

The Age of Exploration

Timeline Cards



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Subject Matter Expert

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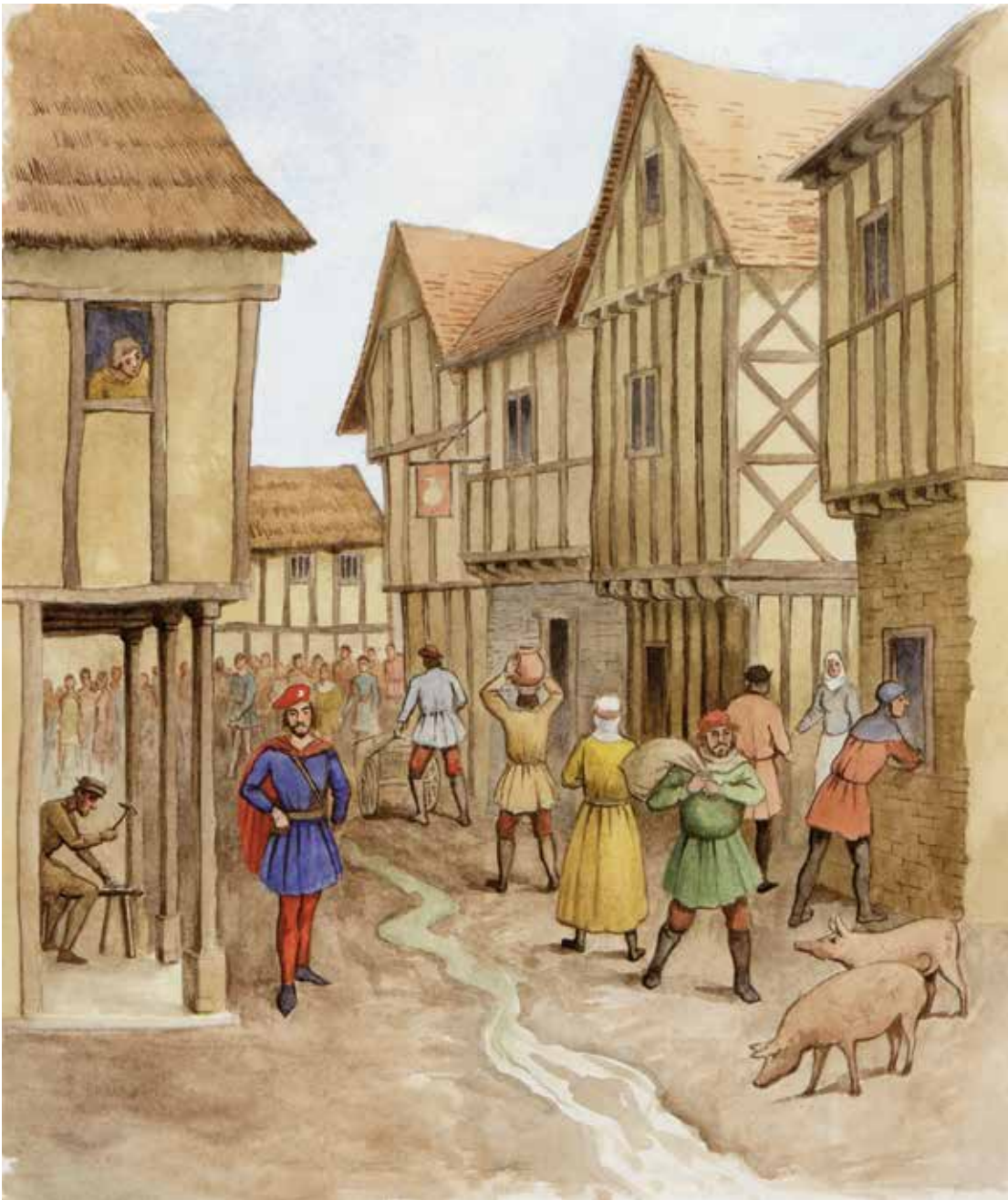
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Chapter 9, Card 21	Japan: Dejima Island, with Dutch flag flying. Chromolithograph of a painting by Johan Maurits (1807–1874)/Pictures from History/Bridgeman Images
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CHAPTER 1: The Spice Islands



During the Middle Ages (400s–1400s), the people of Europe relied on spices to preserve and flavor their food. These spices could be obtained only through the Arab spice trade.

