

Exploring the Americas

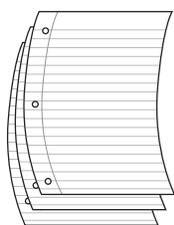
TOPIC SUMMARY

In the 1400s, new technology, including advancements in ship design, opened the way for European global exploration. Spain and Portugal explored the best routes to India. These explorations led to the discovery of the Americas. European explorers conquered Native American empires. To replace Native Americans as a workforce, enslaved Africans were brought to the Americas, and slave labor became an essential part of the colonial economy. During the 1600s, the religious divisions between Catholics and Protestants in Europe crossed the Atlantic to the Americas. Rivalries increased among European nations as they tried to acquire gold and other riches from overseas colonies.

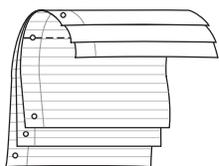
FOLDABLES[™]
Study Organizer

Organizing Information This Foldable will help students organize what they learn about the exploration of the Americas.

Step 1 Place three sheets of paper about 1 inch apart.



Step 2 Fold the paper to form five equal tabs.



Step 3 Staple the sheets and label each tab as shown.



Reading and Writing

List important people, places, and facts under the appropriate tabs of the Foldable.

TOPIC ACTIVITY IDEAS

Presenting

Have students create the Study Foldable above and label it as shown. Have them list details such as people, places, and facts on the appropriate tabs as they read the textbook and search the Internet or library. Then organize the students into groups according to the four labels on their Foldable tabs. Ask each group to choose one of the important events under their assigned tabs and create a dramatic presentation of the event. Give each group an opportunity to present their interpretation of the event to the class.

EXPLAINING

This Foldable will help students learn about the global influence of three major kingdoms of Africa. Students should use library or Internet resources to do their research. Ask students to create a Foldable like the one below. Instruct them to label their tabs African Kingdoms, Ghana, Mali, and Songhai, in that order. Under the tab of each country, have students explain the global influence of that country through its trade of local resources and its culture. Provide an opportunity for students to share their findings.

	<i>African Kingdoms</i>
○	
○	<i>Ghana</i>
○	<i>Mali</i>
○	<i>Songhai</i>

	<i>Spanish Settlements</i>
○	
○	<i>Pueblos</i>
○	<i>Missions</i>
○	<i>Presidios</i>

DESCRIBING

Organize students into three groups, and ask each group to create this Foldable. Assign each group one of the types of Spanish settlements to further research. Students should look for the types of people, buildings, and businesses that typically would be found in each settlement. Have each group create a poster illustrating their findings. Ask each group to explain their work to the class. Display the posters in the classroom.

Student Study Tip

As students read in their textbook, have them create an information bank at the beginning of each lesson of their notes. Students should ask themselves questions about what they think they will learn in each lesson. Then suggest they go back to their information banks after class lectures and discussions to fill in what they learned.