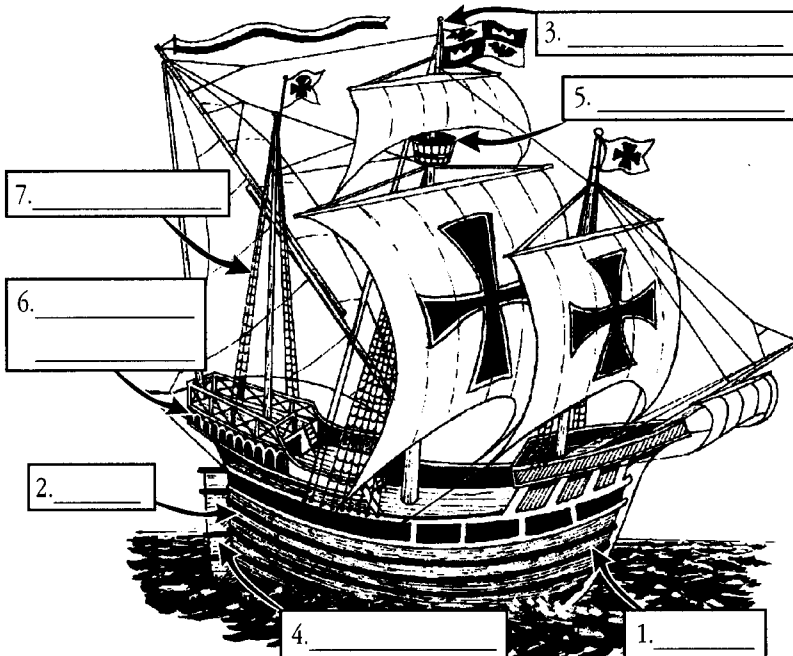


COLUMBUS'S FIRST VOYAGE TO THE NEW WORLD

The instructional materials on this page can provide interesting "side lights" on Columbus and his explorations. It is suggested that the graphic materials be put on a transparency; then, the printed information may be used to make the transparency meaningful.



Ships Used on the First Voyage

There were three ships: *Niña*, *Pinta*, *Santa Maria*. The *Santa Maria* was the flagship on which Columbus sailed. While sailing through the islands, the *Santa Maria* was wrecked, but Columbus and his men escaped to the *Niña*. . . A sailing ship of the type Columbus used is shown at left; the parts are as follows: 1 - Bow, 2 - Stern, 3 - Main Mast, 4 - Rudder, 5 - Crow's Nest, 6 - Captain's Quarters, 7 - Rigging. . . The *Santa Maria* was about 90' long; the *Niña*, the smallest boat, was about 70' long (by way of comparison, a modern cruise ship can be up to 1,000' long). . . Columbus's ships averaged about 4 mph on the first crossing; a ship such as the U.S.S. *United States* can average 35 mph on a crossing. . . The duties of the sailors were to set sails to catch wind, repair sails, bail out water that spilled or leaked into the ship almost constantly, serve as "look-outs," scrub decks.

DATE	EVENT
AUG 3rd, 1492 12th, 1492	- Columbus departs Palos, Spain - Columbus arrives in the Canary Islands
SEP 6th, 1492 16th, 1492	- Columbus departs Canary Islands - Fleet enters Sargasso Sea; sailors frightened that they may be stuck there.
OCT 12th, 1492	- Columbus lands in Bahamas; names island San Salvador
NOV ↓ ↓ ↓	EXPLORING THE ISLANDS
DEC 24th, 1492	- <i>Santa Maria</i> shipwrecked off north coast of Hispaniola
JAN 16th, 1493	- <i>Niña</i> and <i>Pinta</i> begin return trip; great storms met; ships become separated
FEB 15th, 1493	- Columbus lands in Azores Islands; taken prisoner but released
MAR 3rd, 1493 15th, 1493	- <i>Niña</i> reaches Lisbon, Portugal - <i>Niña</i> arrives in Palos; <i>Pinta</i> arrives a few hours later

Chronology of Columbus's First Voyage ***Suggestions for Teaching***

- Point out that the chart on your transparency is a "time line." Time lines list events in chronological order. On some time lines (not this one) the events are spaced proportionately along the line; in a sense, such a time line is a single-line bar graph.
- Some questions that could be asked:
 - How long was the stay in the Canary Islands? (26 days including day of arrival and day of departure)
 - How many days was it from the beginning of the voyage, including the day of departure from Palos, to the day of the landing on San Salvador? *Note:* August has 31 days, September 30. (71 days)
 - Your students can complete their route-of-travel maps by adding dates. Encourage them to print small and carefully and to use the abbreviated way to write dates; e.g., below Palos on the map: 8/3/1492 leave and 3/15/1493 return.