YEAR 3 HISTORY – EXPLORERS – Autumn 2

Tier 3 Vocabulary

Monarch – a king or queen who rules a country.

Reign – the length of time that a monarch is ruling a country.

Expedition – a long journey made for a special reason, such as exploring.

Rival – a person or country that competes with another to win.

Circumnavigation – sailing all the way around the world.

Privateer – a sailor allowed by the monarch to attack and rob enemy ships.

Colony – land where settlers live, ruled by their home country far away.

Sponsor – someone who pays for or supports something, such as a voyage.

Empire – a group of countries or lands ruled by one powerful country.

Consequence – something that happens because of something else.

Enslavement – when people are captured, treated as property and forced to work.

Plantation – a large farm growing crops such as sugar or tobacco.

Knowledge Facts

The Tudors were a dynasty who ruled England from 1485 to 1603. There were five monarchs: Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I.

Tudor sailors explored to find trade routes, wealth, power and territory. The lands they reached were already home to Indigenous peoples.

Sir Francis Drake from Devon sailed around the world in the Golden Hind (1577–1580). The English saw a hero; the Spanish saw a pirate.

Sir Walter Raleigh, a favourite of Elizabeth I, sponsored voyages to start an English colony on Roanoke Island. The 1587 colonists vanished.

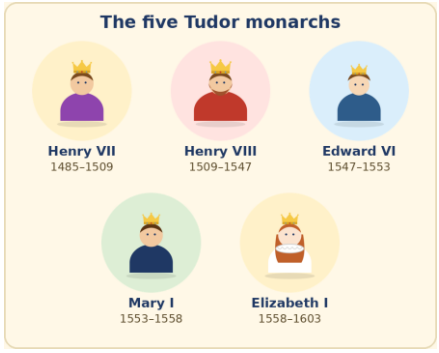
England and Spain were rivals. Drake's attacks and Raleigh's colony angered Spain, leading to the Spanish Armada of 1588, which failed.

The Transatlantic Slave Trade forced millions of Africans to work on plantations in the Americas, causing terrible suffering.

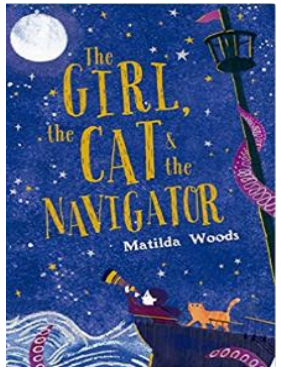
End Points

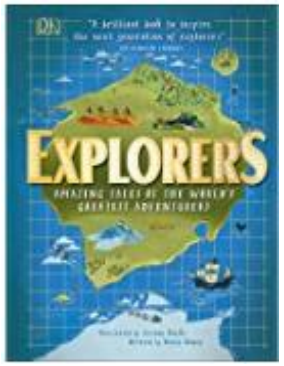
Describe the key achievements of explorers in the Tudor period, and the impact on Britain, explaining how the evidence available has contributed to our understanding.





Book Curriculum





Other recommended reads



