

Mel Fisher Maritime Museum

PRESENTS THE POP UP MUSEUM
for Florida Schools

WHEN SPAIN CAME TO FLORIDA



EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES BOOKLET

Mel Fisher Maritime Museum

When Spain Came to Florida

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES BOOKLET



This project is sponsored in part by the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and the State of Florida.

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WHAT'S OUR HISTORY?

The Spanish Empire is a big part of Florida's story, but it's often overlooked.



Map of the Spanish Empire at its height (about 1720).
Cartographer, Nagibain. Wikimedia Commons.



Christopher Columbus and his Spanish Crew
Making their First Landfall in the Americas in
1492. Artist, Theodore de Bry. 1590.
Engraving from *Americae partes*. Alamy.

In the spring of 1513, Juan Ponce de León led Spain's first official expedition to Florida. Later, other Spanish explorers, conquistadors, and settlers attempted to tame Florida. It was not until 1565, under King Philip II, that Spain established a successful colony. Today, this settlement, now known as St. Augustine, is the oldest city in the United States.

Long before the American Revolutionary War started in 1775, Spain had claimed areas that are now part of the US. Between 1500 and 1750, the Spanish Empire stretched from the southern tip of South America to Oregon. In North America, this included states such as Florida, California, Montana, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. It also ranged from the Caribbean to the Philippines.



King Phillip II of Spain.
Artist, Sofonisba Anguissola.
1573. Oil painting
Wikimedia Commons.

Spain did not transfer Florida to the US until 1821. When they did, some Spanish settlers moved to Mexico and Cuba. However, many families stayed, and their descendants still live here today. More recently, people from other former Spanish colonies have immigrated to Florida. Spanish influence is seen across the state in our architecture, food, language, and arts.



Magellan's ship Victoria. Artist unknown. Woodcut. Alamy.

1565

St. Augustine becomes the first Spanish colony in what is now the US

1763

The Treaty of Paris awards Florida to the British

1783

A second Treaty of Paris returns East and West Florida to Spanish control

1810

West Florida settlers claim independence from Spain

1821

Spain trades Florida to the US under the terms of the Treaty of Adams-Onís

What's Our History?

Read the panel *What's Our History?* to find the answers to the questions below.

1. In what year did Ponce de Leon lead the first Spanish expedition to Florida?

- 1492 1513 1565 1776

2. What is the oldest city in the modern United States of America?

- Miami New York City Boston St. Augustine

3. What is the most commonly spoken first language in the world?

- Spanish Mandarin English French German

4. Who gave Florida to the United States of America in 1821?

- The Spanish The French The British The Tequesta

5. For how many years did England control Florida?

- 5 10 20 50 100

6. Which treaty returned Florida to Spanish control?

- 1763 Treaty of Paris 1783 Treaty of Paris Adams-Onis Treaty

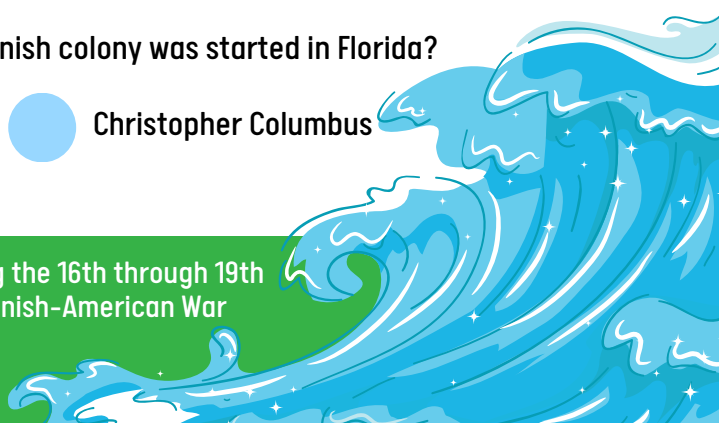
7. In what year did the American Revolutionary War start?

- 1565 1763 1775 1776 1821

8. Who was the Spanish king when the first successful Spanish colony was started in Florida?

- Juan Ponce de Leon Philip II Christopher Columbus

There were at least 24 different Treaties of Paris signed during the 16th through 19th centuries. One signed in 1898 resulted in the end of the Spanish-American War between Spain and the United States.



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WHAT'S FOR DINNER?



Native Americans learned to use horses to hunt bison.
Artist, George Catlin. 1844. Wikimedia Commons.

Did you ever eat a burrito? Do you like spaghetti with tomato sauce? Do you love chocolate or peanuts? Florida grows many crops that Indigenous people farmed and others that Europeans brought with them. Cocoa, pineapples, and tomatoes are from the Americas. Bananas, mangoes, and citrus fruits grow from plants introduced by European sailors. In other parts of the United States, Europeans

successfully planted onions, wheat, rice, apples, peaches, and pears. They also learned to enjoy native pumpkins, potatoes, and sweet corn.

Spanish galleons, such as those led by Ponce de León and Hernando de Soto, carried live cattle,



The jawbone of a cow from the *Santa Margarita*.
Photographer, Dylan Kibler.
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

sheep, and pigs for fresh meat during the long voyages. By the time

Europeans arrived, horses were already extinct in the Americas. The Spanish brought Old World horses with them on their ships. Once ashore, the Spanish let the animals go, hoping they would survive and establish herds. They planned to catch them later when needed. Indigenous people quickly saw this as an opportunity. They kept pigs and cattle for food and tamed the wild horses for travel, hunting, and warfare.



Seminole cowboy Big Charlie Osceola on a cow pony at the Brighton Indian Reservation, 1949. Photographer, Joseph Janney Steinmetz. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.

Unfortunately, the unexpected result of bringing these animals to Florida is the damage done by their wild descendants. Wild hogs, for example, have no natural predators, and their numbers have grown dramatically. They destroy our native plant and animal populations, and damage crops.



Silver stirrup from the *Nuestra Señora de Atocha*. Photographer, Dylan Kibler.
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.



Feral hogs in Glades County, Florida.
Photographer, Lovett E. Williams. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.

500

Indigenous people farm corn, beans, and squash in Florida

1493

Christopher Columbus brings sugar cane to the Caribbean

1526

William Strickland brings North American turkeys to England

1565

Pedro Menéndez brings orange trees from Spain to St. Augustine

1833

Florida is the first US state to farm mangoes

What's for Dinner?

Read the Pop Up Museum panel *What's for Dinner?* to discover which familiar fruits and vegetables are native to the Americas and which ones were imported to the New World.



Tomato

Draw a line from each fruit that is **native (indigenous)** to the Americas to the **green** box.



