



*Columbus*

## EARLY EXPLORERS Vocabulary Words Week 1



- 1. Vikings** Fierce warriors who explored the north Atlantic Ocean
- 2. saga** An adventure story that tells about brave deeds of people long ago
- 3. knoll** A small, round hill
- 4. encounter** A meeting, such as one between people that have never met
- 5. exploration** Searching the unknown
- 6. cartographer** A person who makes maps
- 7. navigation** The study of how to plan and control the course of a ship
- 8. Christopher Columbus** An Italian born Spanish explorer who in 1492 sailed west from Spain and thought he had reached Asia, but had really reached islands near the Americas, lands unknown to the Europeans
- 9. monarch** A king or queen
- 10. compass** An instrument used to find direction. It has a needle that always points north
- 11. astrolabe** An astronomical instrument for finding the position of the sun and stars



# EARLY EXPLORERS

## Spelling Words

### Week 2



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- 1. latitude** Distance north or south of the equator measured in degrees with lines that run east and west on a map
- 2. longitude** Distance east and west of the prime meridian marked on a map by lines that run north and south
- 3. prime meridian** The meridian marked 0. It runs north and south through Greenwich, Great Britain
- 4. equator** An imaginary line around the middle of the earth
- 5. conclusion** A decision or idea reached by thoughtful study
- 6. isthmus** A narrow strip of land that connects two larger areas
- 7. scurvy** A sickness caused by not getting enough Vitamin C
- 8. continent** One of the seven great land masses of the Earth
- 9. Strait of Magellan** The narrow waterway between the southern tip of South America and Tierra del fuego, that links the Atlantic with the Pacific Ocean
- 10. strait** A channel connecting two larger bodies of water
- 11. expedition** A journey made for a special reason



# EARLY EXPLORERS

## Spelling Words

### Week 3



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- 1. conquistador**      Any of the Spanish conquerors in the Americas during the early 1500s
- 2. civil war**         A war between people of the same country
- 3. grant**              A gift of money to be used for a special purpose
- 4. mainland**         The main part of a continent, rather than an island near the continent
- 5. rumor**             A story that has been told but has not been proved
- 6. claimed**          To declare that you or your country owns something
- 7. desertion**         Running away from duties, such as military service
- 8. opinion**            A statement that tells what a person thinks or believes
- 9. fact**                A statement that can be proved true
- 10. heritage**        Something that has been passed down through the years



# EARLY EXPLORERS

## Spelling Words

### Week 4



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1. **missionary**      A person who teaches his or her religion to others
2. **colony**            A settlement ruled by another country
3. **colonist**          A person who lives in a colony
4. **plantation**        A huge farm
5. **Northwest Passage**      A water route that explorers wanted to find so that traders could cut through North America to Asia
6. **trade network**      A system in which trade takes place between certain groups of people
7. **agent**              A person who does business for other people
8. **armada**             A fleet of warships
9. **profit**              Money left over after everything has been paid for
10. **pilgrim**            A person who makes a journey for a religious reason
11. **Mayflower Compact**      An agreement by those on the Mayflower to make and obey laws for their colony
12. **interpreter**        A person who translates from one language to another