

# Motivation

Improved mapmaking, inventions (compass and astrolabes)

New ship-**Caravel**-could sail farther

**The Drive to Discover:** Why explore?



1. Adventure
2. to spread Christianity
3. to find a new trade route to India (spices)
4. gold
5. to add land to their kingdoms/empires

# Voyages to the East (mid-1400s)

- Looking for an all water route to Asia (goods from India and China)
- Controlled by Italian traders
- 1497-1498 Portuguese explorer **Vasco de Gama** sailed around the southern tip of Africa to the west coast of India
- Portugal found a new all water route to Asia

# Vasco de Gama's route to India



# Voyages to America

- 1492, Queen Isabella from Spain helped pay for Columbus' voyage west
- Hoped to reach Asia, landed in the Bahamas and discovered new land-Americas, the New World
- Spain, Portugal, France, England, and the Netherlands all sent explorers to the Americas

**What civilizations did these explores find?**

# Voyages around the World

- To **circumnavigate** or travel all the way around the Earth
- **Ferdinand Magellan was the first person to circumnavigate the globe.**
  - set sail west from Spain, past the southern tip of South America, into the Pacific Ocean
  - Killed in battle in the Philippines
  - crew continued on to Spain to complete their trip

# New Empires

## Conquests and Empires

- Spain defeated the Aztecs in North America and Incas in Peru to claim land for Spain.
- Main goal was wealth

**Other Colonies**-England, France, Portugal, Netherlands

- Found other resources: wood, furs, rich soil, and different foods