

COLUMBUS REACHES INDIES

LANDS ON UNKNOWN ISLAND

Barcelona, Spain, March 1493

Admiral Christopher Columbus and his daring crew have just returned from an uncharted island near the shores of India. The landing, which took place last October, is expected to open a new route to the Orient. He is seeking the support of Queen Isabella for a second voyage on which he hopes to establish a trade route.

STORY ON PAGE TWO



Indiana!

What is Indiana? Write your answer below.

Did you say it is a state, your home, a part of America? Yes, if you live in Indiana, it is all of these. But it is more. Indiana is people, land, homes, farms, cities, schools, churches, and rivers. They are all parts of Indiana. What are some other parts of Indiana?

So Indiana is not just a space on a map or a name on your address!

Have you been outside of Indiana? Have you been in any of these states? (Circle the ones that you have been in.)

- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Ohio
- Michigan

Look at a map of America. What is special about these states?

You are right if you said that they all touch Indiana. They are our neighbor states.

What about these? (Circle any you've been in.)

- Alaska
- California
- Florida
- Hawaii
- Maine
- Washington

Find them on your map? What is special about them?

They are far away from Indiana. In fact, two of these states are so far away that they may not be on your map! Which two are they?

1. _____ 2. _____

How are all of these states alike? (Mark 'X' by the right answers.)

- ___ 1. They are part of America
- ___ 2. Everyone there is over 18 years old
- ___ 3. People there love their families and state
- ___ 4. They have a *history*
- ___ 5. They have jungles and swamps

If you marked 'X' on #1, #3, and #4, you are right. #2 is wrong because there are young people in every state. Why is #5 wrong?

Indiana is part of America

While we live in Indiana and love Indiana, we also live in and love America. We are Indianans and Americans. We are proud of both.

In this newspaper you will learn about Indiana. You will learn about her past and the people here first. You will also study the land and how it was discovered and explored. You will learn what it was like then and what has happened since. It is the story of our Indiana *heritage*.

It is a tale of adventure filled with heroes and *villains*, good times and bad, success and failure. Sometimes we may wish we could change it, but we can't. If we pay close attention though, we can learn from it. Then maybe we can make the future better. Are you ready? Let's go.

HEADLINE STORY FROM PAGE 1

Short way to India!

It was 2:00 in the morning of October 12, 1492, when a crewman on the *Pinta* sighted an island off the southeastern coast of what is now America. A cannon shot announced the discovery and soon Columbus landed, threw himself to his knees, and returned thanks to God. He named the island “San Salvador.”

When Columbus returned and word of his discovery reached Spain, there was much excitement. He believed he had reached islands near Asia called the “Indies.” He thought he was close to the country of India where Spain traded for things not available at home. He was mistaken. Columbus had sailed west but had instead reached the farthest lands of the east!

Today the islands Columbus discovered are known as the “West Indies.” He never did see the mainland of America and he never did know he was still half way around the world from India!

Columbus returned three more times to look for India. Once he thought he was too far north so he sailed farther south. Finally, he landed on the coast of *mainland* South America. He thought it was Asia.

Understanding your world

For this lesson you need a globe. A globe is a model of the earth we live on. It is a *replica*, a likeness in small size. It is round like the earth is round and has a map on it that shows where the land is and where the sea is. The sea is usually colored blue. The land is in many shapes and probably has countries marked in different colors. The different land shapes are called *continents*. The seas between them are the *oceans*.

Look at your globe. Can you find America? Turn the globe and look at the top half until you find it. Do you see how America fits into the middle of a large continent? Now look above America to find Canada. Next look below America to find Mexico.

Look left of Canada and find the state of Alaska. Look in the ocean below Alaska and find Hawaii. Alaska and Hawaii are two of our United States. What separates Alaska and Hawaii from our other states?

1. _____ 2. _____

Photo of a globe showing North and South America and the Atlantic Ocean.

In the picture, Indiana is near the top of the globe and Spain is at the far right.



Altogether, America, Canada, and Mexico form most of the continent of North America.

