Discovering New Worlds

In the 1300s advances in technology made it possible for European sailors to travel farther than they ever had before. Sailors from Portugal and Spain soon set out on trips in search of an ocean route to Asia. Before long sailors from many countries were crossing the oceans and exploring new lands.

MAP ACTIVITY

1. On the map, use a bright color to trace the first route to cross the Atlantic Ocean from Europe.

2. Use another bright color to trace the second route to cross the Atlantic Ocean from Europe.

3. On the map, use a different color to trace the route that started in 1577 and ended in 1580.

4. Update the map legend to show the colors that you added to the map.
ANALYZING MAPS

1. Place  Which explorer was the first to travel around the southern tip of Africa?

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2. Movement  What continents did Sir Francis Drake pass on his travels?

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3. Human/Environment Interaction  Based on the map, what continent did the explorers pass by most often?

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4. Draw a Conclusion  Why were the great voyages of discovery so important?

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