Pear

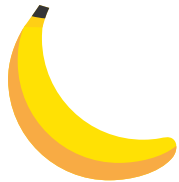
Draw a line from each fruit that is **non-native (introduced)** to the Americas to the **blue** box.



Corn



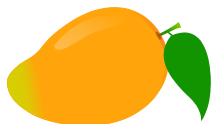
Pumpkin



Banana



Citrus



Mango



Apple



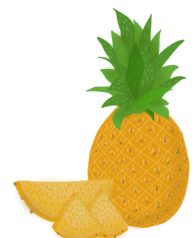
Wheat



Onion




Peach



Pineapple

BONUS:

Put a heart  around any of your **favorite** foods.

Put an **X** through any foods you **dislike**.

Check out your classmates' answers. What do you have in common?

The official Florida state tree, the sabal palm, is actually a grass and not a tree!
It is a Florida native species, however, unlike our state flower and fruit.
Do you know what they are?



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A SECRET WEAPON?



*Mortal Sickness among the Indians. Artist unknown. 1850.
Illustration. Historical, Poetical, and Pictorial American Scenes. Alamy.*

In the Spanish colonies, Indigenous people fought hard to keep their lands, but the Europeans had a weapon they did not fully understand—contagious diseases.

Ships bringing European people also brought their germs, including influenza, tuberculosis, measles, and smallpox. Indigenous people had never been exposed to these diseases and had no immunity to them. Their rulers, who

were often among the first to meet the Europeans, usually died first. Without leaders, they were too disorganized to fight Spanish invaders successfully.



*Hairless and coated Xoloitzcuintli.
Photographer, Amanda L. Dellario.
Wikimedia Commons.*

The Tequesta people, who lived on Florida's southeast coast for 2,000 years before the arrival of the Spanish, had almost all died due to disease by 1750. Millions of the Calusa and the Caribs who lived in Florida and the Caribbean also died, leaving towns, villages, and whole islands empty.

Spanish colonists had expected to use Native Americans either as free workers or slaves, but so many native people died that the king of Spain encouraged the colonists to import enslaved Africans to do the work instead. This time, the ships brought African diseases to which European sailors and Africans were often immune, but Indigenous people were not—many more died.

Indigenous people who live in isolated areas of countries such as Brazil, still face danger and even death from these diseases.



*Indigenous activist Davi Kopenawa, one of the few survivors of a 1950s measles epidemic among the Yanomami people in Brazil.
Photographer, Fernando Frazão.
Wikimedia Commons.*



*Map of the Caribbean islands and the state of Florida.
Artist, Theodore de Bry. Etching. Wikimedia Commons.*

1796

In England, Dr. Edward Jenner develops the first vaccine for a contagious disease—smallpox

1918-20

A severe form of flu kills more than 50 million people worldwide

1945

First flu vaccine approved for US civilians

1953

In the US, Dr. Jonas Salk creates the first polio vaccine

1980

The World Health Organization announces that smallpox has been eliminated due to vaccination efforts

A Secret Weapon?

The Nahuas are a group of Indigenous peoples from Central America. After the Spanish invaders arrived in the New World, the Spanish government decided it was important to understand the Nahuas in order to best conquer and convert them to Christianity. To do so, Franciscan missionary Bernardino de Sahagún was ordered to document the Nahua's culture and history. He learned the Nahua language, then created a set of questions for Nahua students to ask their leaders. He also trained other Nahuas to record the answers in both drawings and their native language. Sahagún later provided Spanish translations and compiled it all into a 3-volume book called *The General History of the Things of New Spain*. It is now often called the *Florentine Codex*.

The three images below are from the last book in the *Florentine Codex*, which is titled *The Conquest of New Spain*. It records the invasion of the Nahua lands from the perspective of the indigenous people, rather than through the eyes of the Spaniards.



This compilation was created from: the *Florentine Codex* by Bernardino De Sahagún. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2021667837/>

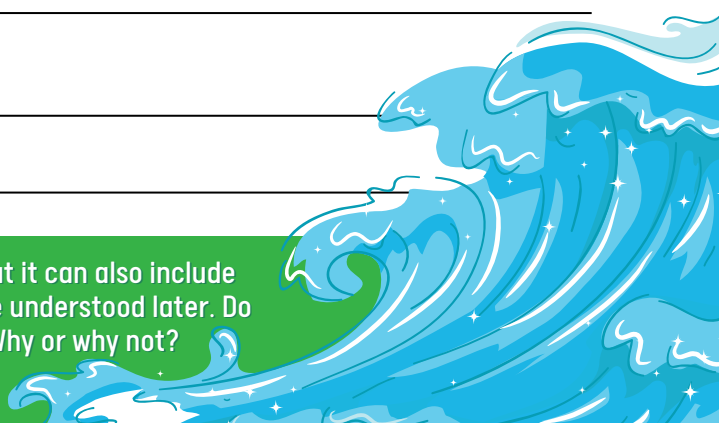
Describe what you see happening in each of the three images above. Please note: According to the written translation of this book, all of the people in these images arrived back on shore unharmed.

Left Image: _____

Middle Image: _____

Right Image: _____

Historical artwork can provide images of long ago events, but it can also include artist bias or inaccuracies, which affects how past events are understood later. Do you think modern photos provide the same concerns? Why or why not?



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WHO'S IN CHARGE?



17th century depiction of Havana from *Atlas Boudier*.
British Library.

Spain's empire was won by war and conquest. This meant that Spaniards believed that their laws, aristocrats, and the Roman Catholic religion were superior to Indigenous customs, rulers, and spiritual practices. However, Spanish kings stayed in Spain, which made ruling distant colonies difficult.

Sharing information was slow—it could only be sent by ship. In an age before computers, mobile phones, or GPS, controlling an empire spread

over continents was an enormous task. The Spanish relied on carefully kept handwritten records of

everything they did.

They sent copies of these documents, along with news and royal orders by ship. These took weeks or even months to arrive.

To keep things on track, the Spanish appointed viceroys (meaning “deputies of the king”) who made

important regional decisions. The viceroy in Lima, Peru, oversaw Spanish South

America. In Mexico City, the viceroy oversaw Central and North America, as well as Spain's interests in the Pacific, China, and the Philippines. Ships of the fleet system connected these centers. The viceroys appointed governors to manage ports, such as St. Augustine in Florida and Havana in Cuba.

In addition to these officials, Roman Catholic priests came to establish Christianity in Spain's colonies. Many Indigenous people converted to the new religion, but not everyone wanted to change their spiritual beliefs. They often maintained their spiritual practices in secrecy to avoid punishment.



