

The story you will soon read comes from this website [Columbus Day 2021 - Facts, Celebrations & Controversy - HISTORY](#) and I adapted it or changed it so it easier for you to read. I hope you enjoy it. Alessandro Massaro

Columbus Day and Indigineous People's Day

EXERCISES

1. Read the story by yourself and underline all of the words that you do not understand.

Columbus Day became a federal holiday in 1937 in the USA. A federal holiday is a holiday that people celebrate in all 50 states of the USA. However, in some places in the USA some people celebrated Columbus Day beginning in the 18th century. Many people celebrate Columbus's trip and Italian American heritage. However, this holiday has always been controversial.

Therefore, many people suggested alternatives to Christopher Columbus Day beginning in 1970, and that is why we have Indigenous People's Day today. People in different US cities started to celebrate Indigenous People's Day in 1991, but it is not a federal holiday. This holiday celebrates the history and contributions of Native Americans.

Christopher Columbus was born in Italy, and he and many people with him sailed on three ships, the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria. They left from Spain because the King and Queen of Spain supported this trip or voyage. Their destination was Asia. However, on October 12, 1492, they landed in the Bahamas.

2. Now read the story again with one or more of your classmates. Help each other with the difficult vocabulary words. Use your cell phone and dictionary.com to find English meanings for these difficult words. Try not to translate them into your native language.

A. Federal = all states and cities in the USA follow

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

G. _____

H. _____

I. _____

J. _____

3. Talk about these images with your classmates and teacher.





FEDERAL HOLIDAYS 2021		
DATE	DAY	FEDERAL HOLIDAY
JAN 01, 2021	FRI	New Year's Day
JAN 18, 2021	MON	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEB 15, 2021	MON	Presidents' Day
MAY 31, 2021	MON	Memorial Day
JUL 04, 2021	SUN	Independence Day
JUL 05, 2021	MON	Independence Day (observed)
SEP 07, 2021	MON	Labor Day
OCT 11, 2021	MON	Columbus Day
NOV 11, 2021	THU	Veterans Day
NOV 25, 2021	THU	Thanksgiving
DEC 24, 2021	FRI	Christmas Day (observed)
DEC 25, 2021	SAT	Christmas Day
DEC 31, 2021	FRI	New Year's Day (observed)

Answer these questions with your classmates and teacher.

4. When did Columbus Day become a federal holiday?

5. When did people begin to celebrate Columbus Day?

6. Where was Columbus born?

7. Who paid for his trip?

8. Where did Columbus want to go?

Write some questions for your classmates and teacher to answer.

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

Listen to this song about Mr. Columbus.

[Columbus Song - 1492 - YouTube](#)

Columbus Song - 1492 - YouTube

In fourteen hundred ninety-two,

Columbus sailed the ocean blue.
It was a courageous thing to do,
But someone was already here.
Columbus knew the world was round,
So he looked for the East while westward bound,
But he didn't find what he thought he found,
And someone was already here.
It isn't like it was empty space,
Caribs met him face to face.
Could anyone discover the place when someone was already here?
So tell me, who discovered what?
He thought he was in a different spot.
Columbus was lost, the Caribs were not;
They were already here.



EXERCISES

Complete the exercises and compare your answers with your classmates and friends.

1. The word courageous means _____.
 - a. Brave

- b. Friendly
 - c. Afraid
 - d. Far away
2. Which sentence below has the same meaning as this sentence “So he looked for the East while westward bound” ?
- a. So he looked to the East and sailed East.
 - b. So he didn’t know which way to go.
 - c. Therefore, he went West but he was looking for East.
3. “Caribs met him face to face.” Caribs must be _____.
- a. A group of people
 - b. A group of trees
4. Where did the Caribs come from?

5. What did Columbus and his friends and the Caribs do when they saw each other for the first time?

6. Why did Columbus go West if he was looking for East?
