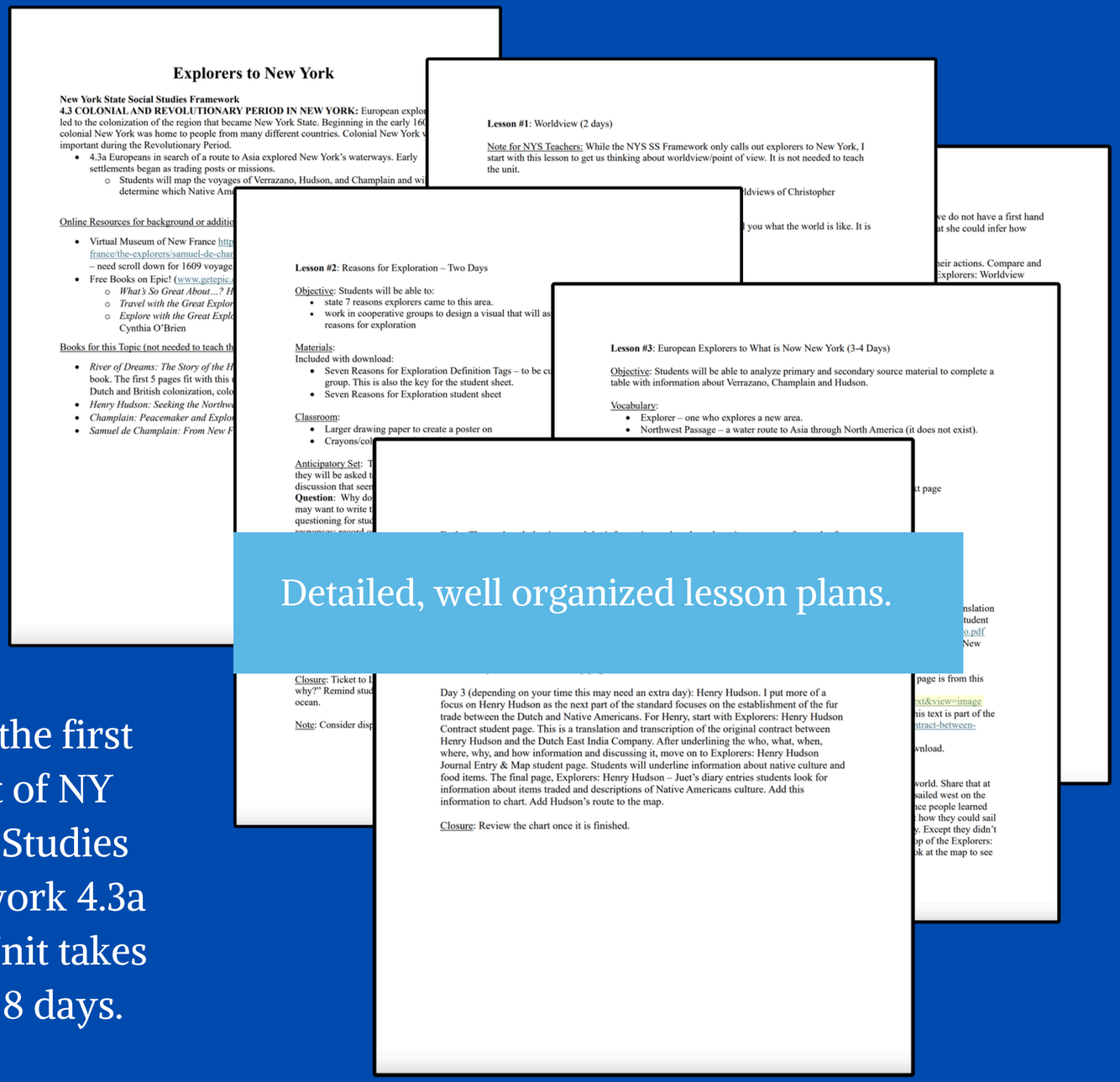


Meets the first bullet of NY Social Studies Framework 4.3a Mini-Unit takes about 8 days.



