

Beyond Our World



NASA photo by Michael Edward Fossum

Mini Fact:

Astronauts are still learning about outer space and other planets.

Are you curious about the world around you? Do you enjoy solving mysteries? Do you like to explore your backyard or neighborhood?

This week, The Mini Page learns about famous explorers.

Good explorers

The best explorers have:

- ☸ **Curiosity** about the unknown.
- ☸ **Courage** to face danger and hardship and not turn back, unless it is wise to do so.
- ☸ **Wisdom** to know when it is too dangerous to continue.
- ☸ **Determination** to solve mysteries in spite of any difficulties they might face.
- ☸ **Salesmanship** to convince sponsors to help pay for their expeditions. Early explorers such as Christopher Columbus got help from a country's rulers. Modern explorers might get help from universities or businesses.

Early explorers

Leif Erikson, a Viking born in Iceland, landed in North America in about 1002.

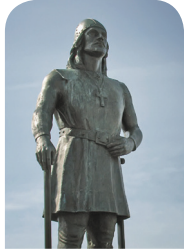


photo by Steven Pavlov

This statue of Leif Erikson stands in Seattle at the Shilshole Bay Marina.

Experts have found evidence of a settlement he and his crew built in Newfoundland, Canada.

Leif was the son of a famous explorer and fighter, Erik the Red.

Christopher Columbus made four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean between 1492 and 1506. He explored the West Indies and along the coast of South and Central America. His discoveries led Europeans to new lands.



This painting of Christopher Columbus was made in 1519.

Modern explorers

Some people think humans have discovered everything there is to find. But modern explorers are looking at:

- ☸ **Outer space.** However, few explorers actually get to go there. Many stay on Earth, designing probes and gathering information.
- ☸ **The oceans,** which are the least known places on Earth and are 99 percent still unexplored. Explorers use new technology to find shipwrecks and life forms no one knew existed.
- ☸ **The human body.** Using advanced tools such as DNA testing, scientists learn about us.
- ☸ **Rainforests,** where experts say there are thousands of species of plants and animals still undiscovered.

Mini Quiz-a-Roonie

Test your explorer knowledge with this quick fill-in-the-name game.



NASA photo by Edwin E. Aldrin Jr.

1. Astronaut Ne__ A__o__ learned to fly when he was just 16 years old. He was the first person to walk on the moon.

2. Frenchman Ja__qu__ C__st__ explored deep within the ocean. He also invented a type of underwater breathing gear called the Aqualung.



Journalist N__ie B__'s real name was Elizabeth Cochrane, but she wrote under a pen name. In 1889, she made a trip around the world in 72 days.

4. Astronaut Ei__en C__ins was the first woman to serve as commander of a Space Shuttle mission (in 1995).



NASA photo by Robert Markowitz

Resources



On the Web:

- kids.cousteau.org

At the library:

- "Explorers" by Andrea De Porti

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Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of explorers are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ASTRONAUT,
BEYOND, BODY,
COLUMBUS, CURIOSITY,
DETERMINATION,
DISCOVERY, ERIKSON,
EXPLORE, INVENTOR,
JOURNALIST, MYSTERY,
OCEAN, RAINFOREST,
SALESMANSHIP, SPACE,
WISDOM.

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

Cook's Corner

Creamy Gelatin Delight

You'll need:

- 1 (6-ounce) package sugar-free orange-flavored gelatin mix
- 1 cup boiling water
- 4 ounces light cream cheese
- 1 (8-ounce) can crushed pineapple with juice

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup lemon-lime-flavored carbonated soda



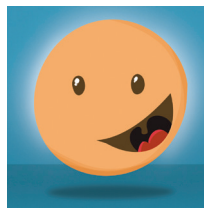
* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

1. Dissolve gelatin mix in boiling water in a bowl.
2. Add cream cheese to mixture and pulse in blender to thoroughly mix.
3. Add pineapple with juice, vanilla and lemon-lime soda until evenly combined.
4. Pour into 4 dessert dishes. Chill until set. Serves 4.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



1. website with many videos (7) _____
2. fight (6) _____
3. water channel (5) _____
4. hits with a loud noise (7) _____
5. your shirt may have them (7) _____
6. small flying machine (5) _____
7. in the middle of (5) _____

BAT	NG	YO	NAL
CR	DR	BUT	ASH
TLE	UTU	AMO	TONS
ES	ONE	CA	BE

Answers: YouTube, among, buttons, crashes, canal, battle, drone, among.

Mini Jokes



Ed: Where did Columbus first land in America?
Emily: On his feet!

Eco Note



The rare sight of a southern right whale frolicking in New Zealand's Wellington Harbor forced officials to postpone the city's annual fireworks display for a week. The untimely arrival of the whale coincided with the Maori new year celebration known as Matariki. Experts worried that the flashes and sounds of the fireworks could cause the whale to harm itself or the boats in the harbor loaded with people.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

For later:

Where would you like to explore? Share your ideas with your family or friends.

Quiz-a-Roonie Answers: 1. Neil Armstrong; 2. Jacques-Yves Cousteau; 3. Nellie Bly; 4. Ellen Collins.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



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