

Name _____



Ocean Trail Riddles

Directions: Read each riddle carefully. Each one describes a famous explorer and their route or discovery during the Age of Exploration. Write the name of the correct explorer in the space after each clue.

1. I set sail from Spain in **1492**, hoping to reach Asia by traveling west. Instead, I found islands across the Atlantic that changed history. Who am I?
2. I led ships around the world, though I did not live to see the journey end. My voyage proved the Earth could be circled by sea. Who am I?
3. I was a Portuguese explorer who sailed around the southern tip of Africa to reach India, opening new routes for trade and spices. Who am I?
4. I explored parts of South America and conquered the **Incan Empire**, claiming its lands for Spain. Who am I?
5. I reached the coast of Mexico and brought down the **Aztec Empire**, helping Spain expand its colonies. Who am I?
6. My early journey around Africa showed sailors there was a way to the Indian Ocean, paving the path for future explorers. Who am I?
7. I claimed land in what is now Canada while searching for a northwest passage to Asia. Who am I?
8. I mapped parts of North America's eastern coast for England and was one of the first to explore near Newfoundland. Who am I?