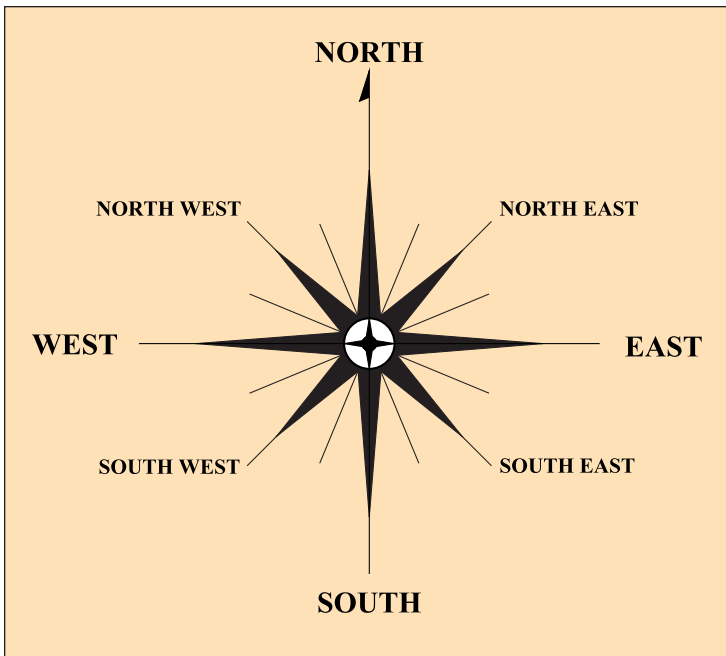
“North” is a direction. It means toward the top of the globe. “South” means toward the bottom of the globe. Since your globe probably tilts slightly, the top and bottom are really where the pole that the globe spins on sticks out. Find the north pole and the south pole. Spin the globe slowly. The line made by the pole through the globe is the *axis*. The world, like your globe, spins on its axis. It makes one full turn each day.

Look at the thin line of land below Mexico, this is called “Central America.” Follow it down and to the right until you come to the country of Colombia. Colombia is on another continent called “South America.” There are many countries on this continent. Find Brazil, the biggest country in South America. Why do we call this continent “South America” and our own “North America?” Yes, because one is south and the other north.

Set your globe on a table. Look for a doorknob in the room. Imagine the doorknob is the sun. Turn the globe slowly so that North America moves to your right. (This is toward the east.)

As you turn it, imagine you are standing on the globe in the middle of Indiana like you are standing on the earth. Imagine looking for your doorknob-sun. Sometimes you will face toward it. Other times you will face away. Our earth is just like that and that is why we have day and night.

Look again at your globe and find Brazil once more. Mexico is north of Brazil, but not directly north. Directly north of Brazil is an ocean. Find its name. It is the Atlantic Ocean. America is left of the Atlantic Ocean. We call this direction “west.” The Atlantic Ocean is right of America. We call this direction “east.” So Brazil is south and east of Mexico.



Compass illustrating the 16 points.

To tell directions we use these four names: north, south, east, and west. These are called the *cardinal directions*. They are the four basic directions.

Sometimes we use them together for a direction in between. If we use two of them together, we always use the north or south name first.

We may even use three together. For example, the direction between north and northeast is called north-northeast. These directions are called the “16 points of the compass.” Look in the box above. Count them. You should find sixteen points.

Where is Indiana?

Look again at your globe and find Indiana. It is south of the five “Great Lakes” that appear near the Canadian border. What part of America is it in? We say it is in the “middle west” or *midwest*. When you look closely you can see that it is not really in the middle. We will learn more about this as we continue our study.

Find California. It is far west of Indiana, by the Pacific Ocean. Find the state of Washington, north of California. What part of America is it in? Look in the southeast and find Florida. Now find Spain. It is not in America. It is on another continent.

To find Spain, from Florida go straight east on your globe, across the Atlantic Ocean. When you come to land you should be in Morocco on the continent of Africa. North of Morocco is Spain. It is in the southwestern part of the continent of Europe.



