

Name _____



Sail Away Christopher

Imagine a young boy named Christopher Columbus playing with toy ships and dreaming of one day sailing across the gigantic ocean to explore the new world he keeps hearing so much about. Does that seem like an impossible dream? Well, that is exactly what Christopher Columbus did long ago in the year 1492. He set sail from his home in the country of Italy with a fleet of three ships – the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria – and a crew of 90 men. Two months later, they landed their ships on the shores of the Bahamas. They had traveled many miles across the ocean.

Columbus is regarded as a great explorer. The United States Congress even made a federal holiday to honor his spirit of adventure, his courage, and his accomplishments. In 1971, they declared the second Monday of October each year to be Christopher Columbus Day.

What do you dream of doing someday? Work hard, be determined, and just maybe you will make your dream come true like Christopher Columbus.

Directions: Use the words in the Word Bank to complete the sentences below.

1. Christopher Columbus wanted to _____ across the ocean.
2. He dreamed of exploring the _____.
3. In the year _____, he set sail for the New World.
4. Columbus had _____ ships in his fleet.
5. The ships' names were _____, Pinta, and Santa Maria.
6. Congress made a federal _____ in honor of Columbus.
7. Columbus is regarded as one of the great _____.
8. Columbus Day is the _____ Monday of October each year.

WORD BANK

New World
three
holiday
second
explorers
sail
Nina
1492