages and how they impacted America today.

## WATCH

Star Spangled Adventures Episode:

*Christopher Columbus*



Scan Me!

# Early America - 5th Grade

# Lesson Guide

## Christopher Columbus: The Legend

### **TELL** Students

Christopher Columbus was eager to start on his journey to find a route to Asia. But he had to find someone willing to help pay for his trip. After being turned down by many different countries, finally, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain agreed to support Columbus and his three ships: The Niña, the Pinta and the Santa Maria.

His first voyage landed in the Caribbean Islands, south of what we know as the United States today. This journey was largely one of discovery. Columbus encountered two groups of native people in the Caribbean Islands. The first group, the Taino, was a kind and gentle group. Columbus called this group “the best people in the world.” The other group was known as the Caribs. They were a vicious and hate-filled tribe on the island. The Caribs were known to attack the Taino. Columbus, a Godly man, befriended the Taino tribe before heading back to Spain.

Columbus’ second journey was primarily one for colonization, or building cities and homes for these Spanish settlers in the New World. On this trip, Columbus brought 1,200 Spanish people and 17 ships to help build the land. Trouble started to set-in when the Spanish settlers decided they did not like taking orders from Columbus, and many did not want to help the Taino tribe either. So, after three hard years, Columbus returned to Spain.

# Early America - 5th Grade

# Lesson Guide

## Christopher Columbus: The Legend

### **TELL** Students

On his third journey, Columbus was met with extreme resistance. The Spanish settlers had taken over power while Columbus was gone and they were not interested in his leadership when he returned. He advocated for the Taino tribe, wanting to give them equality and citizenship, which angered the Spanish settlers. They arrested Columbus and sent him back to Spain in chains. When he arrived back to the Queen and King of Spain, they exonerated him, which means they let him go free.

Columbus was still determined to reach Asia so he set sail again. His fourth voyage ended when his ship wrecked off of the island of Jamaica, where he lived for a year, before returning to Spain. It wasn't long after his return to Spain that his health failed and he died two years later.

Christopher Columbus was a man known for his adventurous attitude and Christian morality. He lived by the Bible, and always made fair trades with the native people. The natives had a lot of gold. But they did not place a formal value on it. They traded gold to the settlers who valued it like money. Columbus made sure the settlers always traded with something of value in return. We often hear about the native people's battle for their land from the Europeans, who came in and took it away. It's worth noting that Columbus only allowed fair trades for land and mandated that trading be enforced, no stealing allowed!



# Early America - 5th Grade

# Lesson Guide

## Christopher Columbus: The Legend

### TELL Students

Also worth noting, the main cause of death was not due to battles against one another, but death was largely caused by the unintentional spread of diseases and germs for the natives and the settlers alike. They didn't have the medicines or cleaning supplies we have today.

Christopher Columbus has been celebrated for five hundred years, with over 600 monuments in honor of him around the world. In America, our nation's capital, Washington D.C. is even named for him – District of Columbia: or Columbus! Our nation exists today because men like Columbus dared to explore. To show our respect, every October, our nation has a day of remembrance for Christopher Columbus and the indigenous people in America.

### REFLECTIONS

What role did faith play in Christopher Columbus' life?

### WATCH

Supplemental Learn More With Liberty Course Videos:

*Early Western America*

*The Exploration of Middle America*

*The Age of Exploration*

*Why Liberty Matters: The Early Explorers*



Early America - 5th Grade

# Flash Cards



**INDIGENOUS**

existing naturally or  
always having lived  
in a place

**CHRISTOPHER  
COLUMBUS**

a European  
explorer who  
discovered  
America

**VOYAGE**

a long journey

**DISCOVERY**

gaining  
knowledge about  
something that  
was previously  
unknown

Early America - 5th Grade

# Flash Cards



**NATIVE**

related to the place  
where someone or  
something came from

**VICIOUS**

cruel and  
dangerous

**COLONIZATION**

building homes in a  
new place for new  
people to live

**RESISTANCE**

the act of  
opposing  
someone or  
something

Early America - 5th Grade

# Flash Cards



**ADVOCATE**

a person who supports another by speaking up for them

**EXONERATE**

to set free from guilt

**MORALITY**

honest and excellent behavior

**MANDATED**

required

# Early America - Explorer Biography

**Directions:** Complete the graphic organizer with information that you have learned.

My name is:	I was born on:

Adjectives to describe me:	My favorite hobbies include:
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____

Four facts about me:

1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I stand for:

I'm remembered for:
_____
_____
_____
_____

# Early America - 5th Grade Assessment

1. Where did Columbus intend to land on his first voyage?

- a. America
- b. Asia
- c. Great Britain
- d. Mexico

2. Christopher Columbus's second journey was primarily for:

- a. Colonization
- b. Resistance
- c. Exonerated
- d. Fun

3. Christopher Columbus's third journey was met with:

- a. Colonization
- b. Resistance
- c. Exonerated
- d. Fun

4. Settlers arrested Columbus for helping the Taino tribe. When he returned shackled, he was:

- a. Colonized
- b. Resisted
- c. Exonerated
- d. None of the above

5. Christopher Columbus's fourth journey ended in a shipwreck off the island of:

- a. America
- b. Asia
- c. Jamaica
- d. Mexico

6. Christopher Columbus returned to Spain a year after his final voyage and died:

- a. A year later
- b. Two years later
- c. Two months later
- d. A month later

7. Death among settlers and native people were primarily a result of:

- a. Battles
- b. Food poisoning
- c. Diseases
- d. None of the above



# Early America - 5th Grade Assessment Key

1. Where did Columbus intend to land on his first voyage?

- a. America
- b. Asia**
- c. Great Britain
- d. Mexico

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- c. Diseases**
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