Big Question:

According to the author, how did the search for the Spice Islands change history?

CHAPTER 1: The Spice Islands



Between 1271 and 1295, Venetian Marco Polo traveled throughout Asia with his father and brother. He later wrote of his experiences, providing inspiration to future explorers. This illustration of Venice is from Polo's book.



Big Question: According to the author, how did the search for the Spice Islands change history?

CHAPTER 3: Portuguese Exploration

Early Portuguese Exploration



In 1488, Bartolomeu Dias rounded Africa's Cape of Good Hope. This made him the first European to sail from Europe to the Indian Ocean.



Big Question: Why do you think Portugal is described as a seagoing pioneer?

CHAPTER 3: Portuguese Exploration

Early Portuguese Exploration



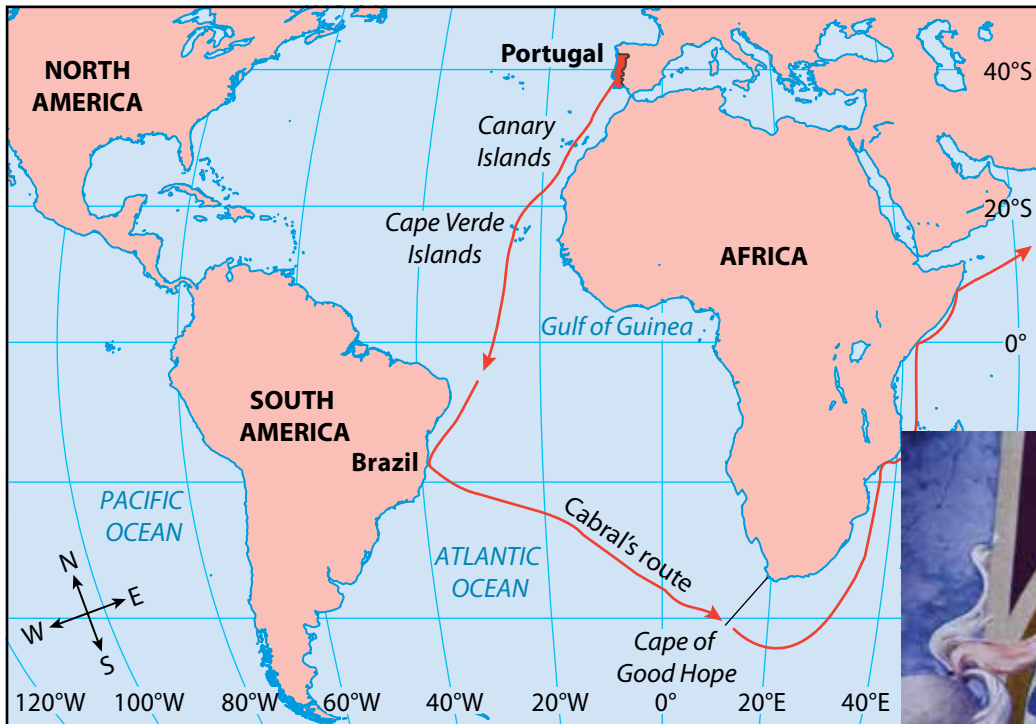
In 1497, Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope and sailed to India, the first European to do so.



Big Question: Why do you think Portugal is described as a seagoing pioneer?

