

Christopher Columbus

Ruth Hepler

Senior Division

Paper

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Christopher Columbus was a famous explorer who traveled across the globe. People know him as someone who discovered America, but that part is not all true. When Christopher Columbus came to America there were already Native Americans living in America. Therefore, he did not technically discover it. He was born in Genoa. His family then moved to Savona not long after that. Christopher Columbus was the oldest of five. He had four siblings, three brothers and one sister. At a young age Christopher and his siblings helped his mother in their cheese stand. He started to be a navigator at a young age and found his long for travel then as well. When he was 10 years old, he started to help transport goods on the ships. Christopher also helped his father as being an apprentice in his father's wool weaving business. It wasn't before long when he decided to start something new.

When Christopher was 14, he started a new job. That job was map making and sailing. He started the sail at a very young age. Christopher Columbus eventually joined the Genoese fleet. He sailed the Mediterranean Sea with his brother. He had ship wreck off the coast in Portugal. After the wreck he stayed there with his brother and worked on map work. He also started doing bookselling. Shortly after he arrived in Portugal, he met Felipa Moniz Perestrello and began to court her. Her father was in the Atlantic Island colonizer. Christopher Columbus and Felipa Moniz Perestrello got married in 1478. After marrying Felipa he moved up in his classes. He became wealthier and rose in the world trade. In 1480 they had their first born, a son named Diego. Soon after that they returned to Lisbon and Christopher began to help his father-in-law in charts and information involving the Atlantic voyages. Christopher Columbus got more excited about the ocean and traveling. Having him study these things

made him want to travel even more. He began to read more and more about the currents and how the ocean works.

Columbus found a letter that dated from the 1470s. In 1477 he sailed to England. In the letter Marco Polo and others talked about a way to sail by traveling to the East by sailing west from Europe. In this letter was a map. Columbus's interest grew in sailing west across the Atlantic and directly to Asia. On August 3, 1492, Columbus departed from the mainland, Spain. He was in command of three different ships. Columbus had many roles to make sure they were going the right way but also that everything was running smoothly. Columbus sailed to the Atlantic and studied about the open ocean navigations. On his voyage that is well known in 1492. He promised gold to whoever found the land first. Columbus renamed the island Hispaniola, Hispaniola. Hispaniola means little Spain but is the second largest island in the West Indies. It is now divided into the Republic of Haiti in the west as well as the Dominican Republic in the east. The Santa Maria ran aground and sank. This forced him to leave around 39 people behind; and leaving these men behind with instructions to trade for the gold. Once he found the new land the people were grateful. The king and queen were happy with what had happened. They then made him the governor of the established government in Santo Domingo. Christopher Columbus's brother Bartholomew Columbus was the first to find Santo Domingo in 1496.

Columbus had a heart for the ocean and sailing. Most people say he is a believer of God. He used his talents that God blessed him with and did many incredible things. He discovered new things and places and learned a lot about the ocean tides. Columbus was one of few to also say that the earth was round. When everyone else said the earth was flat. He said he would reach India by sailing west. Columbus said he would be able to do so by crossing the ocean west of Spain. Columbus took a voyage in 1492 to North America, he went with Henry VII of England. On this voyage to North America, he took six ships. The six different ships were there for a reason. Three of the ships were there for supplies that they would need in the future. The other three ships went on another route towards the Orient, and

Columbus thought he would find this place which is why he made sure to go in the direction to accomplish that. When Columbus had a desire for something, or when he wanted to find a new place, he wanted to explore, and he would do everything in his power to make that possible. He was not known to be a person that would give up. He would keep chasing his dreams, but also try to be someone to make an impact into the world and explore new places for us today. He had a heart for the ocean that everyone is familiar with. But it wasn't something he was forced into as a kid, this was something he enjoyed doing in his life. He enjoyed what he did, which made it so much easier to try and accomplish things and find the new lands.

In May of 1498, Columbus sailed west of the Atlantic. At this point Columbus was a little familiar with the Atlantic because he has been there multiple times by now. Once he returned to the Hispaniola settlement there was a bloody revolt some say. Columbus and his brothers had some mismanagement at the time. Columbus was still searching for the gold and was not successful yet. In 1499, the king and queen of Spain were not happy with him. They were upset with how long they had waited to get their riches and they have received nothing yet. They were also upset and disappointed in him because by now, the king and queen have found out that the people of Hispaniola did not like him and were against him. Columbus tried to lie between the riches of East Indies and in Europe. Columbus then met with the king and tried to convince him about the enterprise in the East Indies. After not looking eye to eye about it, he went to Spain, which led to the king and queen of Spain turning his offer down more than once. In the beginning of this, Columbus had a proposal to the Spanish monarchs when they were to find new trade routes to Spice Islands in Asia. Spices were a business that got high priced in the markets. When this was not accomplished, this was when the king and queen already had suspicions that he wouldn't stay true to his word. This then led to them not allowing him to do more like he requested, and the disappointment they had towards him.

In 1500 Christopher Columbus got kicked out by the appointed administrators. He was arrested for treating the people very poorly and then removed from Hispaniola. He returned to Spain in chains and kept there. When Christopher Columbus was frustrated because he couldn't find the gold, he took it out on the people in Hispaniola. So, getting arrested for it was what he did deserve. Later, in 1502 Christopher Columbus got out of jail, and he got banned from his title. His name was no longer looked at the same. Some people looked down on him instead of what they used to do and looked up to him as a leader. Columbus then sailed the Atlantic one last time. In 1503 he took three of his ships to go to Santo Domingo for some repairs for the ships. After that, he planned to sail to Spain. According to his calculations his men thought Hispaniola was west of them. But he was sure it was more to the northeast of them, so they took that route. By 1504 Christopher Columbus had accomplished his round trip between Spain and America. His round trip went from 1492 to 1504. After Columbus great round trip, he was getting to an older age and not at his fullness of health. He was at the point where his eyes were so inflamed that he could barely read out of them. This led to him having trouble doing what he did best which was sailing the ocean. This eye problem he had was what people think to be arthritis or Reiters syndrome. Before Columbus got to the point where he could not read or write anymore like he used to, he wrote a letter to the king and queen explaining his discoveries and what he had accomplished over the years. The king Ferdinand and queen Isabella were the king and queen who helped him in the beginning of his journey by funding him money for his travel and the supplies he needed for that round trip. Columbus died two years later in May of 1506.

This did not end his legacy though. Still to this day, Christopher Columbus is still brought up in schools and for example is very important in our history. Columbus found new places and learned so much about sailing and the oceans. He had an incredible job and was good at sailing. He had a hard life but always made a way to overcome the difficult times. Christopher Columbus had people debating on

whether he would be able to accomplish his round trip. Some people doubted him, and many were unsure, but he did accomplish it with success.

Process paper

How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?

I found this topic in class when we were going over the papers with all the topics we could choose from. Yes, it clearly does because it was on the paper of options we could choose from, also for debate people questioned Christopher Columbus on whether he would be able to sail across the ocean and discover new places. For diplomacy, it relates to the theme because Christopher Columbus met different people in all different places and made peace with them.

How did you conduct your research?

I looked up different information that pertains to my topic and read about his travels and the many things he did.

How did you create your project?

I created my project by deciding I wanted to write a paper about Christopher Columbus's life.

What is your historical argument?

Christopher Columbus was a brave guy and loved to explore new places.

In what ways is your topic significant in history?

I think its significant in our history today because of the many things he accomplished in his life here. He traveled around the world and discovered places for us. He went on missions to find new things and make his discovery extraordinary.

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