



Name _____ Date _____

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Christopher Columbus was a sailor. He lived on the seas. He worked for the queen of Spain. She wanted him to find places that no one knew about. He tried to find ways to get things from place to place by using the water. The queen gave him money to sail his ships. She paid him to find new places. He loved to sail. He loved to study maps.

Life on the sea was hard. Christopher was the captain. Only a few men had rooms to sleep in. The rest had to sleep outside on the decks. It was very cold, and the ship moved a lot.

The water came over the edges of the boat. The sailors sang to pass the time. They did chores. They cleaned the deck, and they prayed. The water went on and on.

Christopher found new places. He found bananas and coffee. He found rice. Christopher shared corn and potatoes with the people he met, and they traded.

Most of all, he loved to be on the water looking for new places.



STORY QUESTIONS

1. What was Christopher?
 - a. a doctor
 - b. a farmer
 - c. a sailor
 - d. a teacher
2. What **compound** word from the text means "to be out in the weather"?
 - a. outfit
 - b. outcome
 - c. outdo
 - d. outside
3. Christopher spent most of his life living on . . .
 - a. Mars.
 - b. land.
 - c. water.