

Springboard^{into} Comprehension

Identifying Detail Maui and the Fishhook

Main Idea I Need You and You Need Me

Sequencing The Fantastic Flying Machine

Compare and Contrast Festivals of the World

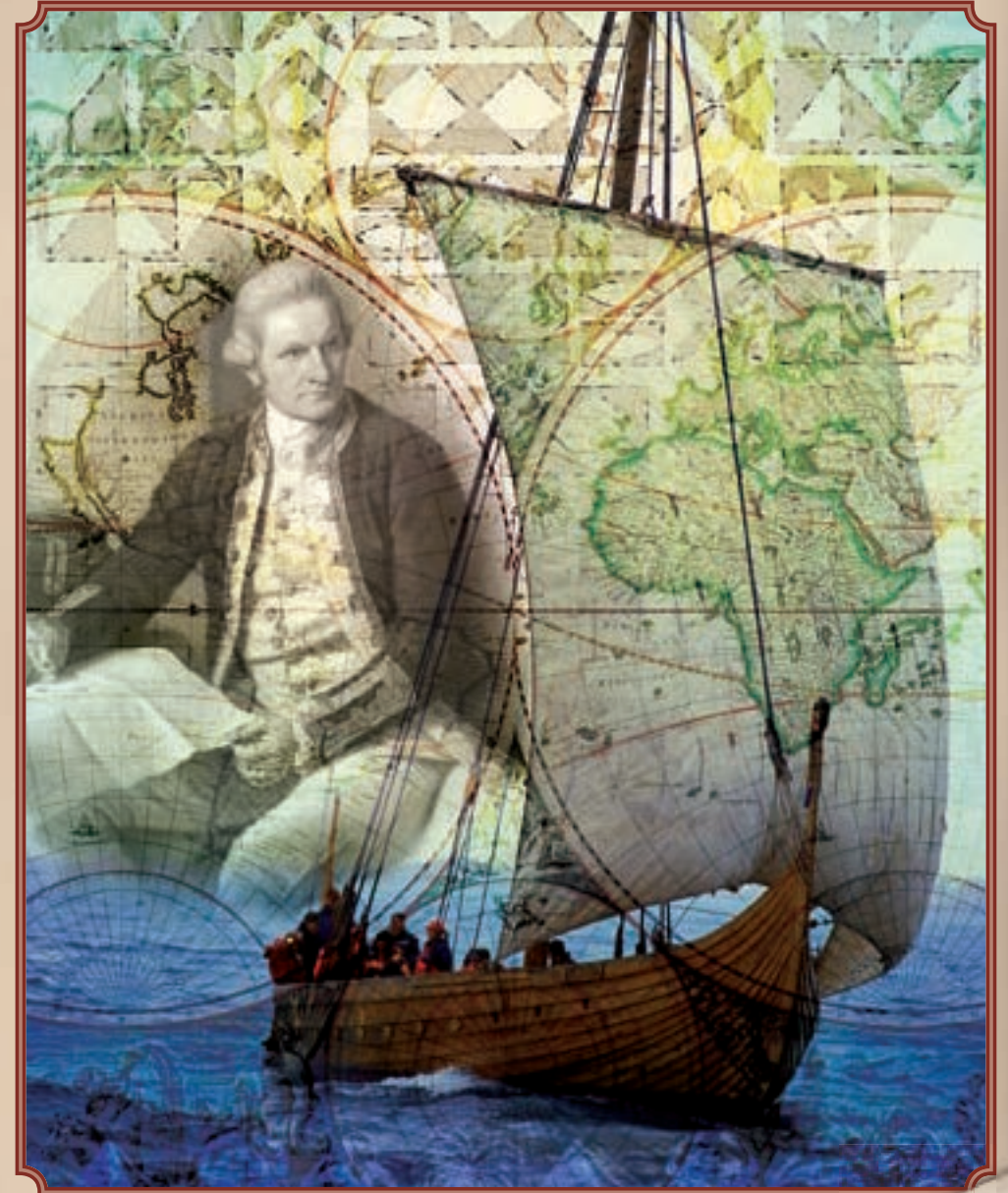
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Fact and Opinion Great Explorations

Cause and Effect A Bad Day at Cherry Farm



Great Explorations



Written by Pam Rushby

Great Explorations

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Introduction

In the past, most people did not travel far. Any place that was more than a few days from their homes was a mystery. People thought that monsters and dragons attacked travellers. They believed stories they had heard about islands with strange peoples. People even believed Earth was flat. They were certain that if they sailed too far they would fall right off the edge of the world.

However, some people in the past did travel. They visited faraway places. They walked or rode horses. They sailed ships across the sea. They were explorers.

There were many reasons why people went exploring. Some went to trade goods. Some looked for new lands to live in. Some thought they could find gold. Some wanted to become famous. Others just wanted to see what was there.



Some people believed that strange people with just one enormous foot lived in faraway lands.



Some people explored new lands in the hope of finding gold.

Ancient Egyptian Explorers

The ancient Egyptians were explorers. They traded with people around the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. They sold goods to other places. Goods like these are called **exports**. Grain and papyrus, an early form of paper, were the main exports. The ancient Egyptians also brought in goods from faraway places. Goods like these are called **imports**.



Ancient Egyptians used imported gold and precious stones to make jewellery.

Punt was one of the places the Egyptians traded with. It had things that did not exist in Egypt. People thought it was a faraway land full of mystery.



About 3,500 years ago, the Pharaoh Hatshepsut sent five ships to Punt. She ordered them to bring back imports such as a fragrant gum made of hardened tree sap, called myrrh. The Egyptians used myrrh to make perfumes. They also burned it in their temples as incense.

The journey was very risky. Many people were sure the ships would never come back. However, the pharaoh was proven right. The ships reached Punt. They returned loaded with gold, myrrh, and special woods.

Pictures from Hatshepsut's tomb showing her ships returning to Egypt with goods from Punt



A piece of myrrh, popular in ancient Egypt because of its pleasant smell