CHAPTER 3: Portuguese Exploration

Cabral's Expedition



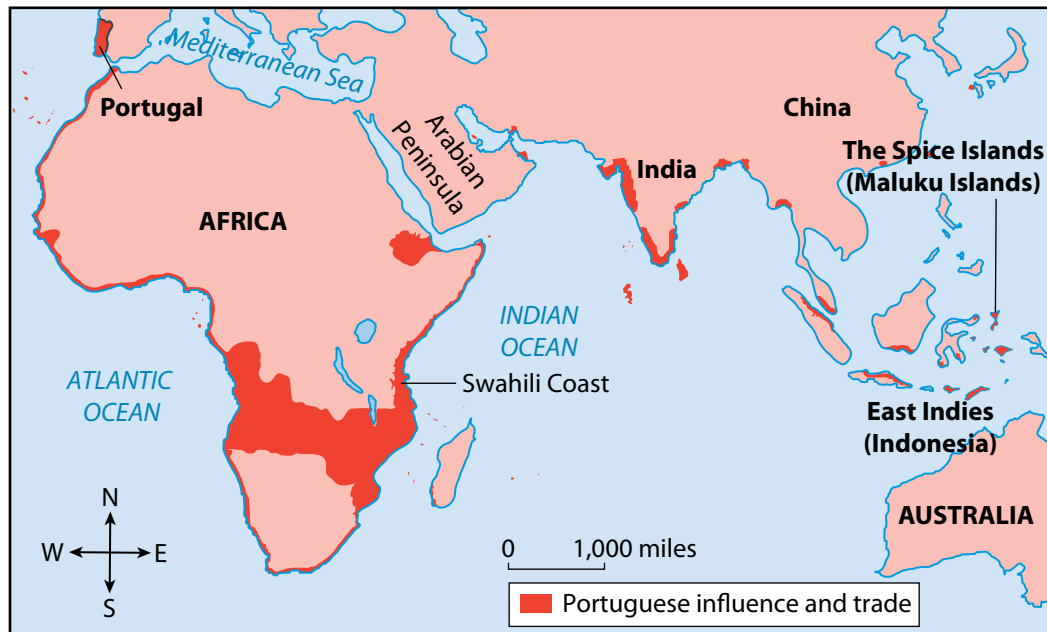
In 1500, Pedro Álvares Cabral happened upon present-day Brazil and claimed the land for Portugal.



Big Question: Why do you think Portugal is described as a seagoing pioneer?

CHAPTER 3: Portuguese Exploration

Portugal's Trade Empire



During the early 1500s, Portugal established a powerful presence in Africa, primarily on the east coast (Swahili Coast) of the continent.

Big Question: Why do you think Portugal is described as a seagoing pioneer?

CHAPTER 4: Christopher Columbus



With the financial backing of Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, Christopher Columbus sailed west in 1492, believing that he would reach the East Indies.

Big Question: Why do you think Columbus kept a secret log?

CHAPTER 4: Christopher Columbus



In 1494, Portugal and Spain signed the Treaty of Tordesillas, which divided newly explored territories between the two nations.

Big Question: Why do you think Columbus kept a secret log?

CHAPTER 5: A Spanish Empire and Its Critics



After Columbus, other Spanish expeditions explored the Americas, including expeditions led by Juan Ponce de León, Hernando de Soto, and Francisco Vázquez de Coronado.

Big Question: How did European explorers and colonists treat the indigenous people of the Americas?

