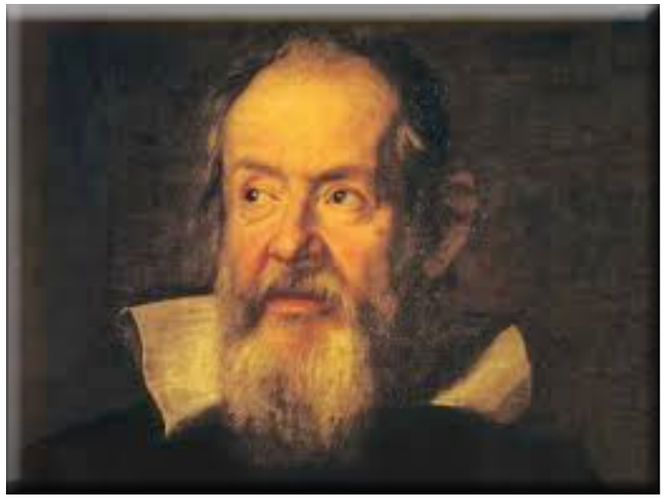
Social Sciences

HISTORY Learner's Book • Grade 6 Term 2



Explorers from Europe find Southern Africa

The term 'Renaissance' means 'rebirth' and it is the period in European civilization immediately following the Middle Ages. Historians have never been able to decide when the exact period began. Some state its beginning in the 12th century, others say it was the 14th century. What we do know is that a Renaissance did indeed occur.

It started in Italy after a heightened interest in classical learning and values. It was a historical era with distinctive themes in learning, politics, literature, art, religion, social life and music. The changes from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance were momentous. During the Renaissance, new continents were discovered as well as inventions such as paper, gunpowder and the magnetic compass.

There were great breakthroughs in anatomy, medicine, astronomy and mathematics. The printing press was invented and books became available to people for the first time. It was also a time of world exploration and the beginning of modern science. Nicolaus Copernicus determined that the earth revolved around the sun. Many explorers sailed the seas in search of trade routes to the Far East. Christopher Columbus crossed the Atlantic to land in America. Vasco da Gama sailed around Africa and reached India.

The Southern African Society was at the height of its power at the same time that the European Renaissance occurred. Europeans were interested in Africa, although they knew little about it.

The significant intellectual movement of the Renaissance was 'humanism'. It was based on the belief that the literary, scientific, and philosophical works of ancient Greece and Rome gave the best guides for learning and living. Humanism was based on grammar, rhetoric, poetry, history, and moral philosophy studies of the standard ancient authors of Rome and Greece. Humanism became entrenched in society as a new form of education. Humanism brought intellectual unity to Europe.

In this unit, you will investigate the changes in Europe which enabled Europeans to explore other parts of the world and their early exploration of the Southern African coast.

Activity 1: Points to remember

1. What is the meaning of the term "Renaissance?"
2. In which Country did the Renaissance begin?
3. How did the people during the Renaissance period change?
4. What was the name of the term that described the values and ideals of the Renaissance? (1)
5. What happened to cities during the Renaissance?
6. The Renaissance was known for its achievements in art, literature and music. Write a colourful essay not exceeding more than 250 words, describing the life during the Renaissance as an artist. (15)

Total: (25) renaissance-art

In this module you will:

- Understand that the European Renaissance was an important turning point in European history.
- Investigate the reasons for European exploration.
- Investigate how the world changed as people discovered new ideas and gained knowledge about the world.
- Discover how new inventions came about, for example gunpowder, the magnetic compass and the printing press.
- Investigate religion during the Renaissance.
- Explore European trade routes to the East via Southern Africa.
- Investigate the journey of Dias and da Gama.
- Investigate the Dutch East Indian Company (VOC).
- Describe the life of a sailor on a ship.

Reasons for European exploration

- To find sea routes and trading partners.
- To expand knowledge and to control a larger empire.
- To expand religion.
- To find spices, silk, gold, medicines, fur, precious stones and metals.

