

Kevin Brady
Assignment #5
Computer Based Lesson Plan

- 1) Objective - To increase the learner's knowledge of American history and geography and to integrate computer-based research methods into the learners bank of skills.
- 2) Materials - A dictionary, an Internet connection, looseleaf.
- 3) Internet Activities - Searching the World Wide Web using the Excite and Altavista Search engines. Having students determine which Internet sites are the most useful for their purposes.
- 4) Procedures - Distribute copies of the "Who Discovered America" worksheet. Connect the learner to the Internet. Point out the address bar on Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer. Explain to the learner how to use the back and forward buttons on their web browser. Collect the completed assignments.
- 5) Evaluation - Students will be graded on the number of questions they answer correctly, and the ease with which they are able to use their browser.

NAME _____

DATE _____



WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA?

PART #1

This activity is designed to introduce you to a number of historical figures who helped to shape the country we now call the United States.

The story of America is often said to have begun with Christopher Columbus, a 15th century explorer who established the first European settlement in North America. However, the settlement of this continent began well before Columbus sailed across the Atlantic ocean.

SURFING FOR OUR PAST

1) Using Netscape Navigator, type in the following Internet Address -- <http://www.altavista.com>.

2) Now hit the return or enter key on your keyboard. After a few seconds you will see the Altavista homepage. Altavista is a "search engine," a computer program which helps you find information on the Internet.

3) You should see a white bar in the middle of your screen. Use your mouse to click the pointer on this bar. Now type the following words into the bar: "Bering Land Bridge" (make certain you include the quotation marks)-- Now click the Search button.

4) Wait a few seconds. Altavista is now searching for webpages which match the words you've typed into the bar. When you see the Altavista logo again, you will have reached your destination!

5) Now use the scroll bar at the right hand side of your screen to move up and down the page. The little arrow at the bottom of the screen will move the page downward - The arrow at the top of the page will move the page in the opposite direction.



SECTION #1: YOUR CHALLENGE:

• At the bottom of your page, you will see a number of lines of text outlined in blue. Each of these blue marks is a "link" to a page that includes the words Bering Land Bridge. By clicking on these links and reading the pages to which they are attached, you must answer the following questions:

- Where was the Bering Land Bridge located?

- Where did the people who crossed the come from?

- When did the first people come across the Bering Land Bridge?

• **NOW THAT YOU KNOW** how the Bering Land Bridge was used, you must work to uncover information about the first people to inhabit our continent, **the Native Americans**. Before white Europeans came to America, millions of native people lived in the New World.

SECTION #2: NATIVE AMERICAN NATIONS

Below are the names of a number of Native American Nations - Your job will be to use the Altavista search engine to find information about **at least three** of these nations. (Use Looseleaf)

The Mandan

The Huron

The Leni Lenape

The Cree

The Cherokee

The Nez Perce

The Algonquin

The Hopi

Answer as many of following questions about the Indian Nations as you can:

- 1) In what part of the United States was(or is) this Indian Nation located?
- 2) Describe one important historical event in your Indian Nation's History?
- 3) Does this Indian Nation still exist, or was it wiped out?
- 4) If this Indian nation still exists, how do its member make a living?

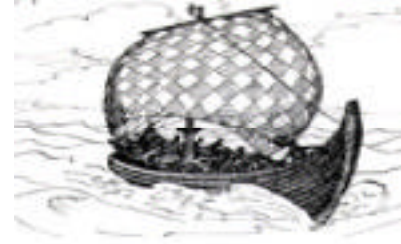


SECTION #3: THE FIRST EUROPEANS

Perhaps everyone knows Columbus, and most people consider him the first European person to come to America. However, over the past 100 years, a number of sites have been discovered which prove that Europeans came to North American long before Columbus.

THE VIKINGS -

Use the Altavista search engine to answer the following questions:



1) Who was Bjarni Herjolfsson?

2) What was Vinland?

3) Who was Leif Erickson

4) Where is L'Anse aux Meadows, and why is it important?

SECTION #4: LATER EUROPEANS

* Finally, we have come to the European Explorers who are somewhat better known than the Native Americans and Vikings whom we just reviewed. Perhaps the best know explorer of the New World was Christopher Columbus.

For this section of the assignment we will use another search engine. Wipe away whatever address is in you address box by pressing the delete key. Now type the following address into the address box: <http://www.excite.com> -- Then hit the return or enter key. Wait a few seconds.

* After you have used the Excite search engine to find pages that relate to Christopher Columbus, you must, once again, examine a number of different websites to uncover the information you will need to answer the following questions:

1) Where was Christopher Columbus born?

2) From what city did Columbus' ships sail?

3) What were the names of the king and queen who sponsored Columbus' voyage?

4) Where in the New World did Columbus first land?

CONGRATULATIONS! You have successfully finished the "Who Discovered America" exercise. Please take this worksheet to your instructor. Please, make certain you have written your name on the first page.