Spain is where Christopher Columbus lived. It is far east of America, across the Atlantic Ocean. No one in Spain had ever crossed that ocean. Some even thought it was flat and that if you sailed far enough, you would go right off the edge. They imagined demons and dragons out there.

Columbus believed they were wrong. He believed he could sail all the way around the world and come back to Spain. He thought he would get to India and China that way. But Columbus didn't realize how far it was and he didn't know North and South America were in the way! No one knew that but the people living there. Who were they?

Yes, the *Native Americans*, the Indians. (In coming issues, you will learn about these interesting people.)

But the Indians didn't know about the people in Spain either! They were an *isolated* people. Neither people knew or understood the other.

So why was Columbus looking for a shorter route to India? The answer is “trade.” This word is important because trade is very important to us.

Trade

Many people lived in Europe. Some were farmers while others were merchants. There were fishermen, miners, lumbermen, and many other *trades*. Some countries raised lots of food, while other countries had extra coal. People in one country needed what people in other countries produced. So they would buy what they needed. Likewise, those other countries needed products too and they would buy them. This buying and selling between countries is called “trade.”

But there were some things that couldn't be found in Europe. There were spices and tea from India and silk cloth from China. *Caravans* would go all the way to India and China to deliver goods from Spain and come back with goods from China.

On your globe, east of Spain, find India. The first trade routes to India were over land. Then ships began to sail there. How could ships sail between Spain and India?

Today the Suez Canal goes between the Mediterranean and Red Seas. On your globe, find the Suez Canal in eastern Egypt. Why is this canal so important?

EXPLORER ARRIVES!

Calicut, India, May 20, 1498

Vasco da Gama arrived today by sea from Portugal. He plans to establish a trading post and conduct trade with Europe.

Sailing around Africa!

While Columbus was looking for a route to India by sailing west, the Portuguese were exploring routes around Africa sailing south and east. No one had yet gone all the way around Africa.

On July 9, 1497, Vasco da Gama sailed from Portugal with a fleet of four ships. They went down, along the west coast of Africa, around the southern tip, and up the east coast to where Kenya is now. There he found *mariners* who knew the course to India. He sailed east and completed the journey 315 days later.

With your finger, trace his course on a world map or globe. When you get to Kenya, what is the ocean you cross to reach India?

CABOT RETURNS SAFELY CLAIMS VAST AREA FOR CROWN

Bristol, England, August 1497

John Cabot has returned from his second voyage to the New World. He reports great fishing and has claimed all of the coastal lands for our great King Henry VII.

Cabot explores Newfoundland

While da Gama was sailing east to India, the first English explorer sailed west. Until then, it seemed only Spain cared about the New World. When John Cabot sailed to the northern coast, he found a great island and named it Newfoundland. See how the name describes what he discovered!

Even though he had reached America, he did not land on the North American continent, nor did he know where he really was.

In May 1498, Cabot departed Bristol, England, with four other ships on a return voyage. A short time later, one of the ships returned. Cabot and the other four ships were never seen again!

The final voyage of Columbus

In 1502 Columbus sailed along the coast of Central America. He was still looking for India. Then a terrible storm struck. It almost destroyed his small ship. After the storm passed, he took haven in a harbor near what is now one end of the Panama Canal. This is as close as he ever came to India or Asia.

Today the Panama Canal allows ships to sail from ocean to ocean without the long trip around South America. Locate the Panama Canal on your globe. Why is it so important?

How is it similar to the Suez Canal?

Roman Numerals

In this issue we have used a different way of writing numbers. It was common in those years and we still use it sometimes today. They were called *Roman numerals* because they were used in Rome. (They were used in many other places too.)

Do you know the first ten Roman numerals? They are I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X. What do they mean?

When we read about King George III, we are reading about the third king named George. Who was Louis XIV? (Hint: Add the last two letters to the first one.) _____

REACTION TIME

1. What is the world?
2. When the sun “comes up,” what really happens?
3. Why did people think the world was flat?
4. How do you know it is not?
5. Why didn't Columbus reach India?
6. Why is trade important to you?
7. What do you think happened to John Cabot and his four other ships?