The Manila galleons traded between New Spain and the Spanish East Indies using the ports at Acapulco and Manila. *Reception of the Manila Galleon by the Chamorro in the Ladrones Islands, about 1590.*
Bezer Codes. Wikimedia Commons.



General Archive of the Indies, Seville, Spain.
Wikimedia Commons.



This map shows which areas were controlled by the Spanish (blue) and Portuguese (green) in 1790. *Map of Spanish Americas, 1790.*
Cartographer, Naghain. Wikimedia Commons.

1844

In the US, inventor Samuel Morse sends the first telegram

1911

Earle Ovington makes the first official American airmail delivery

1927

The first transatlantic telephone call is made from New York to London

1971

In the US, Raymond Tomlinson sends the first email

1992

In Britain, Neil Papworth sends the first text message




Who's in Charge?

Before 1844, most messages that had to be sent over long distances were carried by messengers who memorized them or carried them in writing on foot, by horse, or by ship. Simple messages could also be sent by semaphore at sea using special flags, but this required the receiver to be close enough to see the sender.

The telegraph allowed messages to be sent over long distances using electricity. Although the first commercial telegraph was invented in 1837, the process of sending messages was complicated and varied between machines and operators. By 1844, however, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail created a standard code for each letter of the alphabet using a combination of dots (called "dits") and dashes (called "dahs"). This simple system allowed even long messages to be carried out quickly. You can also use the code to send messages by flashing a light or sounding a horn.

Morse's code was updated in 1865 to create the International Morse Code system shown below.

Use the chart to translate the coded words underneath.
Hint: The answers are vocabulary words used in this panel!


  	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>A</td><td>·-</td> <td>F</td><td>··-·</td> <td>K</td><td>-·-</td> <td>P</td><td>·--·</td> <td>U</td><td>··-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td><td>-···</td> <td>G</td><td>--·</td> <td>L</td><td>·-··</td> <td>Q</td><td>--·-</td> <td>V</td><td>···-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td><td>-·-·</td> <td>H</td><td>····</td> <td>M</td><td>--</td> <td>R</td><td>·-</td> <td>W</td><td>·--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>-···</td> <td>I</td><td>··</td> <td>N</td><td>-·</td> <td>S</td><td>··</td> <td>X</td><td>-··-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>·</td> <td>J</td><td>·----</td> <td>O</td><td>---</td> <td>T</td><td>-</td> <td>Y</td><td>-·--</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td> <td>Z</td><td>--··</td> </tr> </table>	A	·-	F	··-·	K	-·-	P	·--·	U	··-	B	-···	G	--·	L	·-··	Q	--·-	V	···-	C	-·-·	H	····	M	--	R	·-	W	·--	D	-···	I	··	N	-·	S	··	X	-··-	E	·	J	·----	O	---	T	-	Y	-·--									Z	--··
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One dot or dit = 1 unit of time
 One dash or dah = 3 units of time

1 

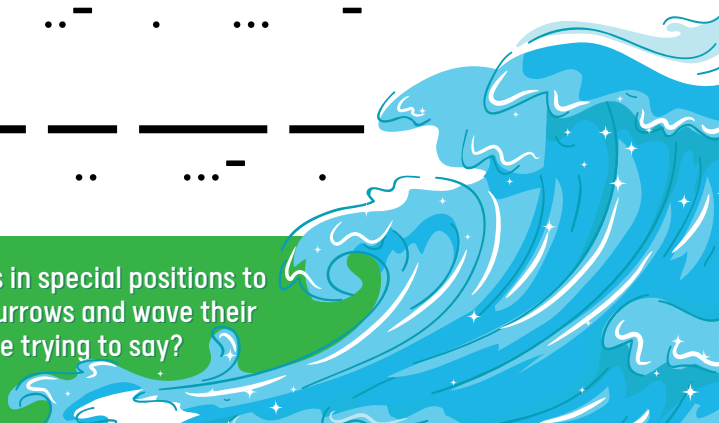
2 

3 

4 

5 

Semaphore crabs are named after the system of holding flags in special positions to send messages. Male semaphore crabs stand outside their burrows and wave their front legs at other crabs passing by. What could they be trying to say?



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WHAT'S AT STAKE?

The first Spanish voyages were hazardous. The ships were not designed for ocean crossings, and there were no maps of the Atlantic. Violent storms, hidden reefs, and sandbars sank ships. Nevertheless, many people believed that the adventure offered opportunities. Wealthy Spaniards expected to be rewarded by the king for their exploits. Poor soldiers hoped for enough loot to return home and live comfortably. Roman Catholic priests came, believing that they should risk their lives to convert Indigenous people to Christianity.



The Gulf Stream is an ocean current that carries warm water up the eastern coast of the US and Canada and up to western Europe. Map of the Gulf Stream. NOAA.



Before Ponce de León led the first official European expedition to Florida, he was the first governor of Puerto Rico. *Ponce de León*. Artist unknown. 17th century engraving. Wikimedia Commons.



Inventor and scientist Benjamin Franklin was one of America's Founding Fathers and helped write the Declaration of Independence. *Portrait of Benjamin Franklin*. Artist, Joseph-Silfred Deplessis. 1778. National Portrait Gallery. Wikimedia Commons.

In 1492, the first explorers sailed from Spain using the trade winds, which flow east to west in the North Atlantic. How were they going to get back to Europe? Fighting the winds was difficult and sailors were often lucky to make it home.



Benjamin Franklin and his cousin created the first map of the Gulf Stream after noticing that mail took longer to travel west across the Atlantic than it did to go east. *Folger-Franklin Map of the Gulf Stream*. Cartographers, B. Franklin and T. Folger. 1769. NOAA.

It was not until 1519 that Antón de Alaminos, a ship's pilot during one of Ponce de León's voyages to Florida, figured out how to use the Gulf Stream. The Gulf Stream is an ocean current that circles the North Atlantic. It flows from the Gulf of Mexico, between Florida, Cuba, and the Bahamas, and up the eastern North American seaboard. It gave ships traveling from the Caribbean to Europe better direction and a boost of speed.

Soon, the Spanish mapped round-trip routes that were reliable and relatively safe, following the Gulf Stream and the currents in the South Atlantic and the Pacific.