The spice trade was the world's biggest industry as it led to the discovery of new continents. Spices were protected as they generated immense wealth for those who controlled them. The spice trade began in the Middle East and was run mostly by camel on overland routes. The Silk Road was an important route connecting Asia with the Mediterranean world, including North Africa and Europe. Trade on the Silk Road was a substantial factor in the growth of civilizations of China, India, Egypt, Persia, Arabia and Rome.

In the first century BC, the Roman Empire set up a powerful trading centre in Alexandria, Egypt and controlled the spice trade that entered the Greco-Roman empire. Roman soldiers were paid in salt, a practice that resulted in the word "salary" and the phrase "worth his salt." For many centuries, groups fought for control of the spice trade. Eventually, in the mid-13th century, Venice became the primary trade port for spices destined for western and northern Europe. Venice was located in the Mediterranean Sea among hundreds of tiny islands on the northeast edge of the Italian Peninsula. Its location made it ideal for trade.

Venice became wealthy by charging huge prices, and without direct access to Middle Eastern sources, the European people could do little else but pay the inflated prices they were charged. It was expensive and difficult for European merchants to travel overland to the east. There were many taxes that had to be paid whilst travelling through different countries to get to the east. Hence, the Europeans had to find an alternative way to obtain the spices.

In the 15th century, the spice trade was transformed by the European Age of Discovery. By this time, navigational equipment had improved and so had long-distance sailing. Explorers were encouraged to discover new ways to reach areas where spices were grown. Many voyages resulted in the discovery of new lands and treasures.

Popular spices

Pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and cloves were popular spices. Pepper was used to preserve and flavour meat as refrigeration was not possible. Cloves and cinnamon were used as air freshener. People used nutmeg to improve the flavour of bad tasting food.

Portugal was home to the first explorer that successfully circumnavigated Africa. In 1497 four vessels under the command of Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope, eventually sailing across the Indian Ocean to Calicut, India. This success marked the beginning of the Portuguese Empire. Spanish, English and Dutch expeditions followed soon after and the growing rivalry incited conflicts over control of the spice trade. As the middle class grew during the Renaissance, the popularity of spices rose. Wars over the Indonesian Spice Islands broke out between expanding European nations and continued for about 200 years, between the 15th and 17th centuries.

The Renaissance era saw an explosion in voyages of discovery. European Explorers were predominately from Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and England and were able to set sail farther than they had before in search of new places to do trade due to the demand of imported goods and export of local products. Sailing was a better option as the roads used were of poor quality and the risk of thieves was great. These trading voyages were often paid for by investors.

Famous explorers:

- Portugal – Vasco da Gama, Bartholomeu Dias
- Spain – Vasco Nunez de Balboa, Juan Ponce de Leon
- France – Jacques Cartier, Samuel de Champlain
- England – Sir Francis Drake, Sir Walter Raleigh
- Italy – Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci

Activity 2: Trade Routes

1. Which Country successfully found a sea route to India by circumnavigating Africa? (1)

2. Why do you think there was a need to explore sea routes for trading? (5)

3. Why were spices in demand? (2)

4. Draw a map highlighting the silk and spice trade routes during the Age of Discovery. Research and highlight other trade routes and record goods that were possibly traded along these routes. (12)

Total: (20)

Why was the quest for knowledge important?

The Renaissance was a cultural movement that profoundly affected European intellectual life. People were driven by a desire to acquire new knowledge which resulted in the rise of the individual who sought happiness, achievement and personal fulfilment. By the 16th century, this cultural movement was felt in literature, philosophy, art, music, politics, science, religion and other aspects of intellectual inquiry. The philosophy of humanism resulted in individual expression by some of the greatest European artists of all time including Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. Scholars employed the humanist method of study and searched for realism and human emotion in art. The quest for knowledge, especially in mathematics and experimenting was heightened and a radical style changed in the substance of arts and letter writing. The quest for knowledge brought about the creation of new techniques in art, poetry and architecture. There was a rise in commerce and exploration and the Renaissance was the beginning of a modern day epoch.

artsdome.com

Activity 3: Power Point Presentation

Create an informative Power Point Presentation to present to the class about the Renaissance period and include education reform, arts, music, architecture, inventions and trade.

