

Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 3 Exploration and Worldwide Trade

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Why do people make economic choices?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *How did European nations build empires in the Americas?*
2. *How did Europe's merchants change the world trade system?*
3. *How did trade change the world?*

Terms to Know

plantation a large estate or farm that used enslaved people or hired workers to grow and harvest crops

cash crops fruits and vegetables grown in large amounts to be sold for profit

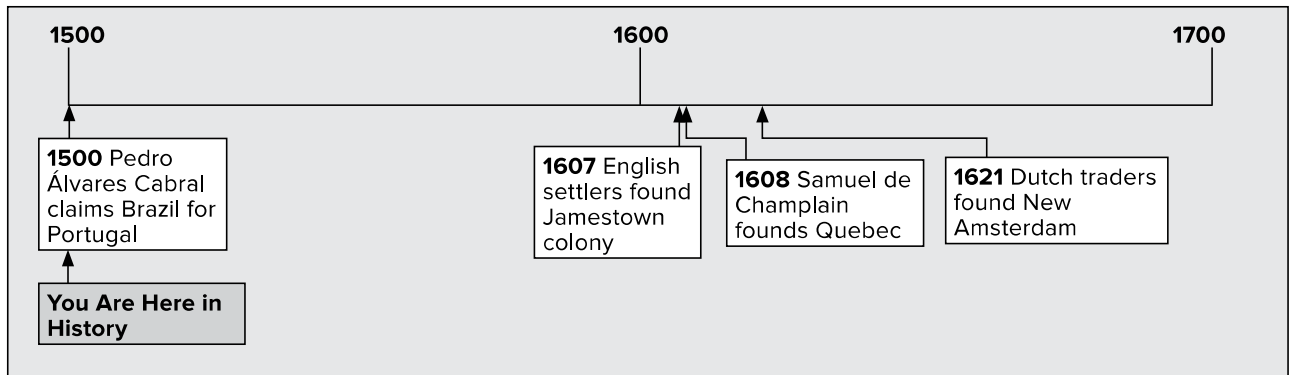
mercantilism an economic system that depends on a greater amount of exports than imports

commerce exchange of goods; business

entrepreneur a person who organizes, pays for, and takes the risk of starting a new business

cottage industry a system for making goods in workers' homes

When did it happen?



What do you know?

Read the list of foods and animals. Write *Europe* if you think it first came from Europe. Write *Americas* if you think it first came from the Americas.

Cows _____

Coffee _____

Peanuts _____

Wheat _____

Corn _____

Chocolate _____

Horses _____

Squash _____

Potatoes _____

Sheep _____

Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 3 Exploration and Worldwide Trade, *Continued*

Settling the Americas

By the 1600s, Spanish settlers were growing sugarcane on large farms called **plantations**. At first, Native Americans did all the work. Then disease and mistreatment caused most of them to die. Spain brought enslaved Africans to work on the plantations and in the gold and silver mines. The Portuguese also used enslaved Africans to do their hard work in Brazil.

The French came to North America to set up fur trading posts. French merchants hired explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1608 to help them get furs. He set up a trading post named Quebec. It became the capital of the colony of New France.

Crops/Goods/Services	Colony
fur	French
tobacco	English, Portuguese
sugarcane	Spanish, Portuguese, French
trade	Dutch

In 1682 a French explorer named La Salle followed the Mississippi all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. He named the region Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. The French in southern Louisiana brought enslaved Africans to grow sugarcane, rice, and tobacco.

During the 1600s, the English came to North America for many reasons. Some people wanted to make money. Others wanted religious freedom. Others came because they did not have a job and needed work. England's colonies grew quickly.

The Virginia Company established the first English settlement in North America in 1607. It was called Jamestown after King James I. Life in Virginia was very hard. There was not enough to eat. Some people died in the cold winters. Others were killed in fights with the Native Americans.

During those first years, the colony made no money. Settlers discovered that tobacco grew well in Virginia's soil. Tobacco became the first cash crop of the English colonies. A **cash crop** is grown in large amounts to sell and make money.



Defining

1. What is a *plantation*?



Marking the Text

2. Underline the name of the first English colony in North America. Circle the name of France's first territory in North America.