17th century navigational instrument. Photographer, Dylan Kibler, Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

1492

Christopher Columbus lands in the Americas while looking for a direct route from Europe to Asia

1519

Ferdinand Magellan organizes the first sailing voyage around the world for Spain

1619

Brothers Bartolomé and Gonzalo de Nodal make the first map of the ocean route around South America

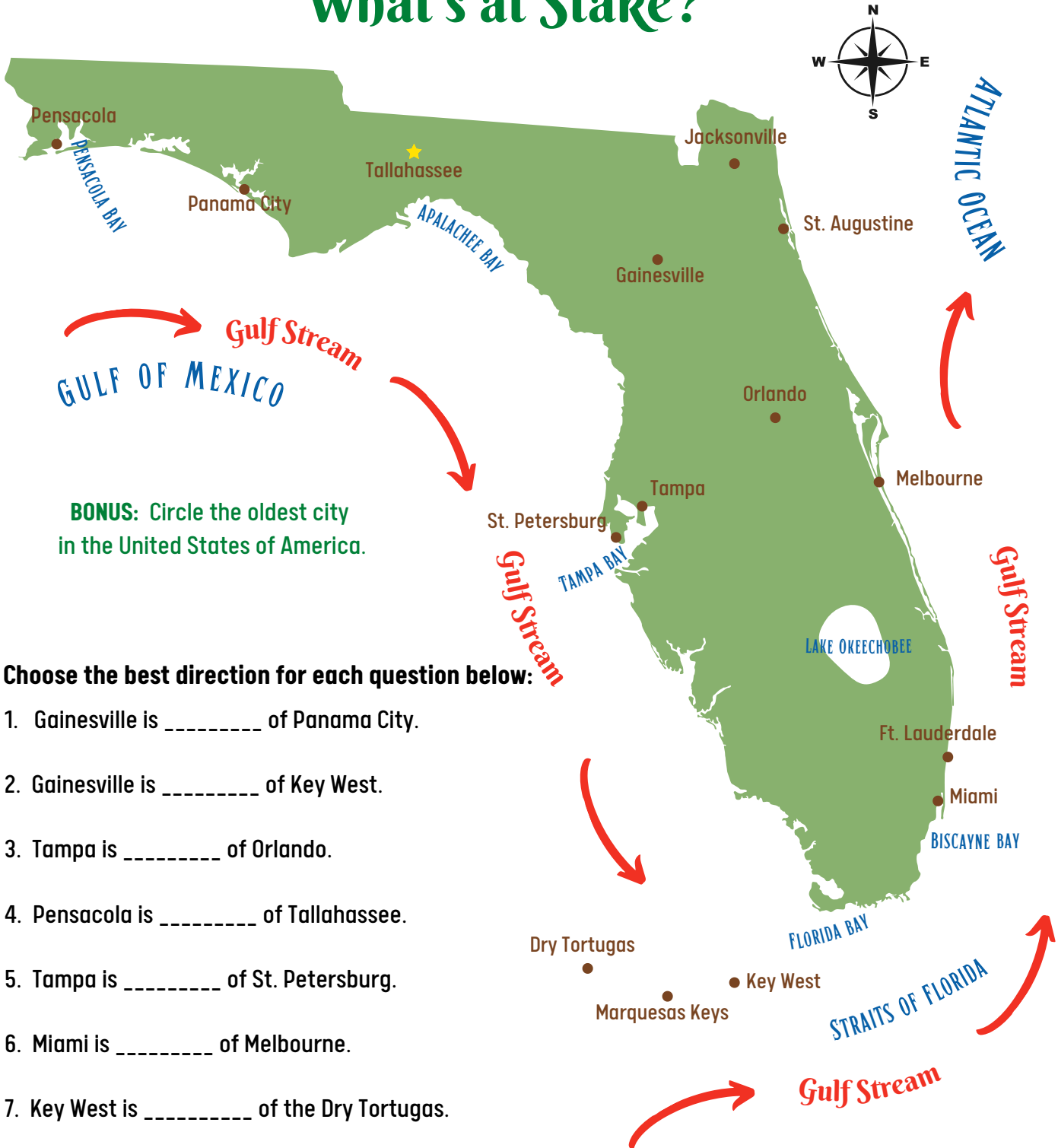
1761

In Britain, John Harrison develops his most successful chronometer, the first tool to measure longitude at sea accurately

1769

Benjamin Franklin publishes the first map of the Gulf Stream

What's at Stake?



Gulf Stream
GULF OF MEXICO

BONUS: Circle the oldest city in the United States of America.

Choose the best direction for each question below:

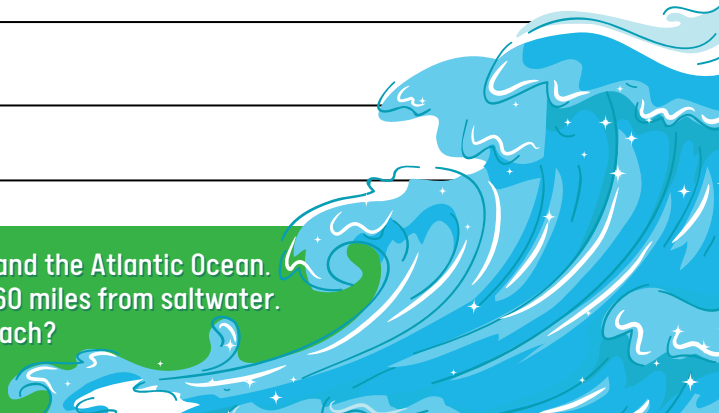
- Gainesville is _____ of Panama City.
- Gainesville is _____ of Key West.
- Tampa is _____ of Orlando.
- Pensacola is _____ of Tallahassee.
- Tampa is _____ of St. Petersburg.
- Miami is _____ of Melbourne.
- Key West is _____ of the Dry Tortugas.

8. *WHAT DOES TEXT IN THIS FONT MEAN?*

9. What does a brown dot ● mean?

10. What does a yellow star ★ mean?

Florida is the only state that borders both the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. No matter where you are in Florida, you are never more than 60 miles from saltwater. When was the last time you went to the beach?



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WHO'S GOT THE TREASURE?



Silver ingots from the *Nuestra Señora de Atocha*.
Photographer, Dylan Kibler. Mel Fisher
Maritime Museum.

Spanish treasure fleets carried gold, jewels, and other cargoes around the world. Their main task was to transport silver from the rich mines of Peru and Mexico to Europe. Spanish colonial silver was the first item to be traded worldwide. It fueled Spain's economy, but it

was also used throughout Europe and Asia.



Can you find your hometown on this map of Florida?
Map of Florida. Nations Online Project.

A single fleet, such as that of 1622, carried as much as 400 tons of silver and other valuables. However, when a treasure ship sank, its valuable cargo was not necessarily gone forever. It was far too valuable for Spain to write off as a loss.

The Spanish had expert salvagers and divers who sometimes spent years recovering the most valuable cargoes. Often the divers were enslaved Indigenous people who were trained as pearl divers. In a documented account, Juan Bañon, the first enslaved diver to find a silver ingot from the 1622 Fleet, was set free in reward. The Spanish continued to recover silver ingots and other valuable items from the 1622 wrecks in several expeditions over the next fifty years.