Total: (30)

Religion

During the Renaissance, the printing press was invented. This allowed new ideas, as well as scriptures of the Bible to be easily printed and distributed. People were able to read the Bible for the first time. The Roman Catholic Church was very powerful and was the only church in Western Europe until other influences started to establish, such as the Holy Roman Empire, the Italian city-states, England and the unified nation states of France and Spain. The Roman Catholic Church began to decline, resulting in the Protestant Reformation and the creation of Protestant churches.

People were keen to take the occasion offered by the Reformation to weaken the power of the Papacy. Martin Luther sparked this Reformation in 1517. He posted his 95 Theses' on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, which were a list of statements that expressed his concerns about certain church practices – largely the sale of indulgences. Martin Luther thought that the selling of indulgences was sinful. He denied in his theses', that indulgences had any power to remit sin. He also criticized the power of the pope and the wealth of the church.

Luther's theses' were meant only for church leaders and were written in Latin, which most people did not understand. By nailing these to the church door, Luther was following a common custom of the time, as church doors served similar functions to community bulletin boards today.

Luther's disagreements with church policy ultimately led him to challenge some of the most fundamental doctrines of the church, which led him and his followers to break away from the Roman Catholic Church in protest; hence they were known as 'Protestants'. Luther started to spread the Protestant religion throughout Europe.

The Reformation had significant political consequences, as it split Europe into Protestant and Roman Catholic countries which often went to war with each other during this period.

Activity 4: Religion in the Renaissance

Research and create a biography on Martin Luther and his 95 Theses'. Highlight his early life, his spiritual enlightenment and his excommunication from the Roman Catholic Church. Include visual representation.

Total: (20)

Leonardo da Vinci

The water you touch in
a river is the last of that which has passed,
and the first of that which is coming.
Thus it is with time present.

Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452 near the small town of Vinci in Northern Italy. His father, Ser Piero, was a 25 year old notary. His mother was a peasant girl by the name of Caterina. Leonardo's parents did not marry and he was raised by his grandparents and uncle.

At 14, after his uncle died, Leonardo was taken to his father in Florence. His father decided it was time for him to learn a trade and showed his drawings to Andrea del Verrochio who hired him as an apprentice. Verrochio was a great sculptor of his time and the official sculptor of the powerful Medici family. His best work was finished in gold and silver.

It was during the Renaissance that artists began to use perspective in their paintings and drawings. Artists began to draw things as they saw them in nature. Leonardo and his fellow artists used mathematics to plot the placement of objects in their paintings and drawings. They used other techniques to show perspective like shading and colours. Leonardo thought it was important for painters to understand how to use mathematics and colour to create a painting, instead of just copying from other artists.

Leonardo lived in an exciting time during the Renaissance. People were rediscovering ideas about philosophy and art from these ancient times. They were also examining new ways of thinking and of expressing themselves. When Leonardo finished his apprenticeship in 1472, he had become the leading artist in Verrocchio's studio. Verrocchio eventually gave up painting altogether after recognising the brilliance of Leonardo. Verrocchio put Leonardo to work on part of a painting that he was working on, 'Baptism of Christ'. He had Leonardo paint one of the angels in this work. When Verrocchio saw the angel that Leonardo painted, he was stunned. It was so beautiful and so much better than his own work that Verrocchio vowed he would never touch a paintbrush again.

In 1481, Verrocchio left Florence for Venice to work on a great statue. Leonardo decided to leave Florence and wrote a letter to the prince of Milan, Ludovico Sforza. In his letter, Leonardo outlined some of his inventions.

***Letter from Leonardo da Vinci* to the Duke of Milan applying for a position**

"Having, most illustrious Lord, seen and considered the experiments of all those who pose as masters in the art of inventing instruments of war, and finding that their inventions differ in no way from those in common use, I am emboldened, without prejudice to anyone, to solicit an appointment of acquainting your Excellency with certain of my secrets.

