



Christopher Columbus HIS FIRST TRIP

On 3 August 1492, Christopher Columbus' expedition set sail from Palos de la Frontera. It consisted of the Santa María, the Pinta and the Niña. He decided to stop in the Canary Islands for supplies and to get the trade winds, which would make the voyage much easier.

So, once again on 6 September, the armada set a westerly course. The admiral calculated that the distance to Cipango (Japan) would be about 3000 kilometres, and if it was exceeded, it would be more than 5000 kilometres. Finally, on 12 October 1492, land was finally sighted after five months. It was the island of Guanahaní, which Columbus christened San Salvador. The navigator continued his voyage through the islands of this archipelago: Santa María de la Concepción, Fernandina, Isabela Cuba, and La Española. On 16 January 1493, Columbus ordered the return voyage.

ACTIVITY 1: Calculate the total distance of Columbus' voyage using Google Earth. Then calculate how many days the first trip lasted.



ACTIVITY 2: Calculate the following operations

Today, the unit of measurement at sea is the mile. 1 mile is equivalent to 1852 metres.

- Once you calculate the total distance of Columbus' first voyage to America provided by Google Earth in kilometres, convert it to miles.
- Convert the initial distance from kilometres to miles that Columbus calculated from the Port of Palos to Cipango (Japan).