Cerro Rico—the Mountain in Potosí, Peru.
Bertius. 1616. *Tabularum geographicarum contractarum Libri septem.*
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

Florida's "Treasure Coast" ranges along the shores of Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin counties. It is so named because ships from Spain's

1715 Fleet wrecked there during a hurricane while carrying coins, jewelry, and other precious materials. Items from the wrecks are sometimes found there to this day.



The original American dollar coin was modeled after the Spanish "piece of eight."
Photographer, Dylan Kibler.
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

1559

Eleven ships are destroyed by a hurricane in Pensacola Bay during Spain's first attempt to colonize Florida

1622

Seven ships of the 1622 Fleet wreck between the Marquesas Keys and the Dry Tortugas

1715

Over 1,000 people drown when 11 ships from the 1715 Fleet sink off Florida's east coast

1733

A hurricane hits that year's Spanish Fleet and at least 13 ships are lost in the Florida Keys

1985

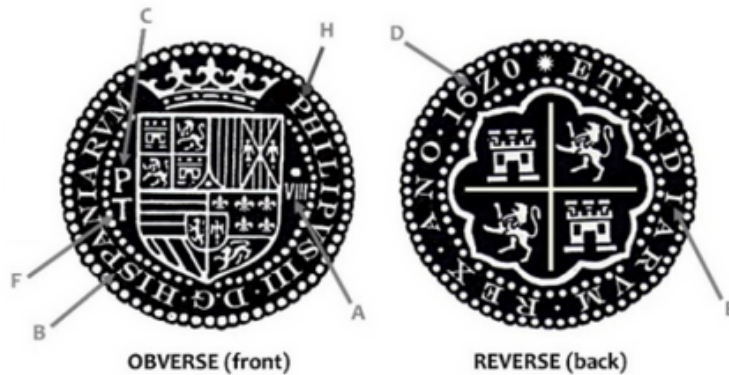
Mel Fisher's team locates the cargo hold of the 1622 galleon, *Nuestra Señora de Atocha*

Who's Got the Treasure?

The original US dollar was based on the design of Spanish silver coins called *reales*. Compare and contrast the two coins below. Fill in the chart below using the information that you can find in the images.

Note: It was common to use a "V" instead of "U" and a "Z" instead of a "2" in the 17th century.

17th Century Spanish coin

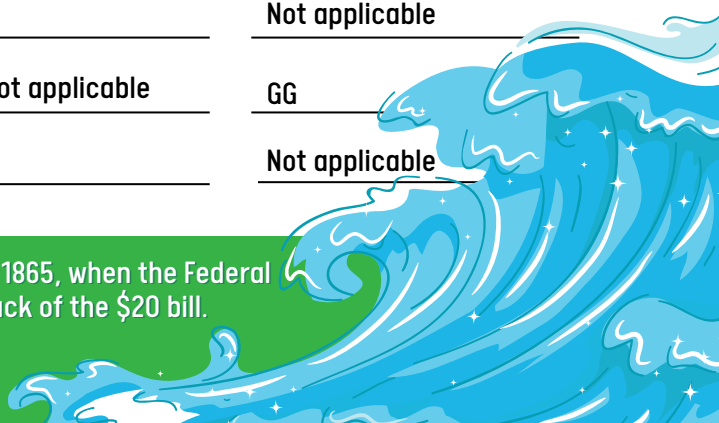


Modern US Sacagawea dollar coin



Symbol	Mark and Meaning	17th Century Spanish Coin	Modern US coin
A	Denomination - What is it worth?	VIII (8 reales)	_____
B	Origin - What nation produced it?	_____	_____
C	Mint - Where was it made?	_____	_____
D	Date - When was it made?	_____	_____
E	Legend - What phrases does it show?	_____	_____
F	Assayer - Who tested the quality?	_____	Not applicable
G	Designer - Who designed it?	Not applicable	GG
H	Ruler - Who was the country's leader?	_____	Not applicable

The first time a woman appeared on US paper currency was in 1865, when the Federal Reserve used the image of an indigenous person on the back of the \$20 bill. Who do you think it was?



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WHY SETTLE HERE?



Indigenous Floridians Using Hollow Reeds to Search for Gold in a Stream. Artist, Theodore de Bry. 1528. Alamy.

Throughout the first half of the 1500s, Spanish conquistadors came to Florida to find gold and other wealth or to capture and enslave Indigenous people. None of these expeditions succeeded.

Instead of treasure, the Spaniards found dangerous swamps and forests that were home to people who were determined to fight for their land at every turn.

Florida was not an easy target or a rich place. However, its location made it strategically

important, so the Spanish continued to try to settle there. As the treasure fleets began to sail regularly, it was important that Florida, on one edge of their route, be under Spanish control. In 1565, Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine. Forts were built to guard the galleons' route along Florida's east coast. When hurricanes hit the fleets, rescuers could sail out quickly to save people and cargo.



Hernando de Soto led the first European expedition deep into the territory of the modern-day US, traveling through Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and most likely Arkansas. Hernando de Soto. Engraving. Library of Congress. Wikimedia Commons.

Other European nations soon built their own colonies to rival or attack Spain's. Early on, the French started Fort Caroline near today's Jacksonville, but the Spanish massacred them and destroyed the settlement. Sir Francis Drake looted and burned St. Augustine in 1586 for England. Later, England's growing American colonies began to threaten Florida from the north. England even took control from 1763 to 1783, but Spain won Florida back and held on to it until 1821.



Why do you think Florida looks so different on this map from 1565 than it does on a modern map? Map of Florida in 1565 by Baptista Boazio. Library of Congress.



The Miami Circle consists of a perfect circle measuring 38 feet (11.5m) containing evidence of more than 600 posts. Wikipedia Commons.

1513

Juan Ponce de León lands in Florida and claims it for Spain

1565

The Spanish destroy French Fort Caroline

1763

Spain trades Florida to the British in exchange for Havana, Cuba

1775-1783

Most Floridians side with the British during the American Revolutionary War

1845

Congress admits the states of Florida and Iowa into the Union at the same time

Why Settle Here?

Read the panel *Why Settle Here?* to answer the questions below.