1. I can construct bridges which are very light and strong and very portable, with which to pursue and defeat the enemy; and others more solid, which resist fire or assault, yet are easily removed and placed in position; and I can also burn and destroy those of the enemy.

2. In case of a siege I can cut off water from the trenches and make pontoons and scaling ladders and other similar contrivances.

3. If by reason of the elevation or the strength of its position a place cannot be bombarded, I can demolish every fortress if its foundations have not been set on stone.

4. I can also make a kind of cannon which is light and easy of transport, with which to hurl small stones like hail, and of which the smoke causes great terror to the enemy, so that they suffer heavy loss and confusion.

5. I can noiselessly construct to any prescribed point subterranean passages either straight or winding, passing if necessary underneath trenches or a river.

6. I can make armoured wagons carrying artillery, which shall break through the most serried ranks of the enemy, and so open a safe passage for his infantry.

7. If occasion should arise, I can construct cannon and mortars and light ordnance in shape both ornamental and useful and different from those in common use.

8. When it is impossible to use cannon I can supply in their stead catapults, mangonels, trabocchi, and other instruments of admirable efficiency not in general use—I short, as the occasion requires I can supply infinite means of attack and defense.

9. And if the fight should take place upon the sea I can construct many engines most suitable either for attack or defense and ships which can resist the fire of the heaviest cannon, and powders or weapons.

10. In time of peace, I believe that I can give you as complete satisfaction as anyone else in the construction of buildings both public and private, and in conducting water from one place to another.

I can further execute sculpture in marble, bronze or clay, also in painting I can do as much as anyone else, whoever he may be.

Moreover, I would undertake the commission of the bronze horse, which shall endue with immortal glory and eternal honour the auspicious memory of your father and of the illustrious house of Sforza.—

And if any of the aforesaid things should seem to anyone impossible or impracticable, I offer myself as ready to make trial of them in your park or in whatever place shall please your Excellency, to whom I commend myself with all possible humility.

Leonardo da Vinci

His application was accepted by Sforza and Leonardo moved to the court of Milan where he stayed until 1499 until Sforza was ousted.

During this time, Leonardo turned his attention toward mathematics and experimentation. He wanted to observe, discover and invent. He studied anatomy and looked for structure when drawing the human figure, animals and plants. Leonardo looked for the mechanism which moved the creature. He invented a flying machine called the 'Orinthopter' and many other inventions which were written in Leonardo's manuscripts. For more examples, see Leonardo's manuscripts: leonardo/manoscritti/

Leonardo fled Milan in 1499. In 1502, he became a military engineer and eventually moved back to Florence where he and a young rival, Michelangelo Buonarroti, were appointed by the city to paint two pictures, neither of which were finished. During the period 1503-1506, Leonardo painted Monna (or Mona) Lisa, believed to be the wife of a well-known Florentine merchant known as Francesco del Giocondo, and thus it became known as "La Gioconda". Leonardo loved the portrait so much so that he always carried it with him. After his death it was given to the King of France.

vinci-for-kids.pdf

The Mona Lisa

Leonardo kept numerous notebooks throughout his life, for example, the Codex Leicester. These notebooks had to be viewed in a mirror as the handwriting was written backwards. He wrote on each page "Tell me if anything at all was done".

Leonardo believed that every individual had unlimited potential and required a proper environment in which to discover themselves. He discovered that nature speaks to man in detail and through detail and structure, one could uncover nature's grand design, an ideal which would eventually become associated with the Scientific Revolution to come.

After his death in 1519, he left fewer than twenty paintings and 5000 pages of notes and drawings which remained unnoticed until the 18th century when they were discovered. His way of painting had eternal influence.

Activity 5: The Mona Lisa

Study the Mona Lisa painting.

1. Why do you think Leonardo was so attached to this particular work of art?
2. Why do you think the lady was dressed in dark clothing?
3. Where did the painting take place?
4. What do you think Leonardo was trying to portray in the painting?
5. What do you think Leonardo was feeling at the time?
6. Make up your own poem about the Mona Lisa using the questions above to inspire your imagination of what it must have been like to be an artist during the Renaissance.

