

Not All Who Wander Are Lost



Where would we be without explorers?

Your mission is to write and present a biography about an explorer of your choosing. (A biography is a non-fiction story about someone's life.) Include things like where and when they were born, where they explored, the adventures they went on and the things that they achieved.

You'll need to include things like:

- Their full name
- Where and when they were born and died
- Where they travelled
- What they discovered
- Interesting facts about them

You'll also need to include:

- Picture(s) of the explorer
- A map of where they went
- Pictures of some of the places they travelled to
- Pictures of things that they discovered
- A bibliography that lists all books and websites used in your research

... and anything else that you think is interesting or important!



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Now it's time to let me know which explorer you'd like to research... first come, first served!

- **Pytheas** (Greek) – possibly traveled as far as Iceland in 300 BCE
- **Zhang Qian** (China) – traveled the Silk Road 1300 years before Marco Polo
- **Leif Ericson** (Iceland) – the Viking who discovered North America
- **Marco Polo** (Italy) – an early Italian explorer who traveled throughout Asia
- **Zheng He** (China) – a Chinese explorer of Asia (and America?)
- **Ferdinand Magellan** (Portugal) – organized the first expedition to sail around the world
- **Amerigo Vespucci** (Italy) – figured out that the Americas were NOT Asia
- **Francis Drake** (England) – the second *circumnavigation* of the world (pirate?)
- **James Cook** (England) – explored and mapped the Pacific, “discovered” New Zealand
- **Sir Alexander MacKenzie** (Scotland) – the first European to travel across North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific
- **Roald Amundsen** (Norway) – the first person to reach the South Pole
- **Thor Heyerdahl** (Norway) – traveled by raft across the Pacific Ocean and by papyrus boat across the Atlantic to prove it could be done
- ... or perhaps **Erik the Red, Hernan Cortes, Vasco de Gama, Jacques Cartier, Giovanni de Verrazzano, John Cabot, Francisco Pizarro, Hernando de Soto, Juan Ponce De Leon, Bartholomew Dias, Vasco De Balboa, or Robert de La Salle**
- ... someone else catch your fancy? Check with me before you start.



Choose Your Explorer by: Friday, Oct 6th

Written Report & Presentations Due: Monday, Oct 30th



Written Report Grading Rubric

	Points Possible	Points Received	
		Self Evaluation	Teacher Evaluation
Organization: cover page, multiple paragraphs, maps/pictures/illustrations, bibliography	4		
Instructions followed: double spaced; 12 pt. Times New Roman font	2		
Paragraph Structure: Each paragraph has a topic sentence, supporting detail sentences, concluding sentence	3		
Sentence Structure: Accepted conventions of capitalization, grammar and punctuation are followed	3		
Spelling: It is expected that all words in the report are spelled correctly	3		
Research Content: Student has included research on all information specified in report guidelines	30		
Care and Attention to Detail: Honor Code item #6: 4th graders understand the importance of presentation.	5		
Total Points	50		