



Topic: Great Explorers

Year: 2

Term: 5

Background Information

- Neil Armstrong was a significant explorer as he was the first man to walk on the Moon.
- Italy and Spain are countries in Europe.
- In the fifteenth century, people in Europe didn't know that North and South America existed.
- The four key parts of plants are the roots, stem, flower and leaf. Trees have a trunk instead of a stem.
- Plants are living things.

Diagrams / Timelines / Photos



Christopher Columbus



Matisse's *The Snail* (1953)



Christopher Columbus and his men would have sailed in ships like these.

Interesting facts

- Christopher Columbus was born in 1451 in Genoa, which is now part of Italy.
- He was a sailor who travelled all over Europe.
- Columbus wanted to find a new way to sail to India.
- India was important because people wanted to buy spices and fabrics from there.
- The King and Queen of Spain paid for his journey.
- He set sail from Spain in August 1492.
- His boat was named 'Santa Maria'.
- He made landfall in the Americas on 12th October 1492.
- He visited what is now the Bahamas, Cuba and Hispaniola (Dominican Republic and Haiti).
- He returned to Spain in 1493.
- In Spanish, his name is Cristóbel Colón.
- He visited the Americas three more times, each paid for by Spain.
- However, he still believed that he had reached Asia, rather than what we now know as America.
- To remember Columbus' journey, people often use this rhyme: "In fourteen hundred and ninety two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue."
- The country Colombia is named after him, and the name 'Columbia' is used in the USA to remember him.
- Columbus' first visit to the Americas took place 174 years before the Great Fire of London, or just over 500 years ago from today.
- Plants need air, water and light to grow healthily.
- Bulbs and seeds will both grow into plants or trees over time.
- Henri Matisse was a French artist.
- He painted and used collage in his work.
- One of his most famous collages is called *The Snail*.

Key Vocabulary

The Americas	Used in the past to mean both North America and South America.
Atlantic Ocean	The large body of water between the continents of Africa and Europe in the East, and North America and South America in the West.
bulb	Something you plant which will grow. These can grow year after year, e.g. tulip or daffodil bulb.
collage	A work of art made by gluing pieces of different materials to a flat surface
explorer	Someone who visits a place to find out more about it.
famous	Someone or something that is well known.
India	A large country in the continent of Asia.
navigation	Making sure something is going in the right direction.
past	Time gone by. A time that has already happened.
sailor	Someone who sails on the seas, and usually works on board a ship or boat.
seed	Something you plant, which will grow and become a new plant, e.g. a sunflower seed.
ship	A large boat which sails across seas and oceans.
soil	Usually brown coloured, seeds are often planted in soil to help them grow, and to absorb water and other things needed to grow.
spices	Something which has a strong, pleasant smell and is used to flavour food.

Know how to / Activity

- Plant some seeds and watch them grow.
- Find Italy, Spain and some of the places Columbus visited on a map.
- Use coloured paper to make a collage of an animal of your choice.