Detailed, well organized lesson plans.

Note to Teacher: Definition Tags to be cut apart, one tag for each group.

Seven Reasons for Exploration

Curiosity - people wondered what lay across the ocean, or around the globe.

Wealth - people explored in order to n

Fame - some people wanted to be rem
lives, for their exploration.

National Pride - people explored to b
lar

Religion - some explorers wanted to sp

Foreign Goods - people wanted to brin
could not be found in their own coun

Better Trade Routes - people explored
countries.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Seven Reasons for Exploration

Curiosity _____

Wealth _____

Religion _____

Foreign Goods _____

Better Trade Routes _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Explorers: Reasons for Exploration

If you were an explorer, what would be your reason to explore and why? Giv

Explore reasons for exploration.

Name: _____ Date: _____

European Explorers to What is Now New York

Searching for the Northwest Passage in North America

After Europeans reached North America, many explorers believed there might be a Northwest Passage—a waterway through the North American continent that would allow ships to travel to Asia. At the time, explorers had no idea how large North America was. They thought rivers, lakes, or narrow waterways might cut across the land and lead to the Pacific Ocean.

Because of this belief, explorers carefully sailed along coastlines, rivers, and bays in North America. Several important explorers reached the area that would later become New York while searching for this passage.

565 in England.
glish merchants
hrough the icy
he North Pole.
t thick ice
l and forced
not want to

and nearby coastline but did not find the Northwest Passage. His voyage helped Europeans learn more about the geography of the land that would later become New York.

Samuel de Champlain

Samuel de Champlain was born in 1574 in France. He made many voyages to North America while working for France. Champlain spent much of his time in New France (Canada), where he explored rivers and lakes and helped establish French settlements.

Champlain formed an alliance with the Montagnais, Algonquin, and Huron tribes and established the fur trade between Indigenous peoples and the French. This alliance also placed him in conflict with the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy).

In 1609, while searching for waterways that might lead to the Northwest Passage, Champlain traveled south along the Iroquois River (now called the Richelieu River) and entered a large lake that is now known as Lake Champlain, located partly in present-day New York State.

In 1615, Champlain returned to New France and joined the Huron and Algonquin peoples on a long journey through the rivers of Canada and across Lake Ontario. Together, they traveled south to attack the Onondaga, in what is now the Syracuse, New York area. Although Champlain never found the Northwest Passage, his explorations helped map much of northeastern North America.

give up. Both voyages were unsuccessful.

In 1609, Hudson was hired by the Dutch East India Company to search for the Northwest Passage. He sailed west across the Atlantic on a ship called the Half Moon. Hudson first reached Newfoundland, where he wanted to continue exploring to look for a passage to Asia. However, his crew became angry and threatened to throw him overboard if he did not stop exploring and sail for home.

Instead of returning straight to Europe, Hudson chose to sail south along the coast of North America. In September 1609, he entered New York Harbor and then traveled north along a wide river, hoping it would lead across the continent. This river is now called the Hudson River. Hudson did not find the Northwest Passage, but his voyage helped the Dutch claim the land that would later become New York.

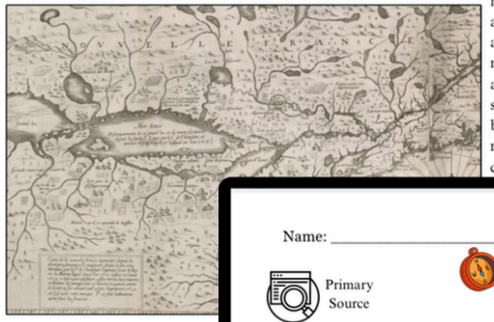
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Informational text introduces explorers.

