

Name : _____ Date : _____

COLUMBUS DAY

Columbus Day is observed on the second Monday of October in the United States. It remembers the voyage of Christopher Columbus, who sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in 1492. Columbus was trying to find a new trade route to Asia, but instead reached islands in the Caribbean.

For many years, people celebrated Columbus because his journey connected Europe and the Americas in ways that changed world history. After his voyage, trade, exploration, and settlement increased between the two regions.

Today, Columbus Day is also a topic of discussion. Many people recognize that European exploration led to the loss of land, culture, and lives for many Indigenous peoples already living in the Americas. Because of this history, some states and cities celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of, or alongside, Columbus Day to honor Native peoples and their cultures.

Learning about Columbus Day helps students understand that historical events can have different meanings for different groups of people. Studying multiple perspectives allows us to better understand the past.

Write True or False.

- 1.) Columbus reached Asia in 1492. _____
- 2.) Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday of October. _____
- 3.) Some places celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day. _____
- 4.) Indigenous peoples were living in the Americas before Columbus arrived. _____
- 5.) Learning history from different perspectives is important. _____
- 6.) Columbus crossed the Atlantic Ocean. _____
- 7.) Columbus was looking for a new trade route. _____
- 8.) Everyone celebrates Columbus Day in exactly the same way. _____