

## **Exploring North America Pages 58-62**

- 1. Who challenged the Catholic Church? What did he believe instead?**
- 2. What was the Protestant Reformation?**
- 3. Who was John Calvin?**
- 4. Why did King Henry start the Church of England?**
- 5. Which countries were Catholic? Which countries were Protestant?**
- 6. Explain Mercantilism.**
- 7. Define the Columbian Exchange.**
- 8. What was the Northwest Passage?**
- 9. Who was John Cabot and Cartier?**
- 10. What was important about Henry Hudson?**
- 11. How did France plan to make money in North America?**
- 12. Who established the 1<sup>st</sup> French settlement in 1608 in present day Quebec?**
- 13. What were coureurs de bois?**
- 14. What did the Dutch call their new colony?**
- 15. Where is New Amsterdam located in today's terms?**
- 16. How is New France similar or different from New Spain? (Look in your notes if you forget)**

# SECTION 4

# Exploring North America

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Rivalries between countries, the search for a Northwest Passage to Asia, and early trading activities led to increased exploration of North America.

### Key Terms

mercantilism, Columbian Exchange, Northwest Passage, *coureur de bois*

### Reading Strategy

**Determining Cause and Effect** As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and provide an effect for each cause.

Exploration of North America	
Causes	Effects
Protestant Reformation	
Search for NW passage	
Early trading activities	

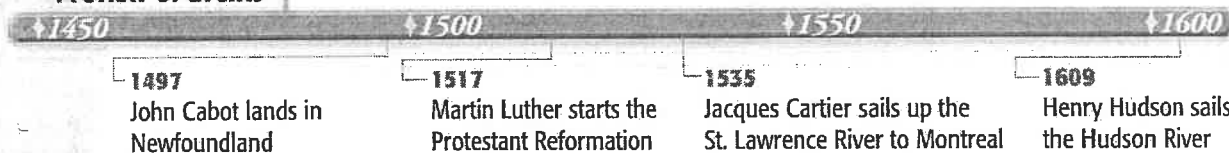
### Read to Learn

- how the Protestant Reformation affected North America.
- why the activities of early traders encouraged exploration.

### Section Theme

**Global Connections** European nations competed for overseas land and resources.

### Preview of Events



Martin Luther

## A European Story

In 1517 Martin Luther, a German priest, nailed a list of complaints about the Catholic Church on the door of a local church. Luther declared that the Bible was the only true guide for Christians. He rejected many Church practices—even the authority of the pope—because they were not mentioned in the Bible. Luther also believed that faith rather than good deeds was the way to salvation.

Church officials tried to get Luther to take back his statements. “I cannot go against my conscience,” he replied. “Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me.”

### A Divided Church

Martin Luther’s actions led to incredible changes in Europe. Before he voiced his beliefs, the countries of Europe had their differences, but they were bound together by a common church. For centuries, Catholicism had been the main religion of western Europe. In the 1500s, however, Luther’s opposition to the policies of the Roman Catholic Church emerged.



Within a few years, Luther had many followers. They broke away from Catholicism to begin their own Christian churches. Martin Luther's protests were the start of a great religious and historical movement known as the **Protestant Reformation**.

### Protestantism Spreads in Europe

From Germany Luther's ideas spread rapidly. **John Calvin**, a French religious thinker, also broke away from the Catholic Church. Like Luther, Calvin rejected the idea that good works would ensure a person's salvation. He believed that God had already chosen those who would be saved.

In England, King Henry VIII also left the Catholic Church, but not for religious reasons. Pope Clement VII had refused Henry's request to declare his first marriage invalid. In 1534 the English Parliament, working with the king,

#### **Picturing History**

In 1676 Kateri Tekakwitha, a 20-year-old Mohawk woman, accepted Christianity from French Catholic missionaries. **What region of North America was settled by the French?**



denied the authority of the pope and recognized the king as the head of the Church of England. During the rule of Henry's daughter, Queen Elizabeth I, further reforms firmly established England as a Protestant nation.

### Religious Rivalries in the Americas

Throughout western Europe, people and nations divided into Catholics and Protestants. When these Europeans crossed the Atlantic, they took along their religious differences.

