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Age of Discovery



Age of Discovery

Dias' ship had been blown through the passage in a storm. On his return voyage to Portugal, he saw the tip of Africa and named it the Cape of Good Hope. The route around the cape became the common way to reach India from the east.

King Manuel I of Portugal sent Vasco De Gama on a voyage to the Spice Islands in 1497. De Gama did not sail close to the coast of Africa like captains had done before. He used the stronger winds further out in the Atlantic to move faster. He made it to India and tried to arrange trades. In 1502, De Gama was sent back to India with more ships and troops. He conquered the city of Calicut.

Pedro Cabral was sent to India to help build the Portuguese spice business. Like De Gama, he swung out into the Atlantic Ocean to catch the strong currents and winds. Cabral went as far west as the coast of Brazil before continuing on to India. Between 1509, and 1512, the Portuguese extended their reach for spices to the Moluccas. These are islands in Indonesia.



Read each word below. Write a definition of each word. Use it in a sentence.

1a. voyage _____

1b. _____

2a. spices _____

2b. _____

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Hudson made two unsuccessful tries at the passage but was stopped each time by the ice in the Arctic Circle. The English king refused to pay for another expedition.

Hudson then turned to the Dutch. In 1609, they gave him a ship called the Half Moon, a crew, and supplies. Hudson did not go as far north as before and ended up landing and exploring the east coast of North America from Newfoundland to New York. He sailed up and named the Hudson River. On his return to Europe, he was arrested by the English for working for the Dutch.

Henry Hudson was given another chance by the English king to find the Northwest Passage. In the spring of 1610, he took his ship the Discovery around the southern tip of Greenland and thought he had found the Passage. He sailed into what became Hudson Bay. The ice trapped them there for the winter. Hudson's crew mutinied (refused to obey) when he wanted to continue the trip in the spring. They put Hudson and his son in a boat and left them at Hudson Bay. That was the last time anyone saw them.



Read the questions below. Write your answers on the lines in complete sentences.

1. What passage was Henry Hudson looking for? _____

2. Why was Henry Hudson arrested? _____

3. What does the word mutiny mean? _____

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Criss Cross

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

ships
island

explore
routes

ocean
cargo

king
passage