Name: KEY Date: _____

Samuel de Champlain

Primary Source



"We set out on the next day, continuing our course in the river as far as the entrance of the lake. There are many pretty islands here, low, and containing very fine woods and meadows, with abundance of fowl and such animals of the chase as stags, fallow-deer, fawns, roe-bucks, bears, and others, which go from the main land to these islands. We captured a large number of these

The next day we entered the la
four fine islands, ten, twelve, and
River of the Iroquois; but they ha
There are also many rivers fallin
France, with many vines finer tha
this lake, which I had not seen be
Continuing our course over th
high mountains on the eastern si
these localities were inhabited, w
valleys in these places, with plain
kinds of fruit without limit." - Fr

Observe
Use blue to underlin
Use green to underli
Circle the word "bea

Infer
Thinking about Cha
describing? _____

What mountains do

Name: _____ Date: _____

Samuel de Champlain

Primary Source



The next day we entered the lake,' whi
saw four fine islands, ten, twelve, and fift
the River of the Iroquois; but they have been abandoned since the wars of the savages with one anoth
prevail. There are also many rivers falling into the lake, bordered by many fine trees of the same kinds
those we have in France, with many vines finer than any I have seen in any other place; also many che
trees on the border of this lake, which I had not seen before. There is also a great abundance of fish, o
varieties...

Continuing our course over this lake on the western side, I noticed, while observing the country, so
high mountains on the eastern side, on the top of which there was snow. I made inquiry of the [natives
whether these localities were inhabited, when they told me that the Iroquois dwelt there, and that there
beautiful valleys in these places, with plains productive in grain, such as I had eaten in this country, to
with many kinds of fruit without limit." - From the Voyages of Samuel de Champlain, written by hims

Observe
Use blue to underline the text that describes any animals and plants that Champlain saw.

Use green to underline the text that describes the land in what is now New York that Champlain saw.

Circle the word "beaver". This animal is very important to our state, as we will see in future lessons.

Infer
Thinking about Champlain and the geography of New York State, what lake do you think he is describing? _____

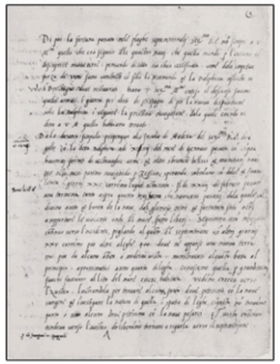
What mountains do you think he is describing? _____

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Giovanni Da Verrazzano

Primary Source



The first page of the letter Verrazzano wrote to King Francis I. It is written in Italian.



A section of the letter from Verrazzano to King Francis I. This section describes what he saw in what is now New York Bay.

"After a hundred leagues we found a very agreeable place between tw
wide river,
the help of
have passe
anchored
run any ris
So we took
densely po
others, dre
came towa
showing us
river for ab
beautiful la
XXX of the
innumerab
to the othe

Words to Know

league - a unit to measure distance.

Observe
Use orange to underline the text that descri
Algonquians.

Use green to underline the text that describ

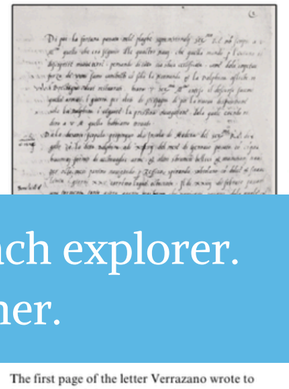
What did Verrazzano name what is now N

Infer
Thinking about the geography of New Yor
referring to? _____

Name: KEY Date: _____

Giovanni Da Verrazzano

Primary Source



The first page of the letter Verrazzano wrote to King Francis I. It is written in Italian.



A section of the letter from Verrazzano to King Francis I. This section describes what he saw in what is now New York Bay.