1. Who founded St. Augustine?

- Juan Ponce de Leon Rene de Laudonnière Pedro Menendez Sir Francis Drake

2. What year was the oldest city established in what is now the United States of America?

- 1492 1513 1565 1586 1821

3. Which countries attempted to build colonies in Florida? (Careful! More than one answer is correct!)

- France Germany Great Britain Spain Canada

4. Who built the oldest permanent structure in Florida?

- The Spanish The French The British The Tequesta

5. Which other state was admitted to the United States of America at the same time as Florida?

- Texas Iowa Hawaii California Georgia

6. For which country did Sir Frances Drake burn St. Augustine in 1586?

- Spain France Great Britain The Netherlands

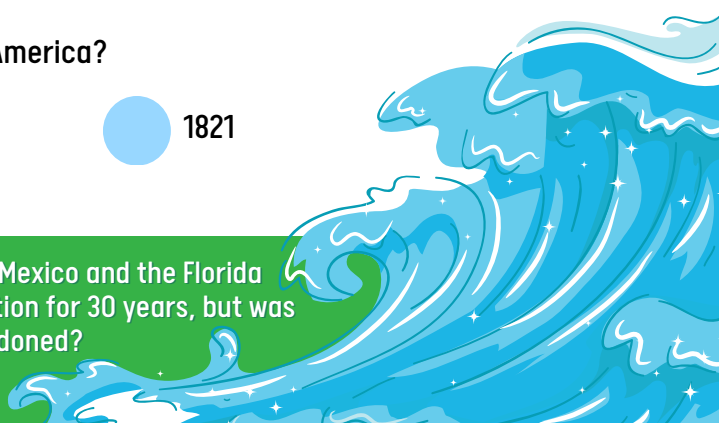
7. What was the name of the French colony in Florida?

- Fort Drake Fort Desoto Fort Caroline Fort Miami

8. When did Spain transfer Florida to the United States of America?

- 1763 1776 1783 1821

Intended to guard America from enemy ships in the Gulf of Mexico and the Florida Straits, Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas was under construction for 30 years, but was never finished. Why do you think it was abandoned?



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WHEN SPAIN CAME TO FLORIDA

WHAT DO SHIPWRECKS TEACH US?



Diver discovers a cannon from the *Nuestra Señora de Atocha*. Photographer, Don Kincaid. Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

Grab your snorkel! In 1733, the *San Pedro*, a galleon sailing with that year's treasure fleet, sank in a hurricane. Today, you can visit the underwater site in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.



Map of Florida Keys shipwreck trail. Dive Buddies 4 Life.

Spanish galleons tell us a lot about the early American colonies in North and South America. Shipwrecks can provide hard evidence of how people lived. Objects from wrecks show what they traded, which resources they had, and what their lives were like.



When would you use a tray like this gold salver from the *Santa Margarita*? Photographer, Dylan Kibler. Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

Some of the oldest shipwrecks found in the waters of the United States sank in Pensacola Bay. In 1559, don Tristán de Luna y Arellano landed with 1,500 people to establish a colony. However, a powerful hurricane destroyed their ships and supplies. The shipwrecks are still buried under the muddy bay bottom. Since their discovery, archaeologists have gradually uncovered much about how Spanish colonies were formed, including their food, weapons, and tools.

Florida's most famous shipwreck is the *Nuestra Señora de Atocha*, which sank with other vessels of the 1622 Fleet near Key West. It sailed during the high point of the Spanish Empire, and the wealth it carried shows how important the colonies were to Spain's financial success. In its cargo hold were 30 tons of silver bullion, chests of gold, 200,000 silver coins, and jewels, along with cannons and other weapons to protect the treasure.



How many shipwrecks can you find on this map? *Cabeza de Martires and 1622 Fleet*. Artist, Nicolas Cardona. 1628. Biblioteca Nacional de España.



Archaeologists examining an iron bombard (early cannon) from the *Santa Clara*, which sank in 1564. Photographer, Dylan Kibler. Mel Fisher Maritime Museum.

1535

Guglielmo de Lorena uses a diving bell to find ancient Roman shipwrecks in Italy

1771

In Britain, John Smeaton builds a pump to provide air to divers through a hose

1825

Englishman William James creates a dive helmet with a reservoir that can hold enough air for a 7-minute dive

1865

In France, Benoît Rouquayrol invents a 200lb diving suit that provides a safe air supply

1942

Frenchmen Émile Gagnan and Jacques Cousteau develop a regulator that releases fresh air to divers on demand

What Do Shipwrecks Teach Us?

Scan the QR codes below (on a paper version) or click the links (on a digital file) to discover shipwreck artifacts that the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum has recovered from sunken Spanish galleons! Fill in the blanks for each question by exploring each artifact online.

1

Even though this fragile artifact was often used to carry liquids, the style of jar is named after this tiny fruit:

<https://interacty.me/projects/77c8fa0e9d479d54>



2

Everybody has to pay taxes - even in the 17th century! What is the name of the stamp used to show that 20% taxes had been paid on this item?

<https://interacty.me/projects/f016ad6e0f889fe5>



3

This artifact shows us that some things don't change! This type of tool is as useful today as it was in 1564. What is it?

<https://interacty.me/projects/1022617f7dd72dac>



4

Archaeology is not just about finding things, but also about finding more questions! What's your theory for how this object was used?

<https://interacty.me/projects/48331e8ce45cf288>



Maritime archaeology is the study of objects people left behind in order to learn how humans have interacted with the oceans, lakes, and rivers in the past.

Which water source do you enjoy visiting more? Why?



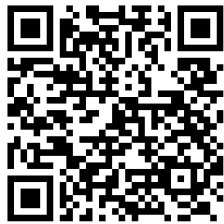
What Do Shipwrecks Teach Us?

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5

450 years under the ocean destroyed the wood and metal of this artifact. We were able to create a resin cast of the original metal part called a:

<https://interacty.me/projects/64af49a3f3b3c4b2>



6

This artifact is a good example of how finding one artifact can lead to looking for another. For example, nobody makes one of these without making sure it fits into a:

<https://interacty.me/projects/b2affcee9406b8c5>



7

What you see now isn't always what once was. How many points (or tines) did this fishing tool have when it was first made?

<https://interacty.me/projects/759b213ed53eac98>



8

Sometimes, larger artifacts can hide smaller artifacts! This concreted artifact hid a much smaller and more common shipwreck artifact called a:

<https://interacty.me/projects/d375475d8f1ed8a2>



Since 1990, four ships have been purposefully sunk in the Florida Keys Marine Sanctuary to create artificial reefs for corals and other marine animals.

Do you think this is a good or bad idea? Why?



Word Search

You're going to be seeing the words below in the *Pop Up Museum: When Spain Came to Florida*. It will be important to know what they mean, but for now all you need to do is recognize them! For a harder game, play online by scanning the code below.