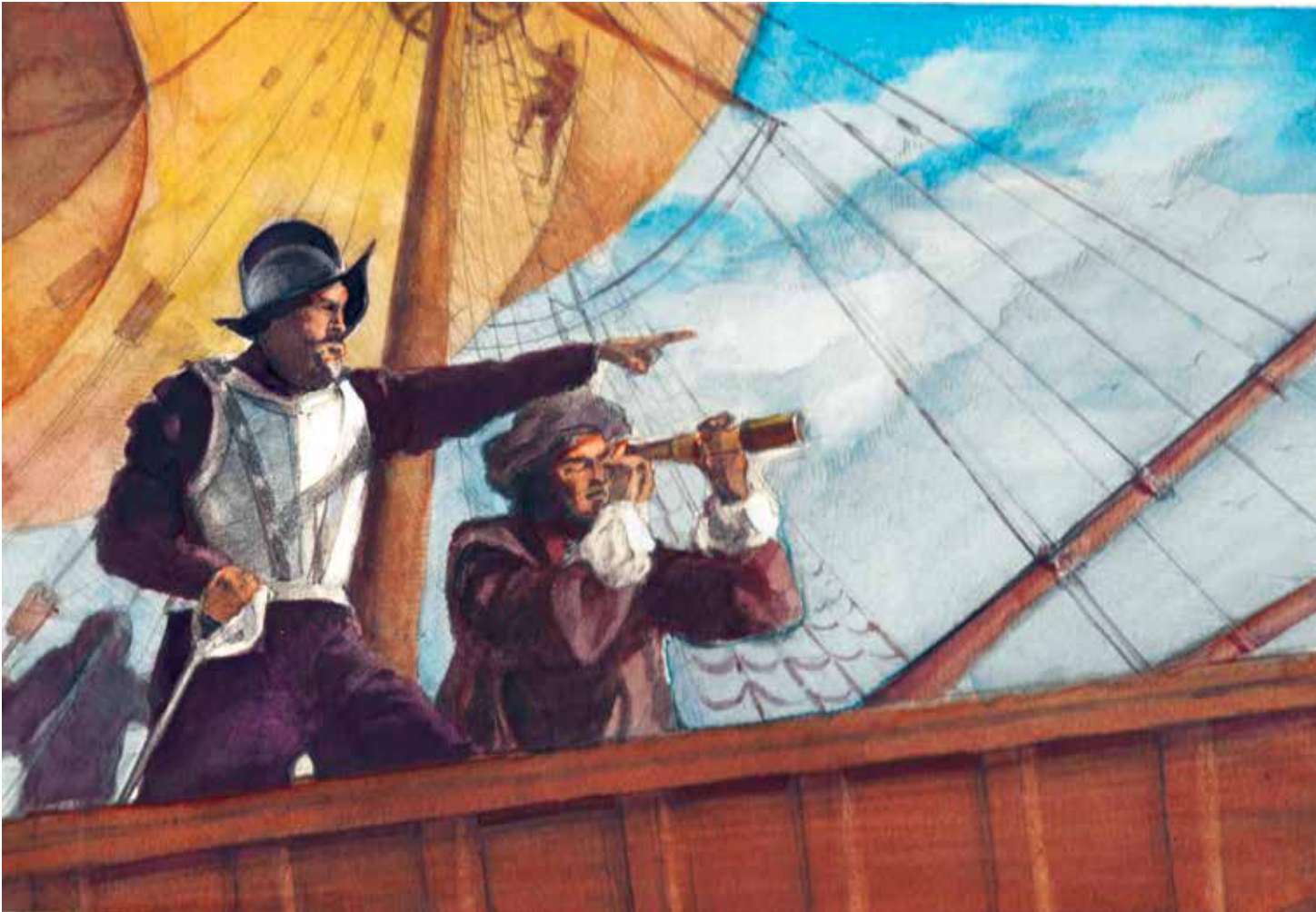
CHAPTER 5: A Spanish Empire and Its Critics



In 1513 Vasco Núñez de Balboa and 190 of his men became the first Europeans to reach the South Sea (today called the Pacific Ocean).

Big Question: How did European explorers and colonists treat the indigenous people of the Americas?

CHAPTER 5: A Spanish Empire and Its Critics



Between 1519 and 1522, Spanish soldiers under the command of conquistador Hernán Cortés conquered the Aztec Empire in present-day Mexico.

Big Question: How did European explorers and colonists treat the indigenous people of the Americas?

CHAPTER 5: A Spanish Empire and Its Critics

Between 1531 and 1533, Spanish soldiers under the command of conquistador Francisco Pizarro conquered the Inca Empire in present-day Peru.



Big Question: How did European explorers and colonists treat the indigenous people of the Americas?

