**Age of Exploration Vocabulary**

1. Navigation
* The science of planning and controlling the direction of a ship.
1. Explorer
* A person who travels to new places to learn about them.
1. Merchant
* Someone who buys and sells goods to earn money.
1. Profit
* The money a business has left over after all expenses have been paid.
1. Columbian Exchange
* The movement of plants, animals, and people between the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.
1. Astrolabe
* A navigational tool that measured the angle of the sun or a star above the horizon. Sailors could us this information to find out how far north or south they were.
1. Compass
* European sailors used this tool to find their direction. Its magnetic needle always points north.
1. Conquistador
* The Spanish word for conqueror. The conquistadors were a group of soldiers that conquered the new world.
1. Empire
* Many nations or territories ruled by a single group or leader.
1. Mission
* A religious community where priests taught Christianity.
1. Colony
* An area of land ruled by another country.
1. Slavery
* A cruel system in which people are bought and sold and made to work without pay.
1. Convert
* To convince someone to change his or her religion or beliefs.
1. Revolt
* A violent uprising against a ruler.

Key People

* Christopher Columbus
* Ferdinand Magellan
* Amerigo Vespucci
* Robert de La Salle
* Hernando de Soto
* Henry Hudson
* Jacques Cartier