**Age of Exploration (Explorers) Study Guide**

**The standards covered are as follows:**

**Culture**

**SS-05-2.1.1** - Students will identify early cultures (e.g., English, Spanish, French, West African) in the United States and analyze their similarities and differences.

**SS-05-2.3.1** - Students will describe various forms of interactions (compromise, cooperation, conflict) that occurred between diverse groups (e.g., Native Americans, European Explorers, English colonists, British Parliament) in the history of the United States

**Economics**

**SS-05-3.1.1** - Students will describe scarcity and explain how scarcity requires people in different periods in the U.S. (Colonization, Expansion, Twentieth Century to Present) to make economic choices (e.g., use of productive resources- natural, human, capital) and incur opportunity costs

**SS-05-3.2.1** - Students will explain how profits motivated individuals/businesses in the U.S. (Expansion, Industrialization) to take risks in producing goods and services.

**Geography**

**SS-05-4.4.3** - Students will describe how individuals/groups may have different perspectives about the use of land (e.g., farming, industrial, residential, recreational).

**Concepts and Ideas**

* Columbus “discovers” the Americas in 1492 working for Spain and trying to find a faster trade route to the Indies (Asia).  This marks the beginning of the end of Native American culture and the beginning of European colonies in the New World (Americas).
* Columbus was an entrepreneur who explored to make a profit and become famous
* The first encounter between Columbus and Natives happened in October of 1492.  These people were the Taino and they thought the explorers were “sky people” or gods because they had never seen anyone with white skin and colorful clothing.
* The Taino were a welcoming people with a culture of kindness.  Columbus and his men were the exact opposite.
* His discovery set off a wave of exploration of the New World (Americas) by other European countries such as Portugal, France, England and Holland.  All of these countries had GOLD fever and wanted to claim land as quick as possible
* Most European explorers came for the Three G’s - God, Glory and GOLD
* GOLD = $=POWER
* Columbus was an entrepreneur who explored to make a profit and become famous
* Gold is valuable because of Scarcity and the entire concept of Scarcity is what motivated European countries to pay explorers to come to the new world.  Not just for gold but also for land to establish colonies.
* Spanish explorers were famous for using violence (Conflict) as a means to force Native Americans into slavery.
* European explorers brought with them many contagious diseases like the common cold and the chicken pox that killed far more natives than any violence.

**Items to look over from class**

* Explorers graph (You don't have to know each explorer by name just make sure that you are looking for similarities between the country each explorer was from and their impact)
* Explorers Vocabulary Sheet
* Any notes from class
* Think about the first lesson where I used hidden chocolate as a way to create scarcity and make groups go “crazy”.  This is exactly what happened after Columbus discovered the Americas and word got back to the rest of Europe.
* Checkout the link on  my website to the video on “Encounter” by Jane Yolen and watch it
* Exit Slips (these will be used for the two short answer questions on the test)

***The test itself will be 18 multiple choice questions and two short answer questions***