"After a hundred leagues we found a very agreeable place between two small but prominent hills; between them a very wide river, deep at its mouth, flowed out into the sea; and with the help of the tide, which rises eight feet, any laden ship could
d from the sea into the river estuary. Since we were
ff the coast and well sheltered, we did not want to
s without knowing anything about the river mouth.
the small boat up this river to land which we found
pulated. The people were almost the same as the
ssed in birds' feathers of various colors, and they
d us joyfully, uttering loud cries of wonderment, and
the safest place to beach the boat. We went up this river for about half a league, where we saw that it formed a beautiful lake, about three leagues in circumference. About XXX of their small boats ran to and fro across the lake with innumerable people aboard who were crossing from one side to the other to see us. Suddenly, as often happens in sailing, a violent unfavorable wind blew in from the sea, and we were forced to return to the ship, leaving the land with much regret on account of its favorable conditions and beauty; we think it was not without some properties of value, since all the hills showed signs of minerals [called "Angoleme" after the principality which you attained in days of lesser fortune; and the bay formed by this land we called "Santa Margarita," naming it after your sister, who surpasses all other matrons in modesty and intellect.]"

Words to Know

league - a unit to measure distance. One league is about 3.5 miles.

estuary - an area where a freshwater river meets the ocean.

XXX - Roman numeral for 30.

Observe
Use orange to underline the text that describes the people Verrazzano met. These people were Algonquians.

Use green to underline the text that describes the land around what is now New York Bay.

What did Verrazzano name what is now New York Bay? Santa Margarita

Infer
Thinking about the geography of New York State, what river do you think Verrazzano is referring to? The Hudson River

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Primary source investigation for each explorer.
Keys provided to aid teacher.

Name: KEY Date:

Primary Source

Henry Hudson Contract



Henry Hudson signing a contract with the Dutch East India Company on 8 January 1608. Created in 18

Contract with Henry Hudson

On this eighth of January in the year of our thousand six hundred and nine, the Directo East India Company of the Chamber of Am of the ten years reckoning of the one part, Henry Hudson, Englishman, assisted by Jod Hondius, of the other part, have agreed in following, to wit: That the said directors sha first place equip a small vessel or yacht of ab thirty lasts burden, with which, well provide men, provisions and other necessaries, the a named Hudson shall about the 1st of April, order to search for a passage by the North, by the North side of Nova Zembla, and shal continue thus along that parallel until he sh able to sail Southward to the latitude of sixt degrees. He shall obtain as much knowledge lands as can be done without any considera time, and if it is possible return immediately to make a faithful report and relation of his to the Directors and to deliver over his jour books and charts, together with an account everything whatsoever which shall happen during the voyage without keeping anything



for which said voyage the Directors shall pay to the said Hudson, as well for his outfit for the said voyage, as for the support ot his wife and children, the sum of eight hundred guilders; and, in case (which God prevent) he do not come back or arrive hereabouts within a year, the Directors shall further pay to his wife two hundred guilders in cash; and thereupon they shall not be further liable to him or his heirs, unless he

Name: KEY Date:

Primary Source

Henry Hudson Journal & Map



Henry Hudson's Diary -17 September 1609
Underline the text using the key.

Yellow - food items

Green - Descriptions of Native American culture.

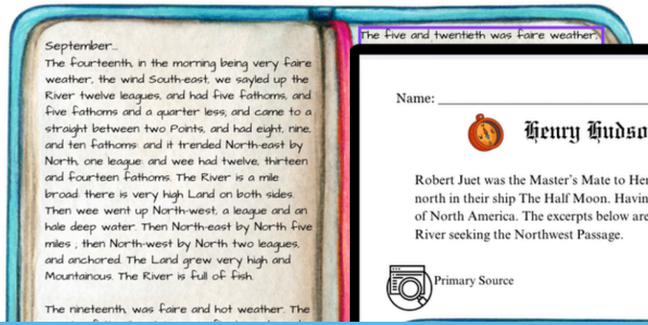
I sailed to the shore in one of their canoes with an old man who was chief of a tribe consisting of forty men and seventeen women. These I saw there in a house, well constructed of oak-bark, and circular in shape, so that it had the appearance of being built with an arched roof. It contained a great quantity of Indian corn and beans of the last year's growth, and there lay near the house, for purpose of drying, enough to load three ships, besides what was growing in the fields. On our coming into the house, two mats were spread out to sit upon, and some food was immediately served in well-made red wooden bowls. Two men were also dispatched at once with bows and arrows in quest of game, who soon brought in pair of pigeons which they had shot.