Total: (12)

Leonardo da Vinci – Time line

leonardo-da-vinci-40396

1452	Leonardo is born on 15 April in the village of Anchiano, near the town of Vinci.
1467	At age 15 Leonardo is sent to Florence to work as apprentice to Andrea De Verrocchio who was an Italian sculptor, goldsmith and painter and master of an important workshop in Florence.
1472	20 year-old Leonardo is accepted into the Painters' Guild of Florence.
1478	*The Annunciation* is painted. The work, thought to be painted by da Vinci, is now believed to have been painted by Lorenzo di Credi.
1481	Leonardo begins work on *The Adoration of the Magi*, an altarpiece for the Monastery of San Donato at Scopeto.
1482	Leonardo moves to Milan to work in the service of the city's duke, Lodovico Sforza. He gains the title of 'Painter and Engineer of the Duke'.
1483	Leonardo paints *Virgin of the Rocks*.
1485	Leonardo paints *Lady with an Ermine*.
1495	Leonardo begins work on *The Last Supper* in the refectory of the convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan.
1498	*The Last Supper* is completed.
1499	With Duke Ludovico Sforza'a fall from power, da Vinci leaves Milan and spends a short time in Venice.
1500	Leonardo begins painting the *Virgin and Child with Saint Anne*, a project that he only finishes after 10 years.
1500	Leonardo returns to Florence.
1502	Leonardo begins work as senior military architect and general engineer for Cesare Borgia, son of Pope Alexander VI.
1503	Leonardo is commissioned to paint the Mona Lisa.
1519	May 2, Leonardo dies in France.

Galileo Galilei – Time line

galileo-9305220

February 18, 1564: Birth of Galileo Galilei in the Tuscan city of Pisa.

1574: Galilei family moves to Florence.

Summer 1581: Galileo enrols in the University of Pisa to pursue a degree in medicine.

1585: Galileo leaves the University of Pisa without having obtained a degree.

Summer 1589: Galileo hired as a lecturer in mathematics at the University of Pisa.

1589-1592: Galileo teaches in Pisa, and reportedly makes his famous velocity experiment, dropping objects off the leaning tower to disprove Aristotle's theory that heavier objects fall faster than lighter ones.

1591: Death of Vincenzo Galilei, Galileo's father.

Autumn 1592: Galileo takes post at the University of Padua.

1600: Galileo's first daughter, Virginia, born in Padua.

1601: Galileo's second daughter born.

1604: Appearance of Kepler's Nova in the sky; Galileo debates its significance with conservative scholars.

1606: Birth of Galileo's third child, a son.

Summer 1609: News of the invention of the telescope reaches Italy; Galileo develops his own device in August.

Autumn 1609: Galileo makes his first observations using his telescope, discovers uneven surface of the moon.

January 1610: Galileo discovers four moons orbiting Jupiter.

March 1610: Publication of Sidereus Nuncius, dedicated to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Cosimo II.

June 1610: Galileo leaves Padua to take a new, more lucrative position in Tuscany.

Spring 1611: Galileo travels to Rome, where he is cordially received by the Jesuit astronomers and Pope Paul V.

December 1614: Father Tommasso Caccini attacks Galileo in sermon in Florence, and later denounces him to the Inquisition.

December 1615: Galileo goes to Rome.

March 1615: Papal commission issues edict against Copernican theory; Cardinal Bellarmine orders Galileo to cease in his support of heliocentricity.

June 1615: Galileo leaves Rome.

September 1621: Death of Cardinal Bellarmine.

June 1623: Urban VIII becomes Pope; Galileo visits him in Rome.

October 1623: Galileo's treatise on comets, 'The Assayer', is published with Pope Urban VIII's blessing.

1624-1629: Galileo works on his Dialogue Concerning the 'Two Chief World Systems' from his home outside Florence.

February 1632: Dialogue Concerning the 'Two Chief World Systems' is published in Florence, with tentative Papal approval.

August 1632: Inquisition bans further printing of the Dialogue.

September 23, 1632: Galileo summoned to Rome.

