



Family Newsletter for Unit 2

Exploring and Settling the Americas

Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- how trade and exploration led to the conquest and settlement of the Americas
- how the first settlements were founded

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

Talk About It

Chapter 3: Age of Exploration

Taking the land The Europeans arrived in the Americas and believed the land they found belonged to them. Discuss with your child a time when someone took something that belonged to him or her. How did that make your child feel? How was the situation resolved?

Chapter 4: Europeans Settle North America

Religious freedom The Pilgrims and Puritans settled in North America to pursue religious freedom. Talk with your child about a time when he or she was not allowed to do something. How did your child react? What did he or she do to solve the situation?

Make It

A list for a journey Columbus sailed from Europe to what he thought was Asia. Journeys across the oceans often took many months and were difficult. Food became scarce and people often got sick. Plan a long trip. How many days will your trip last? Make a list of what you would bring and why.

Read to Learn More About It

Exploration and Conquest, by Betsy and Giulio Maestro. Illustrated account of European exploration and conquest of the Americas.

A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple, Mayflower 1620, by Kathryn Lasky. Patience writes in her diary about her mother's fatal illness aboard the Mayflower and about her new friends and later contacts with Native Americans at Plimoth Plantation.

Who Really Discovered America? by Stephen Krensky. Examines the many sides of the controversy over who really "discovered" America.



Technology

Check out
www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/
for more information.