N	F	T	Y	E	L	C	E	Q	T	D	I	I	G
A	E	C	E	D	I	O	A	V	R	D	D	E	T
T	X	O	T	U	S	E	N	R	I	V	E	M	E
R	P	N	A	T	I	V	E	G	G	H	G	P	E
E	E	Q	G	I	E	S	U	L	I	O	C	I	L
A	D	U	I	T	T	A	E	G	P	T	E	R	F
T	I	E	V	A	V	G	P	O	G	I	U	E	A
Y	T	R	A	L	A	R	L	V	N	H	O	D	O
L	I	T	N	V	R	E	S	O	U	R	C	E	E
R	O	R	L	I	N	D	I	G	E	N	O	U	S
S	N	A	T	I	I	L	C	U	R	R	E	N	T
A	S	R	G	A	L	L	E	O	N	N	E	T	A
C	O	N	Q	U	I	S	T	A	D	O	R	I	R
I	I	N	B	N	N	I	E	V	O	Y	A	G	E

READY, SET, GO!

indigenous
conquistador
conquer
native

bullion
navigate
empire
voyage
latitude

longitude
current
resource
salvage
galleon

cargo
fleet
archive
treaty
expedition

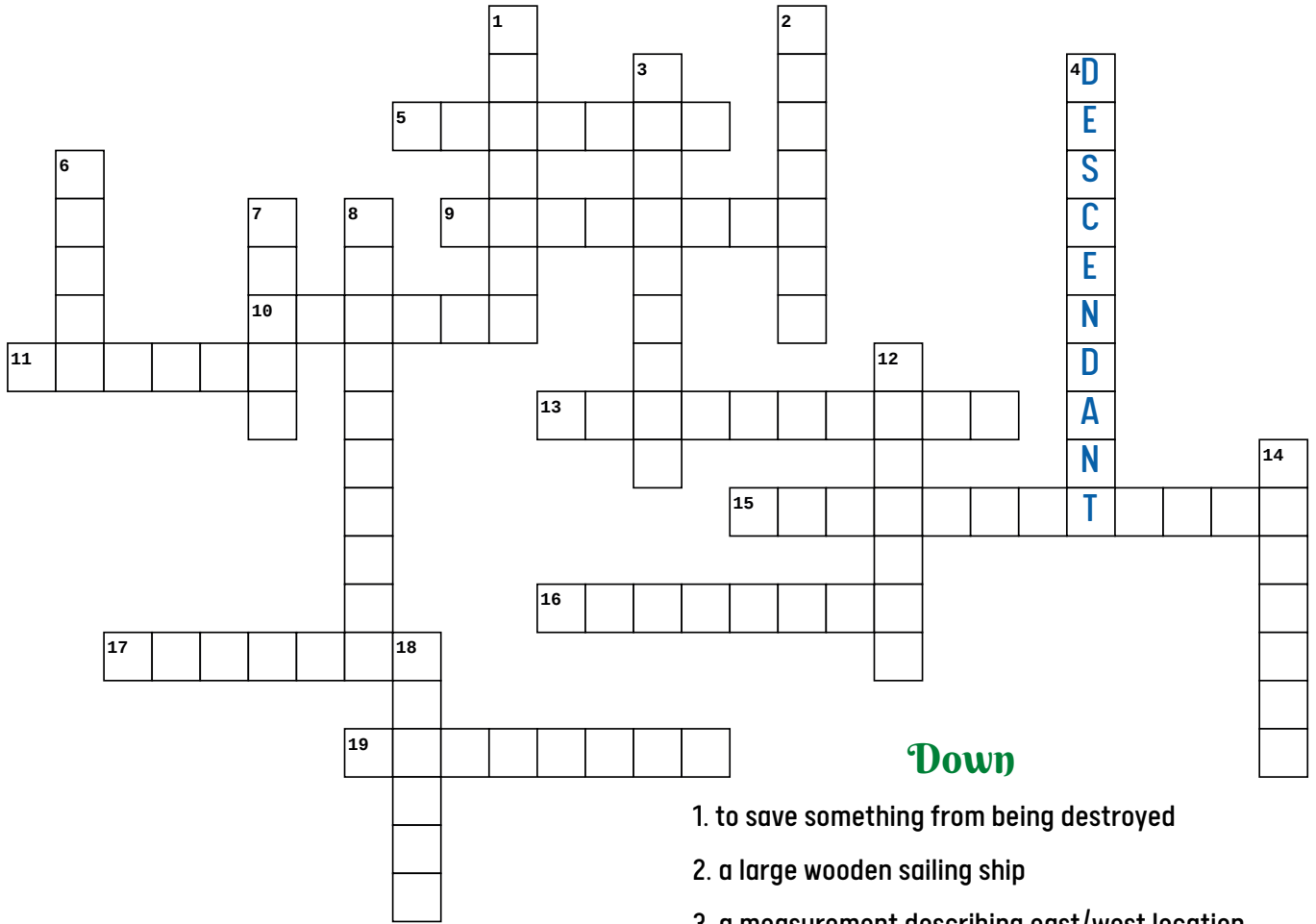


SCAN & PLAY



Crossword

Use the vocabulary words provided in the Word Search to complete the puzzle below.



Across

5. precious metals shaped into bars
9. to plan and direct a path
10. a group of lands and peoples ruled by one leader
11. a trip across water
13. the first peoples in a particular place
15. an explorer-soldier of the Spanish Empire
16. a measurement describing north/south location
17. a constant movement of seawater
19. something that can be used by living things

Down

1. to save something from being destroyed
2. a large wooden sailing ship
3. a measurement describing east/west location
4. someone related to someone from the past
6. items being transported for trade or sale
7. a group of ships sailing together
8. a trip for a specific purpose
12. to win by force
14. a place where historical papers are saved
18. a formal agreement between two or more countries

SCAN
& PLAY



Answer Key

Word Search



Crossword

Across

5. bullion 9. navigate 10. empire 11. voyage 13. indigenous
15. conquistador 16. latitude 17. current 19. resource

Down

1. salvage 2. galleon 3. longitude 4. descendant 6. cargo
7. fleet 8. expedition 12. conquer 14. archive 18. treaty

What's Our History?

1. 1513 2. St. Augustine 3. Mandarin 4. The Spanish 5. Twenty 6. 1783 Treaty of Paris 7. 1775 8. Philip II

What's for Dinner?

Native to the Americas: tomato, corn, pineapple, pumpkin

Not native to the Americas: banana, mango, wheat, onion, peach, apple, citrus, pear

A Secret Weapon?