February 13, 1633: Galileo arrives in Rome.

April 12, 1633: Galileo interrogated for the first time. Afterwards, he is imprisoned in the Vatican for three weeks.

April 30, 1633: Galileo interrogated again and allowed to return to the home of the Tuscan ambassador.

May 10, 1633: Third interrogation; Galileo begs for mercy.

June 21, 1633: Final interrogation. The following day, Galileo is officially charged with heresy; he is forced to confess his errors, renounce the Copernican system, and accept the Church's judgment. He is sentenced to imprisonment "for a period determinable at our pleasure."

December 1633: Galileo is allowed to return to the village of Arcetri, outside Florence, where he lives under house arrest.

April 2, 1634: Death of Virginia, now Sister Maria Celeste.

1637: Galileo's eyesight begins to fail.

1638: Galileo's Dialogues Concerning 'Two New Sciences' is published in Holland. John Milton visits Galileo in Arcetri.

January 8, 1642: Death of Galileo.

Activity 6: Oral presentation

Prepare a short oral about the life of Galileo and his contributions to History. Conduct additional research so that your speech contains extra interesting information other than that presented in the time line. Use a mind map to highlight important information and expand this information into a short biography about Galileo in your class workbook. Present your oral to the class.
galileo-galilei

Total: (15)

New ideas and knowledge

Gunpowder was the first chemical explosive and the only one known until other inventions such as nitroglycerin. The invention of gunpowder is usually attributed to Chinese alchemy, and is popularly listed as one of the "Four Great Inventions" of China. Although the development of effective artillery took place during the 15th century, firearms came to dominate Early Modern warfare in Europe in the 17th century.
One theory of how gunpowder came to Europe is that it made its way along the Silk Road through the Middle East.
gunpowder-changed-world.html

Magnetic compass

The magnetic compass was invented in the 12th century. The compass and the quadrant were the tools of choice used by European sailors during the Renaissance. The compass had been discovered in China and improved upon during the Renaissance and it assisted explorers by indicating which direction they were travelling in.
the-magnetic-compass

Chinese Compass

Renaissance Compass

Printing Press

Johannes Gutenberg (c.1398-1468), a former stonecutter and goldsmith, was the first man to demonstrate the practicability of movable type techniques of printing with metal. In 1452 he printed two hundred copies of the two-volume Gutenberg Bible on vellum. In spite of his efforts to keep his technique a secret, the printing press spread rapidly. Before 1500, some 2500 European cities had acquired presses. The printing press enabled an increase in book production to make information available to the population. Libraries could now store greater quantities of information at much lower cost. The printing press started an "information revolution" similar to what the Internet provides for us today.

Caravel

A caravel was a small, easily maneuverable sailing ship developed in the 15th century by the Portuguese. The Portuguese used the ship to explore the West African coast and venture into the Atlantic Ocean. A caravel had lateen sails which gave it speed and the capacity for sailing into the wind. Caravels were used by the Portuguese for voyages during the 15th and 16th centuries.
caravela/htmls/

Activity 7: Inventions

Imagine you were living in the time of the Renaissance. Invent a device which could assist explorers during this time. Name, draw and label your invention. In a paragraph, describe how your invention can be used.

Total: (10)

Trade and making a profit

When the Portuguese began to explore the west coast of Africa, they began trading in gold and slaves in competition with the inland trans-Saharan trade routes. A number of companies were formed in Europe to expand trade with the East. These were formed by merchant adventurers who travelled to the East after the discovery of the Cape sea route. European explorers discovered spices, silks, and other commodities that were rare in Europe. European countries undertook voyages and discovered new trade routes which allowed them to become wealthy and powerful. Some explorers found new land where colonies could be established and crops such as sugar, cotton, and tobacco could be grown.
timeline/timeline.html

Dias and da Gama

Portugal and Spain became the early leaders in the Age of Exploration. The Treaty of Tordesillas, decreed that the countries agreed to divide up the New World. Spain got most of the Americas whilst Portugal got Brazil, India, and Asia. Bartolomeu Dias was a Portuguese explorer and the first European to sail around Africa's Cape of Good Hope. Vasco da Gama found a trade route around the southern tip of Africa to India.