Spanish and French Catholics worked to spread their faith to the Native Americans. The Spanish settled in the southwestern and southeastern regions of North America, and the French settled in the northeast. Dutch and English Protestants established colonies in lands along the Atlantic coast between the French and the Spanish settlements. Some of the English settlements were founded by Protestants who wanted to practice their beliefs in peace.

**Reading Check Explaining** What role did religion play in the exploration of North America?

### **Economics**

#### Economic Rivalry

Religion was only one of the factors that pushed European nations across the Atlantic Ocean. The promise of great wealth was equally strong, especially as other Europeans watched Spain gain riches from its colonies.

According to the economic theory of **mercantilism**, a nation's power was based on its wealth. Rulers tried to increase their nation's total wealth by acquiring gold and silver and by developing trade. Mercantilism provided great opportunities for individual merchants to make money. It also increased rivalry between nations.

Several countries in Europe competed for overseas territory that could produce wealth. They wanted to acquire colonies in the Americas that could provide valuable resources, such as gold and silver, or raw materials. The colonies would also serve as a place to sell European products.



# MORE ABOUT...

## The Columbian Exchange

Trade between the continents, known as the Columbian Exchange, changed life on both sides of the Atlantic.

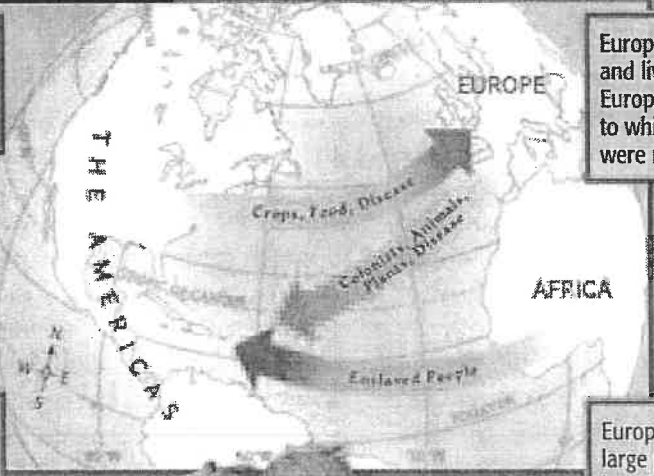


### The Columbian Exchange

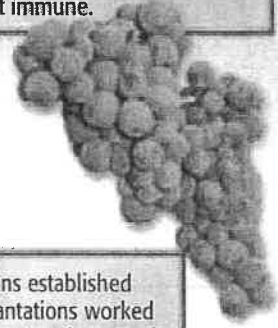
From Native Americans, Europeans acquired foods such as corn, potatoes, tomatoes, beans, and chocolate.



Easy-to-grow food crops, such as the potato, fed Europe's growing population. Some foods, such as corn, also spread to Asia and Africa.



Europeans brought wheat, grapes, and livestock to the Americas. Europeans also introduced diseases to which the Native Americans were not immune.



Europeans established large plantations worked by Native Americans and by Africans.



### The Columbian Exchange

The voyages of Columbus and other explorers brought together two parts of the globe that previously had had no contact: the continents of Europe, Asia, and Africa in one hemisphere and the Americas in the other. The contact led to an exchange of plants, animals, and diseases that altered life on both sides of the Atlantic. Scholars refer to this as the Columbian Exchange.

### A Northwest Passage

The Treaty of Tordesillas had divided the Americas between Spain and Portugal. It did not allow for claims by other nations—so England, France, and the Netherlands ignored the treaty. During the 1500s and early 1600s, these countries sent explorers to chart the coast of North America. They wanted to profit from trade and colonization as well. The voyage to Asia—either around the southern tip of Africa or around South America—was long and difficult. For this reason, the three countries hoped to discover a Northwest Passage to Asia—a more direct water route through the Americas.

In 1497 England sent **John Cabot**, an Italian, to look for a northern route to Asia. Cabot prob-

ably landed on the coast of present-day Newfoundland. England used Cabot's voyage as the basis for its claims to North America.

In 1524 France hired an Italian, **Giovanni da Verrazano**, to look for the northern sea route. Verrazano explored the coast of North America from present-day Nova Scotia down to the Carolinas.