Name: KEY Date:

Primary Source

Henry Hudson - Robert Juet's Diary

Robert Juet was the Master's Mate to Henry Hudson in 1609, as they made their voyage first to the north in their ship The Half Moon. Having no success to the north, they turned east, finding the coast of North America. The excerpts below are from when the Half Moon sailed up and down the Hudson River seeking the Northwest Passage.



September...
The Fourteenth, in the morning being very faire weather, the wind South-east, we sayled up the River twelve leagues, and had five fathoms, and five fathoms and a quarter less, and came to a straight between two Points, and had eight, nine, and ten fathoms: and it trended North-east by North, one league: and wee had twelve, thirteen and fourteen fathoms. The River is a mile broad: there is very high Land on both sides. Then wee went up North-west, a league and an hale deep water. Then North-east by North five miles ; then North-west by North two leagues, and anchored. The Land grew very high and Mountainous. The River is full of fish.

The nineteenth, was faire and hot weather. The

The five and twentieth was faire weather,

Items traded with Native Americans

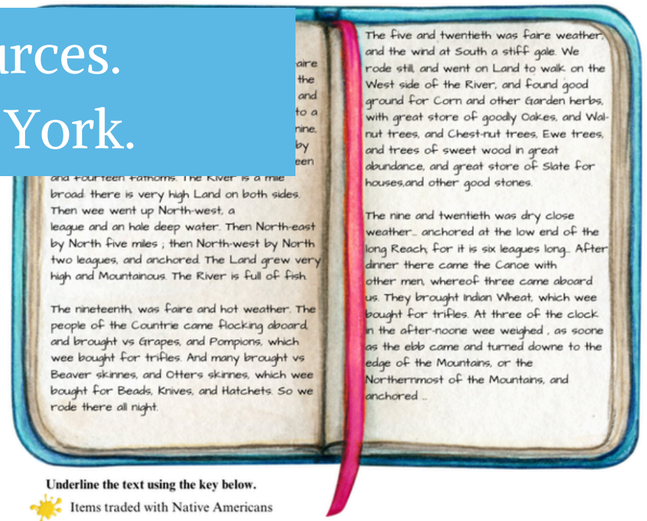
Descriptions of the land and natural resources.

Name: Date:

Primary Source

Henry Hudson - Robert Juet's Diary

Robert Juet was the Master's Mate to Henry Hudson in 1609, as they made their voyage first to the north in their ship The Half Moon. Having no success to the north, they turned east, finding the coast of North America. The excerpts below are from when the Half Moon sailed up and down the Hudson River seeking the Northwest Passage.



The five and twentieth was faire weather, and the wind at South a stiff gale. We rode still, and went on Land to walk on the West side of the River, and found good ground for Corn and other Garden herbs, with great store of goodly Oakes, and Walnut trees, and Chest-nut trees. Ewe trees, and trees of sweet wood in great abundance, and great store of Slate for houses,and other good stones.

The nine and twentieth was dry close weather... anchored at the low end of the long Reach, for it is six leagues long.. After dinner there came the Canoe with other men, whereof three came aboard us. They brought Indian Wheat, which wee bought for trifles. At three of the clock in the after-noone wee weighed , as soone as the ebb came and turned downe to the edge of the Mountains, or the Northermost of the Mountains, and anchored ...

Underline the text using the key below.

Items traded with Native Americans

Descriptions of Native Americans or their culture.

