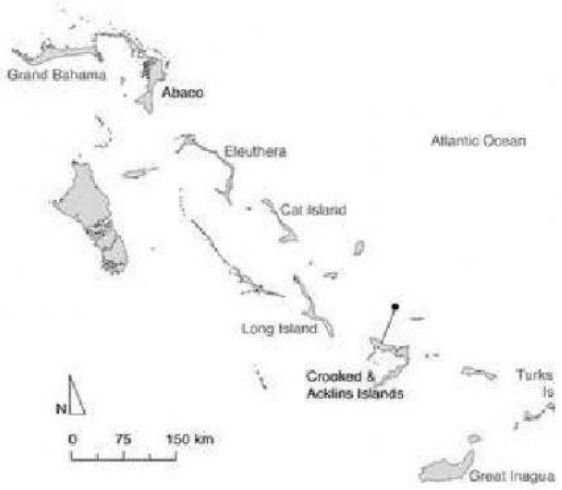
Name:_____ Date:_____

All About Me/ Self Identity

The Bahamas is a country made up of over 700 islands and cays. It is also known as an **archipelago**.



The island of **Eleuthera** can be found east of New Providence on a map. Early settlers who traveled to Eleuthera were known as the **Eleutheran Adventurers**. They came to Eleuthera in **1648** from **Bermuda** with their leader **William Sayles.** They came in search for religious freedom. They held their first church service in Preachers Cave in Governors Harbour. Eleuthera is a **Greek** word meaning **freedom**. The island is known for its delicious pineapples that grow in red soil. **Pineapple Festival** is held every year in the month of July.

Before the Eleutheran Adventures came to the Bahamas, the first group of people to live here was the Arawaks. They called Eleuthera **Cigateo**. They came from **South America**. They painted their faces for **religious reasons**, did not wear much clothing and **flattened** their babies' heads because they believed it made them beautiful. Their houses which were called huts were made out of tree branches. They slept in hammocks and enjoyed eating foods such as fish, fruits, yam, cassava, sweet potatoes and corn. **Fishing**, **farming** and **hunting** were their means of obtaining food. Bahamians today still practice fishing and farming as a way of life. One of the main islands to practice fishing is **Spanish Wells, Eleuthera**. The Lucayans enjoyed their favorite dish called **Pepper Pot Soup** and hunted rodents called **hutia**.

In 1492, **Christopher Columbus** and his men found the Bahamas. This was a long time before the Eleutheran Adventures came in 1648. He and his crew first landed on San Salvador which means **Holy Savior**. The Lucayans called San Salvador **Guanahani**. He had three ships called the **Nina**, **Pinta** and **Santa Maria**. The King and Queen of **Spain** helped him to make this long journey from Europe. Christopher Columbus and his men eventually took the land of the Lucayans and made them slaves. The Bahamian Lucayans eventually were no more.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the notes above and answer the questions below.

1. What is an archipelago?

2. Eleuthera is _____ of New Providence.

3. Which group of settlers were the first to come to The Bahamas?

4. Why did Lucayans flatten the heads of babies?

5. Why did the Eleutheran Adventures come to The Bahamas?

6 How did the Lucayans die out?

7. What is the meaning of the word Eleuthera?

8. What is the meaning of the words San Salvador?

9. Write **TWO** ways in which the Lucayans way of life is similar to the Bahamian way of life today.

10. Write **TWO** ways in which the Lucayans way of life is different from the Bahamian way of life today.

LIVEWORKSHEETS