In 1535 French explorer **Jacques Cartier** (KAR•tyay) sailed up the St. Lawrence River hoping it would lead to the Pacific. He got as far as the Huron village of Hochelaga. Cartier wrote that from the mountain next to the village, "one sees a very great distance." He named the peak Mont-Royal, which means "royal mountain." This is the site of the city now called **Montreal**. Cartier had heard stories about gold, but he found neither gold nor a sea route to Asia.

### Hudson's Discoveries

The Netherlands, too, wanted to find a passage through the Americas. They hired **Henry Hudson**, an English sailor, to explore. In 1609 he discovered the river that now bears his name. In his ship, the *Half Moon*, Hudson sailed north on the Hudson River as far as the site of present-day Albany. Deciding that he had not found a passage



to India, he turned back. The following year Hudson tried again, this time sent by England.

Sailing almost due west from northern England, Henry Hudson and his crew discovered a huge bay, now called **Hudson Bay**. Hudson thought he had reached the Pacific Ocean. After months of searching for an outlet from the bay, however, the crew rebelled. Hudson, his son John, and a few sailors were set adrift in a small boat—and never seen again.

## French Open Trading Posts

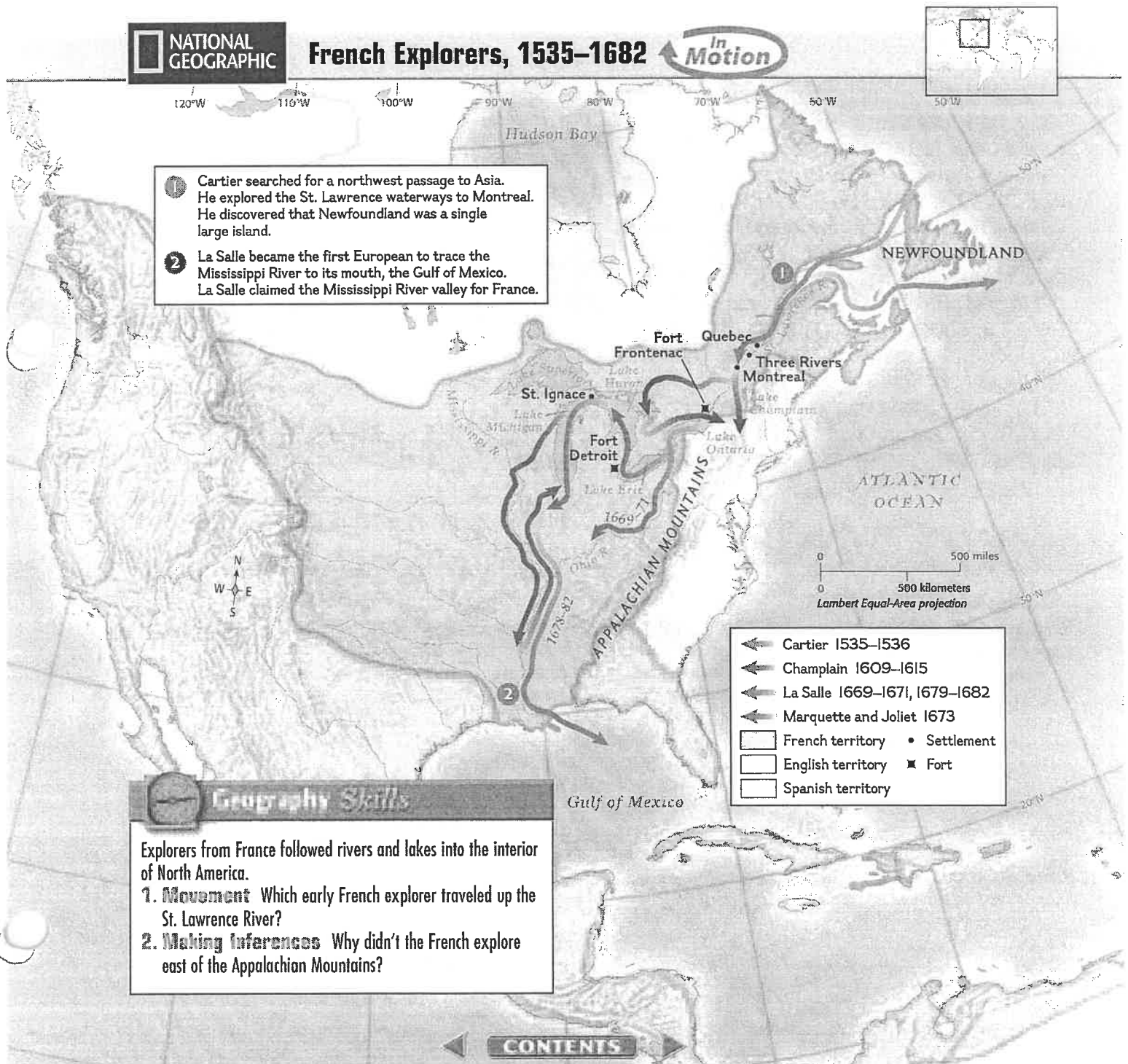
France had shown little interest in building an empire in the Americas. Its rulers were preoccupied by political and religious conflicts at home. The French viewed North America as an opportunity for profits from fishing and fur trading rather than as a place to settle.

