## Early European exploration

from the Esri GeoInquiries™ collection for World History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target audience – World history learners</th>
<th>Time required – 15 minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Compare and contrast Spain’s and Portugal’s early sea explorations to reach Asia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards</td>
<td>C3: D2.His.1.9-12. Evaluate how historical events and developments were shaped by unique circumstances of time and place, as well as broader historical contexts. C3: D2.His.3.9-12. Use questions generated to assess how the significance of their actions changes over time and is shaped by the historical context.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Learning Outcomes                       | • Students will compare and contrast Portugal’s and Spain’s early efforts to find a sea route to Asia.  
• Students will identify and explain the global effects of early European exploration. |

**Map URL:** http://esriurl.com/worldHistoryGeoInquiry11

### Ask

**Who led the Age of Exploration?**

- Click the link above to launch the map.
- What kingdoms were located on the Iberian Peninsula? [Portugal and Spain]
- Open and read the map note off the coast of Portugal.
- Why did Portugal become the early leader of exploration? [Prince Henry’s School of Navigation]

### Acquire

**Where did Portugal explore?**

- Open and read the map note near West Africa.
- Why had no one explored past Cape Bojador? [People believed it was the edge of the world.]
- With the Details button depressed, click the button, Contents.
- Click the checkbox to the left of the layer name, Early Portuguese Routes.
- Click the button, Bookmarks. Choose Southern.
- Click on each route to answer the following questions.
  - Who sailed past Cape Bojador, and in what year? [Eanes, 1434]
  - Who sailed to the southern tip of Africa, and in what year? [Dias, 1488]
- Open and read the map note near the southern tip of Africa.
- Why do you think Portugal changed the name? [Cape of Storms might have discouraged exploration.]

### Explore

**Where did Spain explore?**

- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select Western.
- Turn off the layer, Early Portuguese Routes.
- Turn on the layer, Spain’s First Voyage.
- Click the red line.
- Who explored for Spain and in which direction? [Columbus, west]
- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select Landfall.
- Where did Columbus make landfall? [The Bahamas and Hispaniola]
Why was a line drawn in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean?

- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select Treaty.
- Turn on the layer, Line of Demarcation.
- Click the line and read the pop-up.
- Which country had rights to land east of the line? West of the line? [Portugal, east; Spain, west]
- Turn on the layer, Early Exploration Routes, 1493 – 1524.
- Click the button Bookmarks. Select Race to Asia.
- Click each route and ask the following questions.
- Who was the first to reach Asia by sea? Country? [Da Gama; Portugal]
- Click the line for any of Columbus’ voyages & view the bar graph.
- What patterns do you notice? Possible explanations? [The second expedition was the largest, showing Spain’s intent to colonize; his crews get smaller.]
- Open and read the map note off the coast of Brazil.
- Who are the Americas named after? Why? [Amerigo Vespucci; realized the area was not Asia]

Act

How did these expeditions affect the world?

- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select Asia.
- Turn on the layer, Africa and Asian Port Cities.
- What patterns do you notice? [Portuguese cities along African coast; English cities in India; Dutch cities in the Far East]
- Click the button, bookmark. Select Americas.
- Turn on the layer, European Claims, 1700.
- Which countries had claims in the Americas by 1700? [England, France, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands]
- What other ways will Europeans impact the Americas, Africa, and Asia? [Language, trade, conquest, slavery, housing, food, and diseases]

Next Steps

DID YOU KNOW? ArcGIS Online is a mapping platform freely available to public, private, and home schools. A school subscription provides additional security, privacy, and content features. Learn more about ArcGIS Online and how to get a school subscription at http://www.esri.com/schools.

THEN TRY THIS...

- Create a density map of the ports.
- Discover a more modern explorer’s path with the Humboldt story map at: http://esriurl.com/Geo17471.

This GIS map has been cross-referenced to material in sections of chapters from these high school texts.

- World History: Human Journey by Holt — Chapter 7
- World History by Glencoe — Chapter 13
- World History by Pearson — Chapter 14