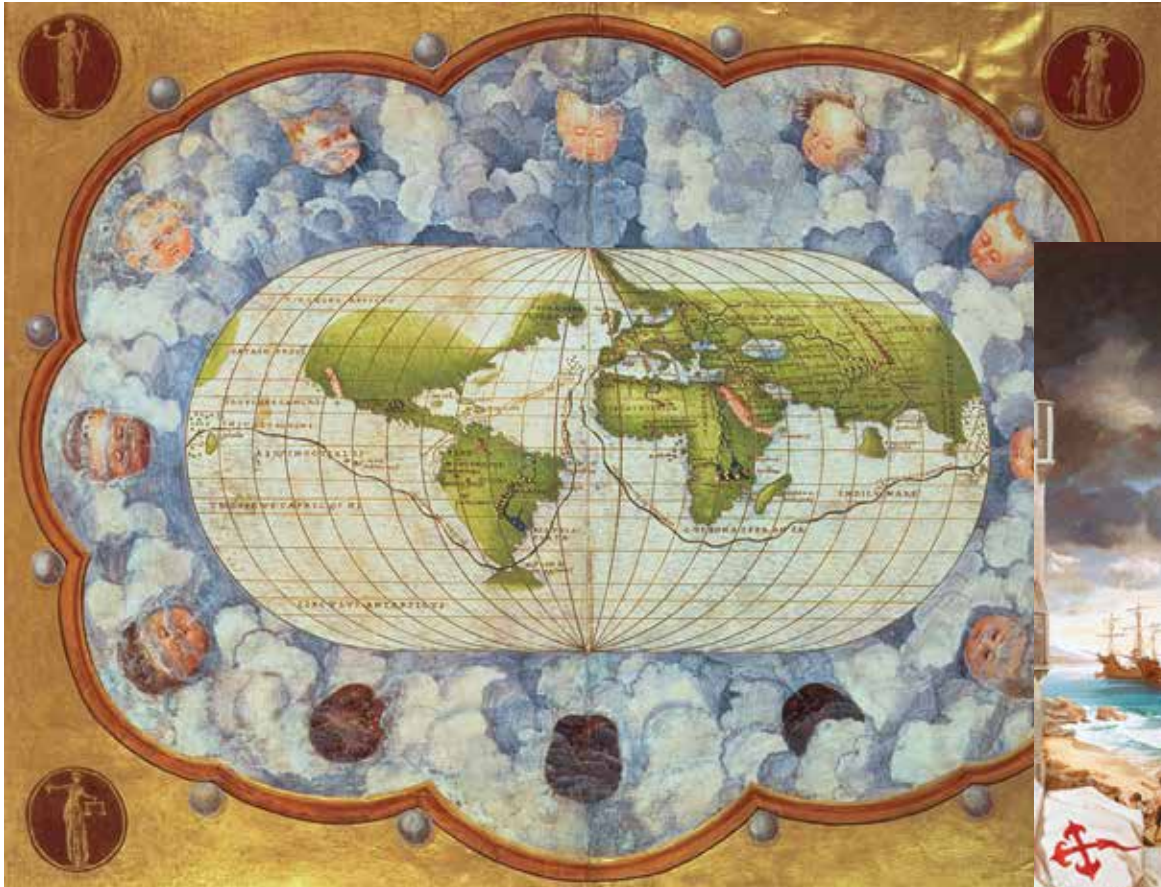
CHAPTER 5: A Spanish Empire and Its Critics



Bartolomé de Las Casas's 1542 book *The Devastation of the Indies: A Brief Account* helped turn Spain's king against that country's *encomienda* system.

Big Question: How did European explorers and colonists treat the indigenous people of the Americas?

CHAPTER 6: Magellan's Voyage



In September 1522, the 18 survivors of Ferdinand Magellan's three-year expedition became the first Europeans to circumnavigate the globe.



Big Question: How important was it for explorers to have finally circumnavigated the globe?

CHAPTER 7: England Explores and Colonizes



From the 1400s through the 1750s, Europeans sought a Northwest Passage through North America to the Pacific Ocean.

Big Question: How did European exploration of the Americas lead to settlement and colonization?

CHAPTER 7: England Explores and Colonizes



In 1497, John Cabot became one of the first Europeans to seek the Northwest Passage. He reached a “new found land” in what is now Canada.

Big Question: How did European exploration of the Americas lead to settlement and colonization?