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Name:

Primary Source

Henry Hudson - Cont



Henry Hudson sign
India Company on

Contrac

On this eighth of Ja
thousand six hundr
East India Company of the Chamber of Amsterdam of the ten years reckoning of the one part, and Mr. Henry Hudson, Englishman, assisted by Jodocus Hondius, of the other part, have agreed in manner following, to wit: That the said directors shall in the first place equip a small vessel or yacht of about thirty lasts burden, with which, well provided with men, provisions and other necessaries, the above named Hudson shall about the 1st of April, sail, in order to search for a passage by the North, around by the North side of Nova Zembla, and shall continue thus along that parallel until he shall be able to sail Southward to the latitude of sixty degrees. He shall obtain as much knowledge of the lands as can be done without any considerable loss of time, and if it is possible return immediately in order to make a faithful report and relation of his voyage to the Directors, and to deliver over his journals, log-books and charts, together with an account of everything whatsoever which shall happen to him during the voyage without keeping anything back;

for which said vo
said Hudson, as
as for the suppor
eight hundred gu
prevent) he do n
within a year, th
wife two hundre
before named Hu
residence in this
and shall enter in
than the Compa
Directors, who a
content for such
equity. All witho
the truth, two co
tenor and are sub
Jodocus Hondius, as interpreter and witness.

Dated as above, (signed) DIRK VAN Os, J. POPPE, HENRY HUDSON, (Lower down signed) Jodocus Hondius, witness.

Directions: Underline text using the key:



Observe

Who
What
When
Where
Why
How

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Name:

Primary Source

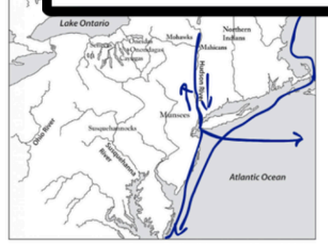
Henry Hudson - Jo

Henry Hudson's Diary -17 September 1609
Underline the text using the key.

Yellow - Items traded with Native Americans

Green - Descriptions of Native American culture.

of the last year's growth, and there lay near the house, for purpose of drying, enough to load three ships, besides what was growing in the fields. On our coming into the house, two mats were spread out to sit upon, and some food was immediately served in well-made red wooden bowls. Two men were also dispatched at once with bows and arrows in quest of game, who soon brought in pair of pigeons which they had shot.



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Emphasis on Henry Hudson with three primary sources.
This leads to the next unit... New Netherland to New York.

Table to gather all information

Map explorers' routes

Study/Review Materials
Summative Assessment

Name: KEY Date:

Explorers to New York - Sum It Up

Explorer - Nationality (Year Sailed)	Giovanni da Verrazano Italian (1524)	Samuel de Champlain French (1609)	Henry Hudson English (1609)
Country he sailed for...	France	France	Neitherlands
Reason for sailing			
Where he arrived - any descriptions provided.			
Were any people met? If so, whom and what information is there about them?			

Name: Date:

Explorers to New York - Sum It Up

European explorers made months long journeys that were very dangerous, not knowing where they would land. On this map we will draw the routes taken by three explorers who all ended up in what is now New York State.



Name: Date:

European Explorers' Routes

European explorers made months long journeys that were very dangerous, not knowing where they land. On this map we will draw the routes taken by three explorers who all made it to what is now State.



KEY

Verrazano ☐
Champlain ☐
Hudson ☐

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Name: Date:

Assessment

List the seven reasons for exploration.

Explain the Northwest Passage.

Complete t

Exp

I HAVE... foreign goods

I HAVE... explorer

Start & Finish

I HAVE... better trade routes

I HAVE... curiosity

WHO HAS... people explored in order to

Name: Date:

Study Review

Directions: Cut out each card. Lay down the
Sort the cards under the correct explorer.



Giovanni daVerrazzano

Fr

Sailed to ex
the shortest

Explored South Carolina to New York Bay.

South o
NYS
what is

Directions: This is the key. Cut it out as one big square (do not each square out separately).

Put the key face down away from your work area while you sort the cards. When you are done, check your work using this key.

Giova
daVerra

France

Sailed to explore and
shortest route to

Explored South Car
New York Ba

Name: Date:

Study Guide

use the practice chart below to test

Explorer	Sailed For	Reason for Sailing	Arrived At

2026

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