

# AGE OF DISCOVERIES

+10'



SOCIAL STUDIES

5th PRIMARY



Spanish

**HISTORY  
MUSEUM**



# AGE OF DISCOVERIES

## AGE OF DISCOVERY

The Age of Discovery or Age of Exploration was a period from the early 15th century that continued into the early 17th century, during which European ships traveled around the world to search for new trading routes and partners.

They were in search of trading goods such as gold, silver and spices. In the process, Europeans met peoples and mapped lands previously unknown to them.



**PONCE DE LEÓN**

Occupation: Explorer

Born: c. 1474 in Santervas de Campos, Castile (Spain)

Died: July 1521 in Havana, Cuba

Best known for: Exploring Florida and searching for the Fountain of Youth

While on a quest for gold, Juan Ponce de León founded the oldest settlement in Puerto Rico and landed on the mainland of North America, a region he dubbed "Florida."



Legend has it that Ponce de Leon was searching Florida for the "Fountain of Youth." This magical fountain was supposed to make anyone who drank from it young again. However, there is little evidence that this was an actual goal of the expedition. The fountain was not mentioned in any of Ponce de Leon's writings and only became associated with the expedition after his death.



**PONCE DE LEÓN**



Occupation: Explorer

Born: 1480 in Portugal

Died: April 27, 1521 in Cebu, Philippines

Best known for: First to circumnavigate the globe

**FERDINAND MAGELLAN  
AND  
JUAN SEBASTIAN ELCANO**

While in the service of Spain, the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan (the portuguese didn't want to pay for the journey), and the Spanish Juan Sebastián Elcano led the first European voyage of discovery to circumnavigate the globe.

In 1519, the journey started with 237 sailors and 5 ships, and first sailed across the Atlantic and to the Canary Islands. From there they sailed south to Brazil and the coast of South America. Then the ships headed to the Philippines and Magellan became involved in an argument between local tribes. He and around 40 of his men were killed in a battle.

Only one of the original five ships made it back to Spain. It was the Victoria captained by Juan Sebastian del Cano. It returned in September of 1522, three years after first leaving. There were only 18 surviving sailors, but they had made the first trip around the world.

### MAGELLAN and ELCANO'S ROUTE



## MAGELLAN'S CIRCUMNAVIGATION



## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Occupation: Explorer

Born: 1451 in Genoa, Italy

Died: May 20, 1506

Best known for: Discovering America

Christopher Columbus is the explorer who is credited for discovering America. Of course, there were already people living in America at the time who we call Native Americans. There even was a European, Leif Ericsson, who had been to the America's before. However, it was Columbus' voyage that started the exploration and colonization of the Americas.

Columbus spent years trying to convince someone to pay for his voyage. He first tried to get King John II of Portugal to pay for his journey, but the King was not interested. Finally, he was able to convince Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain to pay for the trip. He set sail on August 3, 1492 with three ships named the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria. On October 12, 1492 land was spotted.



## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS



## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' MAIDEN JOURNEY - 1492

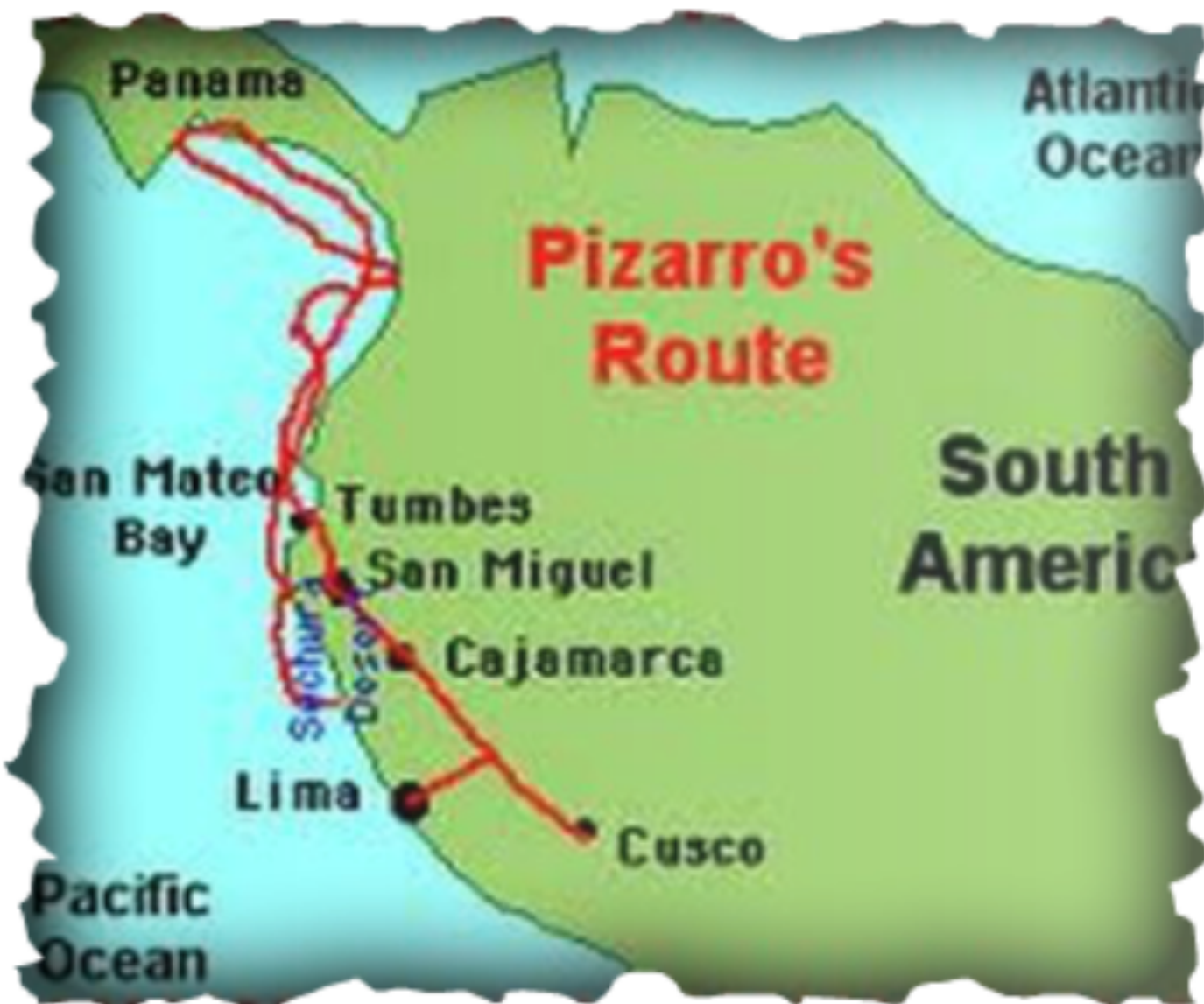
Occupation: Conquistador and Explorer  
Born: Around 1474 in Trujillo, Spain  
Died: June 26, 1541 in Lima, Peru  
Best known for: Conquering the Inca Empire

## FRANCISCO PIZARRO

Spanish explorer and conquistador Francisco Pizarro helped Vasco Núñez de Balboa discover the Pacific Ocean, and after conquering Peru, founded its capital city, Lima.

In 1513, Pizarro joined conquistador Vasco Núñez de Balboa in his march to the "South Sea," across the Isthmus of Panama. During their journey, Balboa and Pizarro discovered what is now known as the Pacific Ocean,

In 1532, accompanied by his brothers, Pizarro overthrew the Inca leader Atahualpa and conquered Peru. Three years later, he founded the new capital city of Lima.



## PIZARRO'S ROUTE



## HERNAN CORTÉS

Occupation: Conquistador and Explorer

Born: 1485 in Medellin, Castile, Spain

Died: December 2, 1547 in Castilleja de la Cuesta, Castile, Spain

Best known for: Conquering the Aztec Empire

Hernán Cortés, marqués del Valle de Oaxaca, was a Spanish conquistador who overthrew the Aztec empire and won Mexico for the crown of Spain.

In 1518, Cortés was to command his own expedition to Mexico, but it was canceled. Cortés ignored the order and set sail for Mexico with more than 500 men and 11 ships. In February 1519, the expedition reached the Mexican coast. Cortés returned again in 1521, and conquered the Aztec Empire and King Charles I of Spain (also known as Charles V) appointed him the governor of New Spain the following year.



## CORTES ROUTE