The journey of Dias

Bartolomeu Dias was a Portuguese explorer and the first European to sail around Africa's Cape of Good Hope. King John (João) II appointed him on 10 October, 1486, as the head of an expedition which was to sail around the southern end of Africa to find the country of the Christian King known as Prester John.
In 1487, the expedition began and three ships set sail south along the West coast of Africa. Extra provisions were picked up on the way at the Portuguese fortress of São Jorge de Mina on the Gold Coast. After having sailed past Angola, Dias reached the Golfo da Conceicão (Walvis Bay) by December. Having rounded the Cape of Good Hope at a considerable distance, Dias continued east and entered what is now known as Mossel Bay – on 3 February 1488, Dias and his crew encountered the Khoikhoi people in Mossel Bay and attempted to trade with them. Dias's expedition reached its furthest point on 12 March 1488 when they anchored at Kwaaihoek, near the mouth of the Bushman's River, where a padrão – the Padrão de São Gregório – was erected before turning back.

bartholomeu-dias
portuguese-navigator-bartholomew-dias

The journey of da Gama

Vasco da Gama (1460-1524) was a Portuguese explorer who discovered the sea route to the East Indies.

- Da Gama was born to a noble family in Sines, Portugal. Da Gama's father Estavao was also an explorer. He was to have made the sea voyage from Portugal to India that eventually made his son famous, but he died before completing the journey.
- Vasco da Gama sailed from Lisbon, Portugal, on July 8, 1497, heading to the East. People thought that this trip would be impossible as it was assumed that the Indian Ocean was not connected to any other seas. Da Gama's patron was King Manuel I of Portugal.
- Da Gama rounded Africa's Cape of Good Hope on 22 November 1497, and continued on to India. After many stops in Africa, and experiencing problems with traders who did not want interference in their profitable trade routes, da Gama reached Calicut, India on 20 May1498.
- Initially, da Gama and his trading were well received, but this was short lived. Da Gama left India on 29 August 1498, as he was told to pay a large tax and leave all of his trading goods behind. Da Gama took his goods with him, together with Indian hostages.
- Da Gama returned to Lisbon, Portugal, in September 1499. Many crew members died from scurvy (a disease caused by a lack of Vitamin C). Upon his return, da Gama was treated as a hero and was rewarded by the king.
- King Manuel I of Portugal then sent da Gama, now an Admiral, on another expedition to India (1502-1503). On this second trip, da Gama took 20 armed ships as he anticipated problems from traders. On this voyage, da Gama killed hundreds of traders, often brutally, in order to demonstrate his power.
- After King Manuel's death, King John III sent da Gama to India as a Portuguese viceroy (the King's representative in India). Vasco da Gama died in India on 24 December 1524. His remains were returned to Portugal for burial.

vasco-da-gamas-voyage-discovery-1497

Activity 8: Write an account entitled "My Journey as an explorer"

Write an account about your journey by sea, entitled "My journey as an explorer". Include the sea routes chosen to travel and why, life on board the ship and trading that took place whilst on your journey. Total: (15)

VOC – Dutch East India Company

The Dutch East India Company was established in 1602 and monopolized the sea route to the east for 21 years. Having been set up in 1602, to profit from the Malukan spice trade, in 1619 the VOC established a capital in the port city of Batavia.In 1652, Jan van Riebeeck established an outpost at the Cape of Good Hope (the south western tip

of Africa) to re-supply VOC ships on their journey to East Asia. This post later became a self-sufficient colony, known as the Cape Colony when more Dutch and other Europeans started to settle there.

By 1669, the VOC was the richest private company in the world, with over 150 merchant ships, 40 warships, 50 000 employees and a private army of 10,000 soldiers.
Weighed down by corruption in the late 18th century, the Company went bankrupt and was formally dissolved in 1800.

