

Key Knowledge: Christopher Columbus

- Christopher Columbus was born in 1451, in Italy.
- He died on 20th May 1506, in Spain.
- He was married to Filipa Moniz Perestrelo.
- Christopher had 2 children: Diego and Ferdinand.
- Christopher Columbus was an **explorer** who is famous for his **voyages** across the **Atlantic** Ocean.
- He was the first **European** to set foot on South **America**.

What did Columbus want to discover?

- In the 15th and 16th century, **European** people wanted to find new trade routes to India, China and Japan.
- If someone could find a quicker route, they would be rewarded with money.
- Columbus knew that the earth was round, and believed that if he **sailed** West long enough, that he would eventually get to **Asia**.

Voyages1st Voyage

- On his first **voyage**, he had 104 men.
- He was looking for **Asia**, which he thought he found when they reached land.
- What he did find was the Bahamas.
- On the same trip he also found Cuba.

2nd Voyage

- On the second **voyage**, Columbus took 1,200 men.
- He discovered Dominica, Guadeloupe and Jamaica.

3rd Voyage

- On his third trip, he reached the island of Trinidad, and finally the South **American** mainland.

4th Voyage

- His final **voyage** took him to Central **America**.
- He reached Panama, and is believed to have found gold there.
- The local people forced him to leave and he sailed back to Spain in 1504.

How did he fund his trips?

- Columbus moved from Italy to Spain and was able to persuade King Philip and Queen Isabella of Spain to finance his trips.

Key Vocabulary:

Explorer – a person who explores a new or unfamiliar area.

America – A continent made up of North and South America.

Asia – A continent which covers 9% of the Earth's surface.

Europe – A continent located in the Northern Hemisphere.

Sail – travel in a boat.

Sea faring – A person who regularly travels by sea.

Atlantic – The Atlantic Ocean. It is the second largest ocean on Earth.

Voyage – A long journey involving travelling by sea.

Historical Skills and Enquiry:

- Research and Compare sources that say Christopher Columbus discovered America.
- Research how Columbus' discoveries changed countries or indigenous people.

