Year 2: History Explorers Knowledge Organiser

Subject Specific Vocabulary

famous	Someone who is known by many people.
explorer	A person who explores a new or unfamiliar area.
voyage	A long journey involving travel by sea.
navigator	A person who uses maps or special instruments to plan and direct the route of a ship, aircraft or other form of transport.
sailor	Someone who sails on a ship.
pioneer	A person who is among the first to do something, like explore or live in a new country or area.

Links to prior learning

Christopher Columbus and his discovery of 'The New World'

Comparing people from different periods of time

Famous sea explorers

There have been many famous sea explorers. These explorers helped us to learn about the world.

Marco Polo (1254 – 1324)

Marco was one of the first people to travel from Europe to China in 1271.

Christopher Columbus (1451 – 1506)

Christopher sailed west from Europe to the Americas in 1492.

Sir Walter Raleigh (1152 – 1618)

Walter sailed to America and tried to set up a colony there in 1578.

The Golden Hinde was the ship in which Francis Drake made his voyage of circumnavigation in 1577–80.

The trimaran was the boat Ellen MacArthur sailed for her circumnavigation in 2005..

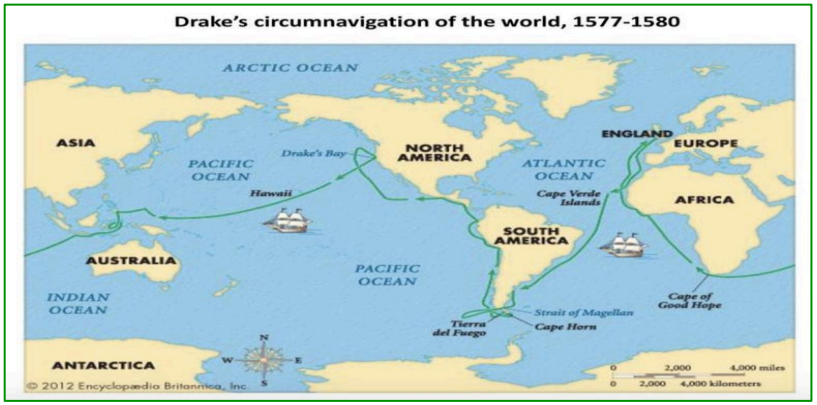
Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake (c.1540-1596) was an English sea captain and explorer.

He led the second circumnavigation (sailing around something) of the world. He was the first person to be captain throughout an entire circumnavigation.

He is also well known for being a leader of the English fleet when they defeated the Spanish Armada in 1588.

He was considered a hero to the English, and received knighthood from Queen Elizabeth in 1581.



Around the World Voyage

Drake and his fleet of five ships set sail from England on 15th November 1577. The largest ship was called the Pelican (renamed 'The Golden Hinde') which Drake captained. There were many adventures on the journey.

They travelled across the Atlantic and down the coast of South America. After ransacking South American towns, they crossed the Pacific Ocean. At the end, they were down to one ship. They brought home lots of treasure, and Drake was knighted.

Ellen MacArthur

In 2005, Ellen MacArthur became the fastest solo sailor to sail around the world. She began sailing with her aunt at age four and spent her spare time reading sailing books.

On 7 February 2005, she broke the world record for the fastest solo circumnavigation of the globe, a feat which gained her international recognition.

Ellen spent 71 days alone at sea. Her boat was her world and her survival was entirely dependent on the limited food, fuel, and other supplies she'd brought with her.