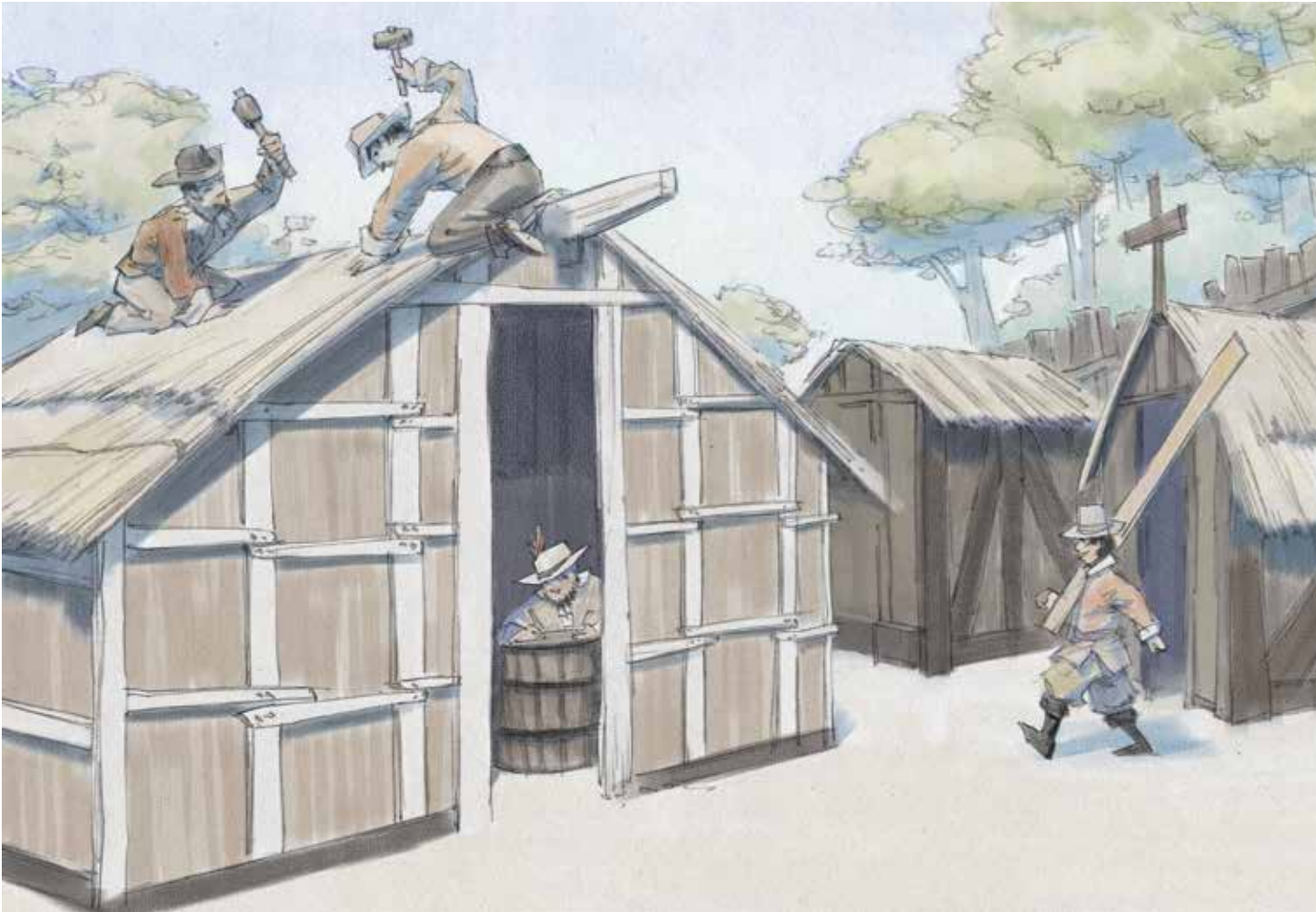
CHAPTER 7: England Explores and Colonizes



Between 1577 and 1580, Sir Francis Drake robbed other ships' treasures to give to Queen Elizabeth I of England.

Big Question: How did European exploration of the Americas lead to settlement and colonization?

CHAPTER 7: England Explores and Colonizes



In 1607, England established its first permanent colony in North America at Jamestown in what became Virginia.

Big Question: How did European exploration of the Americas lead to settlement and colonization?

CHAPTER 8: France and the Fur Trade



Between 1604 and 1610, Samuel de Champlain established colonies in New France in what is now Canada.

Big Question: The French and the English had different approaches to settlement in North America. In what ways were they different?

CHAPTER 8: France and the Fur Trade



In addition to competing for colonies in North America, France and England also competed for trade in India.

Big Question: The French and the English had different approaches to settlement in North America. In what ways were they different?

CHAPTER 9: Dutch Trade



After the death of Portugal's king in the early 1600s, control of the Spice Islands and other Portuguese holdings shifted to the Dutch.

Big Question: How did the death of a king affect the Spice Trade?

