

# LESSON 5 - FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

When Christopher Columbus set sail from Europe for the second time, he commanded not three, but seventeen ships. *In comparison to the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa María, that's a lot of ships!* He told himself, "I will return to Hispaniola and find the men I left on that island waiting to help me. We will find the wealth of Asia and be rich!" Everything seemed to be working perfectly.



# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

But the most important word in that statement is seemed. In fact, this time Columbus was sailing straight into trouble. *What do you think is going to happen when he gets there this time?* Reaching Hispaniola, he found that the fort his men had assembled from the wooden planks of the Santa María was gone. There was no sign of the sailors he had left there either. Something was terribly wrong.





# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Columbus spoke with a few of the native island people, whom he still insisted on calling Indians. He learned that while he was away, the Spanish crew had been unkind to the native people and had taken advantage of them. *If you are taking advantage of people, you are treating them unfairly for selfish reasons.*



# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Columbus's greediness and the greediness of his sailors had changed things on the island. The men who had sailed with Columbus on his second voyage also treated the natives badly and were just as greedy for treasure.





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Once more, Columbus and his crew took advantage of the natives. They were forced to work for no pay, carving mines into the high mountainsides. "There is gold in those mountains," Columbus and his men told one another, "and we did not sail all this way to leave it there." But they did not find as much gold as they had expected. *Why did they think they would find a lot of gold?*



# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

When Columbus returned to Spain from this second voyage, the king and queen did not like the report he gave them. Isabella said, "We will let you sail a third time for us, but you had better find spices and more gold this time!"





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On this third voyage, Columbus thought, "Surely this time I will find a city rich with gold and spices like those I have heard about," but all he saw were jungles. *Why won't he find an Asian city?* During his search, Columbus became very sick. Weak and discouraged, he ordered his men to head for Hispaniola.





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When they got there, Columbus was surprised to find that a nobleman sent by Ferdinand and Isabella was waiting for him. The reason the king and queen had sent the nobleman is because they'd heard after the second voyage that Columbus was treating the native people cruelly and was keeping the gold for himself. The nobleman had been ordered to spy on Columbus and to arrest him if this turned out to be true.



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Indeed the nobleman heard from many people on the island how Columbus and his men had mistreated the native people of Hispaniola. The nobleman announced, *[Point to the man reading the paper in the picture.]* "Christopher Columbus, you are being charged with keeping all the gold and treasures for yourself, and therefore doing a terrible job as governor. The king and queen will decide your fate."

*Columbus is going to jail! They didn't have jails in Hispaniola, so Columbus had to be taken back to Spain.*





# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Columbus sailed the long journey home to Spain, not as the ship's commander, as he had once been, but as a prisoner heading to jail. He wondered how he would be greeted by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. *What will the king and queen do? What do you think will happen to Columbus?*





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At first, when Columbus arrived in Spain, he was thrown in jail. Later, when he appeared before the king and queen, they were shocked by the difference in the man they now saw before them. His hair had turned completely white. His body had grown bent and weak, and the man who had boldly stepped forward in the past now limped into their presence. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella **were ashamed.** *Ashamed means they felt badly or guilty for what they had done to him by arresting him.* They took pity on Columbus and ordered that he be released from jail.



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They set Columbus free and ordered his share of the wealth to be returned to him. Their majesties shattered Columbus's dreams of returning to his former importance by announcing, "You are free, but you will no longer be the governor of our new empire." *An empire is like a kingdom; it includes the people and places ruled by a person or country. All of the places that Columbus explored were lands that King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella now ruled, just as they ruled Spain.* They put someone new in charge of Hispaniola and the lands beyond.



# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

The king and queen told Columbus, "We will give you one last chance to find the wealth of Asia." They gave him a few old ships that hardly seemed strong enough to make it out of the harbor onto the open sea.





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So Columbus took those rotting Spanish ships safely across the Atlantic. *How many voyages has Columbus been on now? [Count the number of voyages with students.]* Sailing up and down the lush, green coast, he searched once more for the Asian cities he still believed must be there. Of course they were not, and not finding them, he did not go ashore to explore. Discouraged, Columbus returned to Spain once again without the gold and spices he desired. *Why couldn't Columbus find the Asian cities? Where was he really?*



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Christopher Columbus never set sail again. He died still believing that he had found the Indies, but other explorers disagreed. They realized that, instead of Asia, Columbus had actually found a place that Europeans had never known about between Asia and Europe. Because they had never before known about this place and it was new to them, they called it the New World. *Remember how we had two continents, North and South America, covered with blue paper on our globe? Once other explorers figured out they were there, they called these lands the New World. Later, the name was changed to America.*



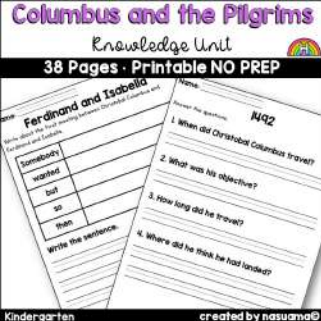


# FURTHER ADVENTURES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Today, every year in October, Americans remember Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas back in 1492. This day is called Columbus Day. Later, you will learn about a group of people called the Vikings who sailed to North America even before Christopher Columbus did. Historians *or people who study the people and events of the past* from many countries have researched and retold the story of Christopher Columbus many times over. It means different things to different people, but one thing we know for sure is that Columbus's mistake changed the world.

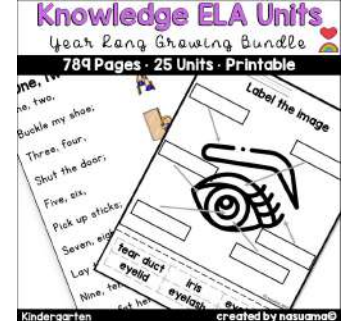






# COLUMBUS AND THE PILGRIMS

BUNDLE



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Christobal Columbus' Voyages

Write three facts about Columbus' voyages.

DO YOU NEED EXTRA ACTIVITIES?

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