

Unit 2: Exploration & Colonization

Inquiry Journal

Topic	1: Contextualization for and Causes of European Exploration Supporting Questions
	How did major political, social, and technological developments in Europe stimulate an "Age of Exploration?"
LESSON 1	K:
	W:
	In what ways did trade networks lay the groundwork for increased interconnectedness?
LESSON 2	K:
	w:
	How do both fiction and nonfiction sources deepen the understanding of Spanish motives for exploration?
LESSON 3	K:
	W:



Topic 1: Contextualization for and Causes of European Exploration Compelling Question

To what extent did various economic, religious, and political factors influence European exploration and colonization of North America?

[CER Paragraph to be written at conclusion of week.]		



	Topic 2: Columbian Exchange Supporting Questions
	Why is understanding the perspectives of Europeans and Indigenous Americans about early contact difficult?
LESSON 4	K:
	w:
	In what ways did the arrival of Europeans in the Americas impact life for Indigenous societies?
LESSON 5	K:
	w:
	Did the Columbian Exchange bring more benefits or harm to the Americas, and how can the overall impact be assessed?
LESSON 6	K:
	W:



Topic 2: Columbian Exchange Compelling Question

What challenges arise in assessing the overall impact of European arrival and the Columbian Exchange on Indigenous societies?

[CER Pa	[CER Paragraph to be written at conclusion of week.]			



	Topic 3: Spanish Colonization Supporting Questions
	What factors enabled Spain's success in establishing colonies in the Americas?
LESSON 7	K:
	w:
	How do different types of sources shape the understanding of La Malinche as a figure of betrayal, survival, or heroism?
LESSON 8	K:
	w:
	How did the Spanish Mission System affect the lives of Indigenous peoples and settlers?
LESSON 9	K:
	w:



Topic 3: Spanish Colonization Compelling Question

What role did military power, personal relationships, and religion play in the Spanish colonization of the Americas?

[CER Paragraph to be written at conclusion of week.]



	Topic 4: Power & Exploitation Supporting Questions
	In what ways did the Spanish encomienda system alter social and economic structures in the Americas?
LESSON 10	K:
	W:
	How did conflicting Spanish perspectives on Indigenous peoples shape debates about their treatment in the Americas?
LESSON 11	K:
	W:
	What insights do various sources provide about the people, economies, and societies shaped by the Transatlantic Slave Trade?
LESSON 12	K:
	W:
	How did Indigenous people show agency in resisting Spanish control and protecting their culture?
LESSON 13	K:
	W:



Topic 4: Power & Exploitation Compelling Question

How did Spanish exploitation of Indigenous peoples and Africans reshape societies and how did communities assert agency in their resistance?

[CER Paragraph to be written at conclusion of week.]		



Essential Question

How did the arrival of Europeans affect Indigenous
American populations and how did Indigenous populations
exhibit agency within the resulting intercultural
interactions?

[CER Paragraph to be written at conclusion of week.]		