Furs were popular in Europe, and traders could make large profits from beaver pelts acquired in North America. A group of French

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

## French Explorers, 1535–1682

*In Motion*



traders made an agreement with the Native Americans to trade fur. In 1608 the group sent **Samuel de Champlain** to establish a settlement in **Quebec** in what is now Canada. Champlain made several trips to the region and discovered Lake Champlain. He described the beautiful scenery and abundant wildlife and the Native Americans he met there.

From Quebec the French moved into other parts of Canada, where they built trading posts to collect furs gathered by Native Americans and French trappers. The trappers were called *coureurs de bois* (ku•RUHR duh BWAH), meaning “runners of the woods.”

### Dutch Settlements


Like other European countries, the Netherlands was also eager to claim its share of world trade. Until Hudson’s voyage, there had been no Dutch exploration in North America. Hudson’s voyage became the start for Dutch claims on the continent.

Although the Netherlands was a small country, its large fleet of trading ships sailed all over the world. In 1621 the Dutch West India Company set up a trading colony—New Netherland—in the area Hudson had explored. In 1624 the company sent 30 families to settle the area. They settled at Fort Orange (later

Fact Fiction Folklore

**America's Flags**

**Flag of New France** Settlers in New France often flew this flag of the French Royal Navy. They also flew the French Royal Banner, which was blue instead of white.



Albany) on the Hudson River and on Burlington Island in New Jersey. Shortly after that, Fort Nassau was established just opposite where Philadelphia stands today.

The center of the new colony was New Amsterdam, located on the tip of Manhattan Island where the Hudson River enters New York Harbor. In 1626 Peter Minuit, the governor of the colony, paid the Manhates people 60 Dutch guilders in goods for the island. The goods probably included cloth, and valuable tools such as axes, hoes, and awls. Like Portugal, Spain, and France, the Netherlands started colonies in the Americas.

**Reading Check Analyzing** Why was the idea of a Northwest Passage important?

## SECTION 4 ASSESSMENT

**HISTORY**  
1492-1782

**Study Central™** To review this section, go to [tarvo1.glencoe.com](http://tarvo1.glencoe.com) and click on **Study Central™**.

### Checking for Understanding

- Key Terms** Write a sentence in which you correctly use each of the following terms: mercantilism, Columbian Exchange, Northwest Passage, *coureur de bois*
- Reviewing Facts** What were English, French, and Dutch explorers searching for while charting the coast of North America?

### Reviewing Themes

- Global Connections** How did French goals in the Americas differ from the goals of other European nations?

### Critical Thinking

- Identifying Central Issues** How did the economic theory of mercantilism influence the exploration and settlement of North America by Europeans?
- Determining Cause and Effect** Re-create the diagram below and explain how the Columbian Exchange affected both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

Columbian Exchange	
Effects on the Americas	Effects on Europe

### Analyzing Visuals

- Geography Skills** Review the map, *French Explorers, 1535–1682*, on page 61. Which of the French explorers traveled farthest south? Along what river did Marquette and Joliet travel?

### Interdisciplinary Activity

**Persuasive Writing** Write a letter to one of the explorers who searched for a Northwest Passage. In the letter, explain why it is important for your nation to find a Northwest Passage.