



History: Blue Class— The lives of significant individuals

What was so important about Neil Armstrong's and Christopher Columbus' journeys?

Key Vocabulary

Explorer	A person who travels to an unfamiliar place in order to discover what is there
Expedition	A journey that is made for a particular purpose
Ocean	A huge body of salt water
Island	A piece of land surrounded by water
trade	To buy and sell or to exchange goods between countries
Natives	Original inhabitants of a country
India	A country in Asia that Columbus wanted to find a new route to
San Salvador	An island in the Bahamas, located in the continent of South America
Compass	A item to show direction
Santa Maria	This was the largest of the ships used by Christopher Columbus in his first voyage across the Atlantic Ocean
Navigator	A person in a vehicle who decides the direction in which the vehicle travels
Voyage	A long journey involving travel by sea or in space



Key People

Fillpa Moniz (wife)
Diego Columbus (son)
King Philip & Queen Isabella of Spain (financed his trip)

Key Places

America
Asia
Europe
Caribbean
Atlantic Ocean

Key Dates

1451	Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, Italy.
1453	The fall of the Constantinople's by the fall of the Ottoman Empire
October 1492	Columbus visits the UK, Ireland, and possibly Iceland.
1476	He marries Felipa Moniz. They have a son together
1492	First voyage—he sets foot on the Caribbean Islands including Cuba
1493 -96	Second voyage—reaches more Caribbean Islands
1498—1500	Third voyage—reaches South America mainland
1502—1504	Columbus makes his final voyage exploring much of Central America
1506	Columbus dies in Valladolid, Spain



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Key Vocabulary

Astronaut	A person who is trained to pilot or serve as a crew member of a spacecraft
spacecraft	A vehicle or machine designed to fly in outer space.
Mission	An important task given to a person or that involves travel out of the country
Earth	The planet that we live on
Moon	The moon is a large natural object that orbits Earth. It is the second brightest object in the sky
Lunar Module	This was the lander spacecraft that was used to orbit the moon's surface during the Apollo programme
Apollo 11	Apollo 11 was the spaceflight that first landed humans on the moon.
Flight	The action of flying through the air
Pilot	The person who controls the flight of an aircraft.
Orbit	An orbit is the path that an object takes in space when it goes around a star, a planet, or a moon.
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Commander	Person in charge
USA	United States of America



Key People

Neil Armstrong
Buzz Aldrin
Michael Collins

Key Places

The Moon
Earth
NASA
USA

Key Dates

5th August 1930	Neil Armstrong was born.
August 1946	At the age of 16 Neil Armstrong got his pilot licence
1949	Neil Armstrong flew planes for the US Navy in the Korean War.
1952	Neil Armstrong joins the programme that becomes NASA
1969	Neil Armstrong began to train as an astronaut
March 1966	Neil's first mission into space with David Scott called the Gemini Mission
21st July 1969	Apollo 11 went into orbit around the moon. Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the moon.
24th July 1969	Neil Armstrong returns to earth and lands in the Pacific Ocean
1971	He started to teach at a university
1982	Neil Armstrong took part in an expedition to the North Pole
25th August 1912	Neil Armstrong died



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Key Knowledge—Neil Armstrong

Neil Armstrong was a famous American astronaut. He is famous for being the first man on the moon. He was born in 1930. He worked for the United States Navy and then became a test pilot at a High-Speed Flight Station. In 1962 he was chosen to train to be an astronaut and became the commander of the 'Gemini 8' mission. The plan was for two spaceships to dock (connect together) in space, but the mission failed.

On December 23, 1968, Neil Armstrong was offered the chance to command the space mission Apollo 11. This would be the first manned landing on the moon. On 16th July 1969, after months of practice and preparation, the Apollo 11 spacecraft launched on its mission to the moon. The ship landed on the moon on 20th July 1969. Neil Armstrong, along with Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin, landed on the moon and Neil became the first man to walk on the moon. He stepped out onto the moon's surface on 21st July 1969 and said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The astronauts arrived back on earth on July 24th 1969. After Apollo 11, he decided that he would not fly into space again, and decided to teach at a university. In 1985, Armstrong went on an expedition to the North Pole. Neil Armstrong said he wanted to see what it looked like from the ground, as he had seen it only from the moon. He died in 2012 in Ohio, USA.

First Moon Landing

The Apollo 11 mission landed the first two people on the moon. Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon first. Buzz Aldrin stepped out 19 minutes after him. Michael Collins stayed in the command module. They landed in a place called the 'Sea of Tranquillity' (a piece of flat land on the moon, between mountains, not sea). Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin spent about 2 hours collecting rocks and soil to bring back to Earth. They also left a United States of America flag.

Key Knowledge—Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, Italy, which was a very busy port. His father wove and sold wool, hoping to get rich by selling it to others.

At the age of 13, young Christopher went to sea, hoping to return home a rich man having sold the family wool. Whilst at sea, he learned about the winds and the tide. He also learned how to find his way by looking at the stars and the Sun.

Later in his life, Columbus realised that people wanted to begin trading with countries in the east, such as China and India, but nobody was quite sure of the fastest way to get there.

Columbus' map reading skills told him that sailing west to China was the best idea, but many people thought that this was a ridiculous idea. He tried to persuade rich people to help him, but they would laugh at his plan. Finally, the King and Queen of Spain gave Columbus the money that he needed for ships.

Columbus set sail in August 1492 with three ships. Each ship had space for about 30 men. It wasn't a comfortable journey; men had to work in shifts and sleep on the deck. The ships let water in so the men had to work pumps to stop the ships from sinking.

Using a compass, Columbus navigated the way but the journey was taking much longer than anyone had thought. The men got scared because their food and water supplies were running very low.

36 days after setting sail, an island was spotted in the distance. Columbus named the island San Salvador; it was an island in the Bahamas.

Christopher explored this new world which became known as the 'New World'.

There were people living on the islands. At first, they were pleased to meet the explorer but weren't very happy when Columbus claimed the islands for Spain. He also took some of the native people back with him. On the journey back to Spain, one of the ships hit a reef and was wrecked. The other two ships made it home safely. Columbus went back to save his men but by that time, they had all died.

Spain now ruled over the islands which he discovered. Columbus returned a number of times and eventually found South America.

He died in 1506.