

## English Exploration-John Cabot



One of the main motivating factors for European exploration was to trade with the Indies. England, Spain, and France were in competition with each other for this trade. In 1497, England's King Henry hired John Cabot to find a quick route to the Indies to beat out Spain and France.

Like Christopher Columbus (which you studied in elementary school), Cabot felt he could reach the Indies by sailing west. Columbus had already discovered islands, which he thought, was off the coast of China. Cabot's plan was to reach the mainland. He planned to sail further north.

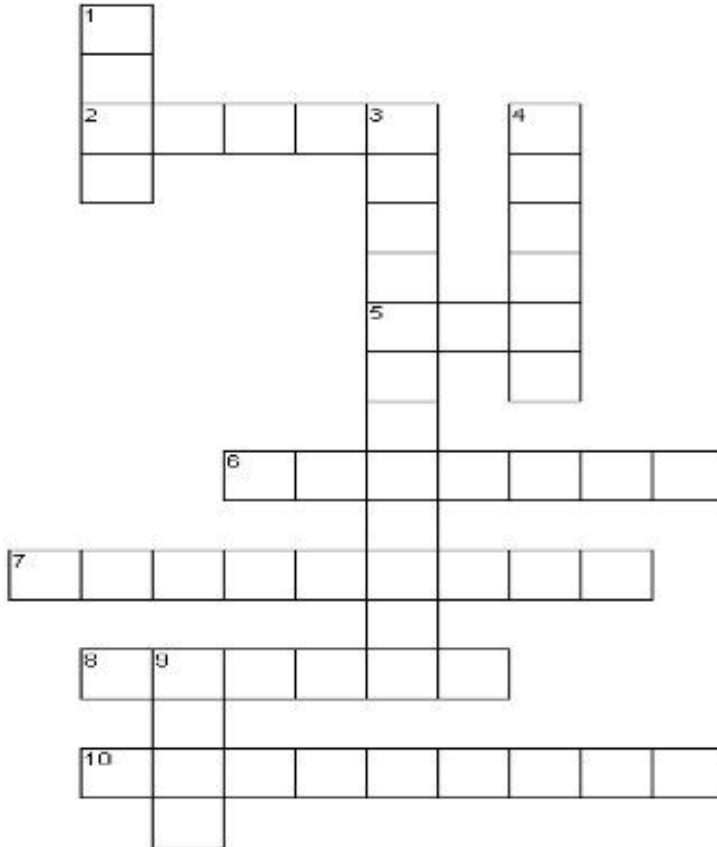
Cabot set sail in May 1497 with a crew of 18 men. Because ships depended on the wind for power it took several weeks before they spotted land. When Cabot reached the shore, he claimed the land for England. Cabot called the land Newfoundland, which he thought, was in northeast Asia.

Cabot and his crew sailed south along the coastline. While exploring he discovered that this area was abundant with codfish. Cabot and his crew returned to England on in August 1497 to report their discoveries.

In 1498 Cabot left England once again with five ships. This voyage is still a mystery today. Only one ship returned to England. No one knows what happened to the other four ships or to John Cabot. Was it a storm, a pirate raid, the mystery still remains.

Like Columbus, John Cabot believed he had reached the Indies. Both explorers had landed on a new continent, North America. The importance of John Cabot's travels is that he actually explored eastern Canada.

**Directions:** Use your "English Exploration" story to complete the puzzle



**Across**

2. The English wanted to find a quick route to the Indies to beat \_\_\_\_\_ and France.
5. On Cabot's second voyage, only \_\_\_\_\_ ship returned to England. The others mysteriously disappeared.
6. The area that Cabot explored was abundant in \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who was sent by England to find a quick route to the Indies?
8. Cabot explored the eastern side of what country
10. Who was the English King during Cabot's exploration?

**Down**

1. Cabot felt he could reach the Indies by sailing in what direction?
3. What did Cabot call the land that he landed on?
4. One of the motivation factors for exploration was to trade with \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did Cabot believe he landed?