Name _____

Who Was Christopher Columbus?

Christopher Columbus was an explorer who sailed from Spain in 1492. He wanted to find a faster way to get to Asia by going west across the ocean. Instead of reaching Asia, he landed in a place that is now called the Caribbean. People already lived there, but Columbus thought he had found a new route. He made four trips across the Atlantic Ocean and helped Europeans learn more about the world. Today, Columbus Day is a holiday in some places to remember his journey.

Multiple Choice:

1. Where did Columbus want to go when he started his trip?
   a) Africa   b) Asia
   c) North America   d) Australia

2. What ocean did Columbus cross to reach the Caribbean?
   a) Indian Ocean   b) Pacific Ocean
   c) Arctic Ocean   d) Atlantic Ocean

3. What year did Columbus first set sail from Spain?
   a) 1776   b) 1492
   c) 1620   d) 1402

Short Answer:

4. Why is Columbus Day celebrated in some places?

5. How many trips did Columbus make across the ocean?

6. What part of the world did Columbus land in?

7. What did Columbus think he had found?

8. What country did Columbus sail from?