Explaining

3. Why was life hard in the Virginia colony?



Reading Check

4. Why did European colonists bring enslaved Africans to their plantations in the Americas?

Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 3 Exploration and Worldwide Trade, *Continued*

Defining

5. What is *commerce*?

Explaining

6. Why do entrepreneurs need plenty of money to trade over long distances?

Reading Check

7. Why did Europeans in the 1600s create joint-stock companies?

Describing

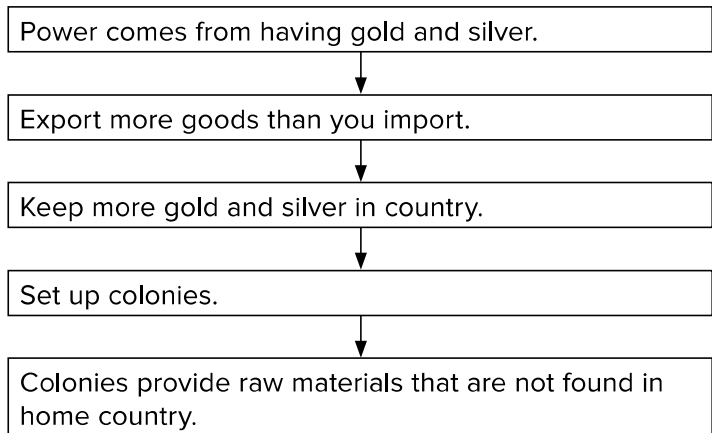
8. How do people work in a cottage industry?

Another European country, the Netherlands, wanted to explore North America. Henry Hudson sailed up the Hudson River and claimed land for the Dutch. In 1621 Dutch traders established a settlement called New Amsterdam. Today it is part of New York City.

World Trade Changes

Europeans came up with the idea of **mercantilism**. This is a theory that a country's power depends on its wealth. Countries can increase their wealth by owning more gold and silver.

Rules of Mercantilism



In addition to their colonies in North America, Europeans set up trading posts and colonies in Asia. In the 1600s, Europeans started doing business a new way, called the Commercial Revolution. **Commerce** is the buying and selling of goods in large amounts over long distances.

Merchants needed a lot of money to trade goods far away. They had to buy and store a large amount of goods and ship them over land and sea. This new business created **entrepreneurs**. Entrepreneurs invest, or put money, into a business. Their goal is to make money.

Many projects were so large that a group of entrepreneurs had to work together. They would form a joint-stock company. This is a business that many people can invest in by buying shares, or stocks, of the company. By owning stocks, investors share the expenses, the risks, and the profits.

Some merchants believed that artisans charged too much for their goods and took too long to make them. They created the **cottage industry**. This is when merchants hire people who work from their homes.

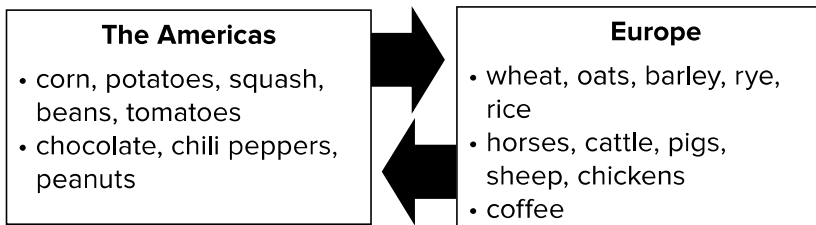
Age of Exploration and Trade

Lesson 3 Exploration and Worldwide Trade, *Continued*

A Global Exchange

Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas changed through trading. The world traded people, goods, tools, ideas, and even diseases. This is called the Columbian Exchange, after Christopher Columbus.

Corn and potatoes came to Europe from the Americas. Corn was fed to animals. The same amount of land could produce more potatoes than wheat. This fed more people. Tomatoes from America became popular in Italy. Chocolate came from Central America. European and Asian grains such as wheat, oats, barley, rye, and rice were planted in the Americas. Coffee and fruits were brought there, too.



Animals were brought from Europe. Chickens changed the diet of people in the Americas. Horses allowed Native Americans to hunt buffalo more efficiently.

Europeans took sugarcane from Asia and began growing it in the Caribbean. They moved millions of enslaved Africans to the Americas to plant and harvest the sugarcane. Not everything that passed between Europe and America was good. Europeans gave germs to the Native Americans. Some diseases were deadly and killed millions of people.

//////////////////// Glue Foldable here //////////////////////

Check for Understanding

List two things that came from the Americas in the Columbian Exchange.

1. _____

2. _____

List two goods that came from Europe in the Columbian Exchange.

3. _____

4. _____



Identifying

9. List the continents that were involved in the Columbian Exchange.
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____



Reading Check

10. Was the Columbian Exchange a benefit or a problem for the Americas?
- _____
- _____



11. Place a one-tab Foldable along the dotted line. Title the anchor tab *World of Exchange*.
- List key words and phrases to explain how the movement of people and goods changed the world.