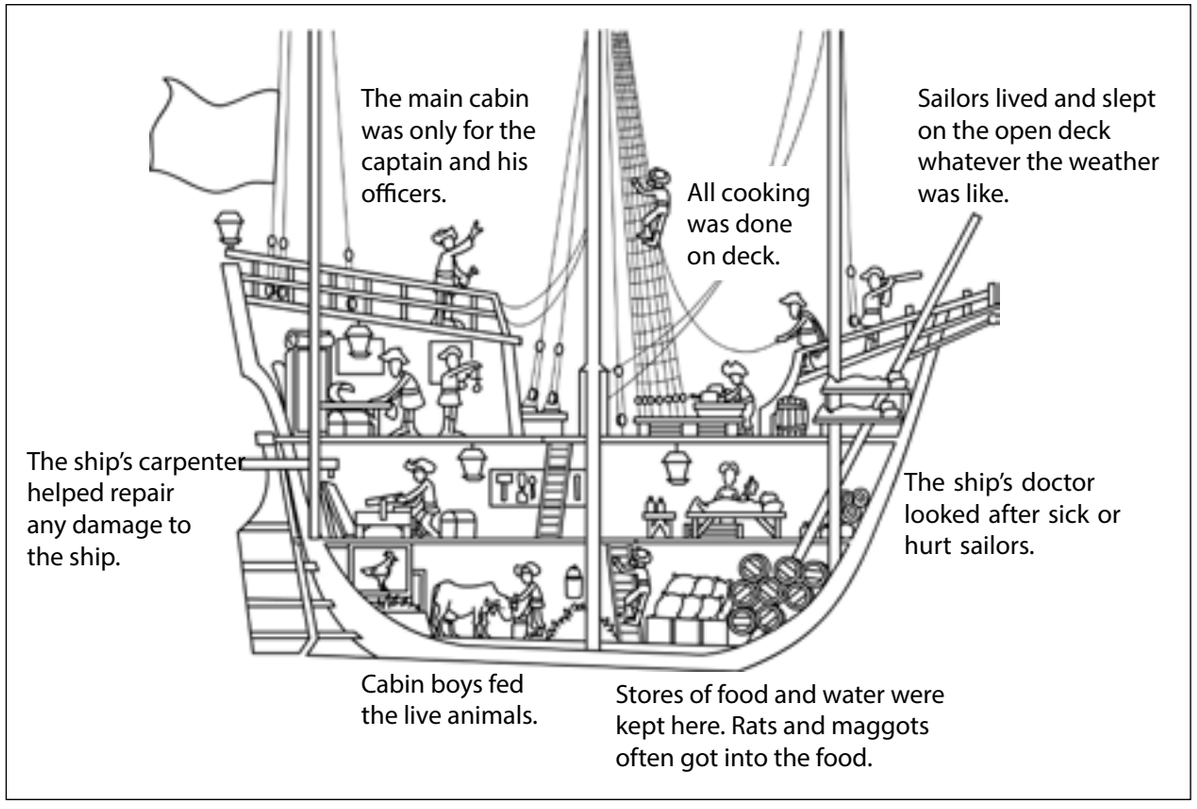
dutch-east-india-company-deicvoc

The life of a sailor on a VOC ship

Sailors had much to endure on board a ship. Cut off from normal life on shore for long periods of time, they had to accept cramped conditions, diseases like scurvy, which is caused from a lack of Vitamin C, poor food and bad healthcare. They also faced the daily dangers of sea and weather. The crew often worked through the night, without rest. Disobedience brought about punishment. Beatings and floggings were common and mutineers were put to death.

Activity 9: Life on board a ship

Use the diagram below to answer the questions that follow. Answer the questions in your class workbook.



1) There were various jobs that had to be done on a ship whilst on a voyage. Name these jobs. (5)
2) Name the disease that is caused from a lack of Vitamin C. (1)
2) Why were live animals kept aboard the ship? (2)
3) Describe the term 'mutineer'. Why was the punishment for being a mutineer so harsh? (2)

Total: (10)

Activity 10: Create a mind map

Create a mind map highlighting important information about the journey of Dias or da Gama. Use the mind map information to present a detailed biography about the explorer to the class.

Total: (20)