

Name _____

Famous Explorers

DIRECTIONS: Complete the chart by adding the year(s) the explorer traveled on their main voyage and one key fact or reason the explorer is remembered.

<i>Explorer</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Reason they are remembered</i>
Marco Polo		
Vasco da Gama		
Christopher Columbus		
Hernan Cortes		
Francisco Pizarro		
Juan Ponce de Leon		
Hernando de Soto		
Francisco Vasquez de Coronado		
John Cabot		
Henry Hudson		
Jacques Cartier		
Samuel de Champlain		

Famous Explorers Notes

	<i>Explorer</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Reason Remembered</i>
Italy	Marco Polo	1295	Found the Silk Road, explored China, returned to Italy with new discoveries like pasta and paper money
Portugal	da Gama	1498	sailed around the Cape of Good Hope, Sailed across Indian Ocean
Spain	Columbus	1492	Sailed across Atlantic and found Americas
Spain	Cortes	1518	Defeated Aztecs and Tenochtitlan (Aztec capital)
Spain	Pizarro	1531	Defeated Incas and claimed Peru area for Spain
Spain	Ponce de Leon	1513	Searched for Fountain of Youth and explored Florida
Spain	de Soto	1539	Explored SE United States, saw Mississippi River
Spain	Coronado	1540	Saw Grand Canyon, CO Plateau, explored SW United States
England	Cabot	1497	Settled Newfoundland, cod fish trade (looking for NW Passage)
Dutch	Hudson	1609	Explored Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, sailed up Hudson River (looking for NW Passage)
France	Cartier	1534	Reached Peninsula along the St. Lawrence River, claimed for France (looking for NW Passage)
France	Champlain	1608	Established fur trade post in Quebec, friendly with Native American groups