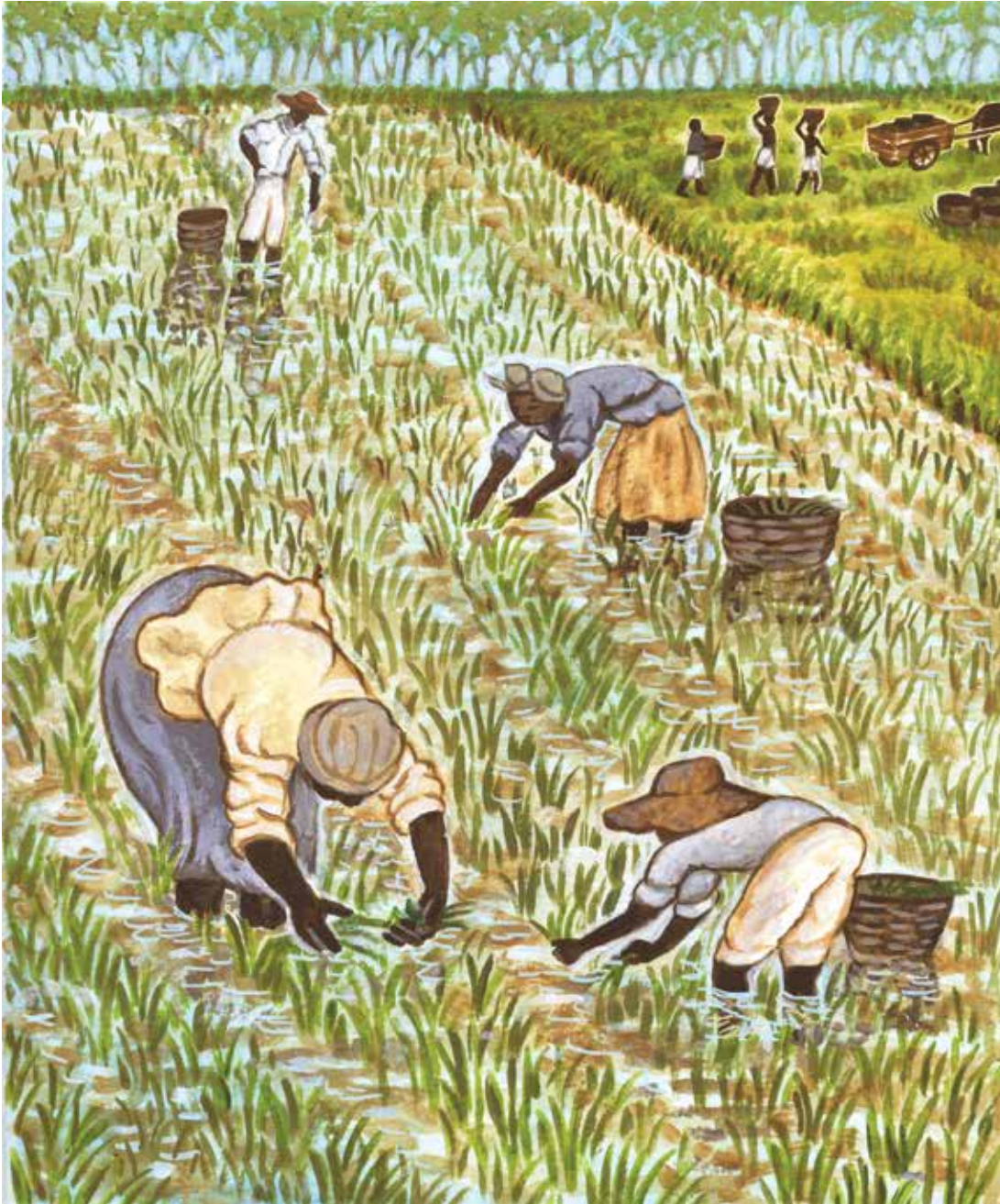
CHAPTER 9: Dutch Trade



In 1609, Henry Hudson searched for the Northwest Passage for the Netherlands.

Big Question: How did the death of a king affect the Spice Trade?

CHAPTER 10: Slavery



During the 1600s, enslaved Africans were brought to the Americas to work on the sugar plantations.

Big Question:

How did the Age of Exploration lead to the development of the slave trade?