

Name _____

Explorer Fact Sort Answer Key

People	Places	Dates
Christopher Columbus	Spain	1400s
John Cabot	Americas	1492
Vasco da Gama	Canada	1497
Ferdinand Magellan	India	1498
	Africa	1519
	Portugal	
		1500s

Teacher Notes / Guide

Purpose: This worksheet builds **skimming and scanning fluency** by having students extract **key informational details** and organize them by category. This reinforces pattern recognition and selective reading, which are core skills for academic and test-based reading tasks.

Implementation Tips:

- Time the scanning portion (2-3 minutes) to keep focus on **speed and accuracy**.
- Remind students that **capitalized words** (names, countries, places) and **numbers** are clues when scanning nonfiction.
- After sorting, discuss how details connect, linking explorers to their countries, voyages, and outcomes.

Extension Ideas:

- Have students **color-code** the passage: one color for people, another for places, and a third for dates.
- Encourage them to write a short **summary paragraph** using one detail from each column.