ANSWERS WILL VARY because of individual interpretation, but the general concept shown in the panels is:

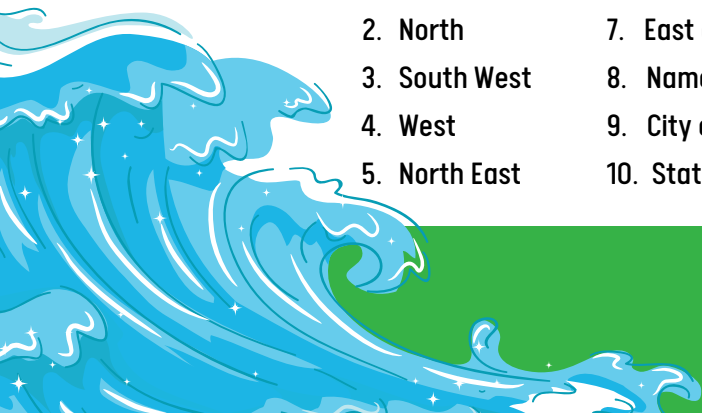
- The Indigenous people use small boats to greet the Spanish with gifts
- The Indigenous people are chained in the Spanish ship
- The Spaniards shoot a gun into the air and the Indigenous people faint from the sound

Who's in Charge?

1. king 2. fleet 3. empire 4. conquest 5. archive

What's at Stake?

- East
- North
- South West
- West
- North East
- South or South South West
- East or East South East
- Named body of water
- City or other named land location
- State capital location



Answer Key

Who's Got the Treasure?

17th Century Spanish Coin

1. 8 reales
2. Hispaniurvm (Spain)
3. PT (Potosi)
4. 1620
5. D.G. ET INDIARVM REX ANO (BY THE GRACE OF GOD IS KING OF SPAIN AND THE INDIES)
6. T (Mark of Juan Ximenez de Tapia)
7. Not applicable
8. Phillipvs III (King Philip III)

Modern US Coin

1. One dollar
2. United States of America
3. W (West Point, NY)
4. 2000
5. Liberty, E Pluribus Unum, In God We Trust
6. Not applicable
7. GG (Glenna Goodacre)
8. None

Bonus Background:

1. "Out of many, one." This phrase was proposed by Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson as the official motto for the US. It was adopted on the official Great Seal of our country in 1782 by an Act of Congress. In 1956, another Act of Congress made "In God we trust" the official motto of the US. It is also the official state motto of Florida.

Why Settle Here?

1. Pedro Menendez
2. 1565
3. France, Spain, Great Britain
4. The Tequesta
5. Iowa
6. England
7. Fort Caroline
8. 1821

What Do Shipwrecks Teach Us?

1. Olive
2. *Quinto*
3. Scissors
4. Answers will vary, but the artifact is a curled or twisted nail
5. Prod
6. Lock
7. Five
8. Spike



Glossary

Appoint: (v.) to formally choose someone for a specific task or job

Archive: (n.) a place in which public records or historical papers are saved

Aristocrat: (n.) someone born into the highest level of certain societies

Bedrock: (n.) a solid layer of rock that lies underneath loose soil or gravel

Bullion: (n.) very pure forms of precious metals like gold or silver, often shaped into bars for storage

Cargo: (n.) items being transported by air, land, or sea for trade or sale in a new location

Colony: (n.) a settlement built in a location separate from the country that rules it

Conquest: (n.) a victory by force

Conquistador: (n.) an explorer-soldier of either the Spanish or Portuguese Empires of the 15th and 16th centuries

Contagious: (adj.) able to be spread from one person to another

Convert: (v.) to change religious or other beliefs

Current: (n.) a constant movement of seawater controlled by gravity, wind, and water density

Deck: (n.) a floor of a boat or ship

Descendant: (n.) someone related to another person who lived at an earlier time

Empire: (n.) a group of lands and peoples that are under the control of one supreme leader

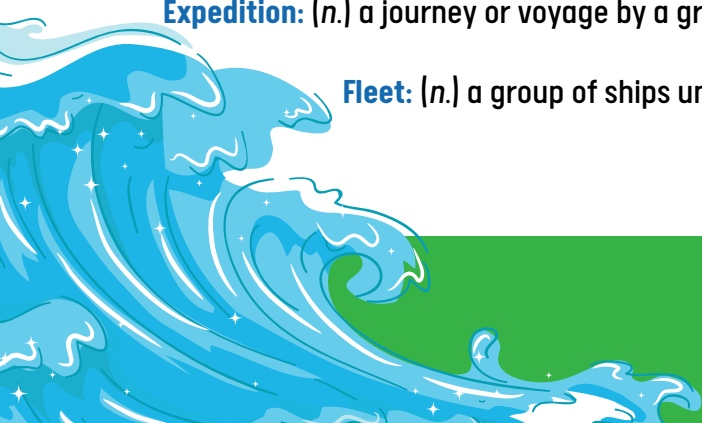
Enslave: (v.) to take away someone's freedom

Evidence: (n.) information or materials that support whether something is true or false

Excavate: (v.) to reveal or remove something by digging

Expedition: (n.) a journey or voyage by a group of people for a specific purpose

Fleet: (n.) a group of ships under the same ownership sailing together



Glossary

Galleon: (*n.*) a large wooden sailing ship

Hold: (*n.*) the part of a ship below the decks in which cargo is stored

Immigration: (*n.*) the process of moving to a new country

Indigenous: (*adj.*) originally the first peoples, plants, and/or animals in a particular place

Isolate: (*v.*) to set or place apart from others

Latitude: (*n.*) a measurement describing how far north or south of the earth's equator something is

Longitude: (*n.*) a measurement describing how far east or west of Earth's prime meridian something is

Loot: (*n.*) items taken from an enemy in war

Native: (*n.*) originally from that specific location

Navigate: (*v.*) to plan and direct a path from one place to another

New World: (*n.*) a phrase used to describe North, South, and Central America, and Oceania

Old World: (*n.*) a phrase used to describe Europe, Africa and Asia, which were areas already known to Europeans before the discovery of the Americas

Prehistoric: (*adj.*) relating to the period before written records were kept

Resource: (*n.*) something that can be used by living things

Route: (*n.*) the path of travel from one place to another

Salvage: (*v.*) to save something from being destroyed

Settler: (*n.*) a person who has moved to a new or unoccupied region with the intention of staying there

Stow: (*v.*) to put something in a safe place

Treaty: (*n.*) a formal agreement between two or more countries

Voyage: (*n.*) a journey across water to a faraway or unknown place



The Mel Fisher Maritime Museum is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Our mission is to research, interpret, and exhibit the maritime history of Florida and the Caribbean in ways that increase knowledge, enrich the spirit, and stimulate inquiry.



EXPLORE | RESEARCH | CONSERVE | EDUCATE

Visit us at:
200 Greene Street
Key West, FL 33040
Contact us at: education@mfmm.org