

Year 2: Exploring the Earth and Beyond

Explorers to compare:

Ibn Battuta (1304-1369, Moroccan, travelled more than any other explorer at the time)

Matthew Henson (1866-1955, American, Arctic explorer)

Neil Armstrong (1930-2012, American, astronaut and aeronautical engineer, first person to walk on the moon)

Felicity Aston MBE (1977-, British polar explorer & Antarctic scientist, first woman to ski alone across Antarctica)

Ibn Battuta



Matthew Henson



Felicity Aston



Neil Armstrong



explore explorer exploration travel voyage challenge
discover navigate navigation compass map
Earth sea ocean continent country countries
Arctic Antarctic polar region
space moon spacesuit astronaut Apollo 11 spacecraft
Eagle lunar module

Great Explorers

1304

Ibn Battuta was born in 1304 in Tangier, Morocco. He spent nearly thirty years travelling! It is estimated that he travelled over 73,000 miles visiting the equivalent of 44 modern countries in his lifetime.



1451

Christopher Columbus was born in 1451 in Italy. He was born into a time period called the Renaissance, a time when lots of people were building new ships to explore different parts of the world.



1492

Christopher Columbus sailed onto Cuba and discovered new lands. They called it the New World. Native Americans lived on the islands, but Christopher Columbus called them Indians because he thought he had landed in the 'Indies'.



1901 - 1904

Captain Robert Falcon Scott was born in Devon in 1868 and became an officer in the Royal Navy. Robert Falcon Scott led two expeditions to Antarctica. The first took place between 1901 and 1904. In 1910, he sailed out for his second voyage there.

1910

During the expedition in 1910, Scott and his men were struggling. They had some sledge dogs, but the men mostly pulled the sledges by themselves, which was exhausting! They also struggled with frostbite and snow blindness. They slept in sleeping bags made from reindeer fur, however, they became wet and cold because the floors of their tents could not keep out the snow.



1300s

1320

1340

1400

1450

1490

1500

1400s

1354

Ibn Battuta returned from his travels and dictated an account of his journey. His book was called Rihla, which means journey.

1492

Christopher Columbus had a dream to travel west and go to China. To follow his dream he needed money, so the King and Queen of Spain gave him money to buy ships. He set sail on the 3rd August 1492 with three ships.

1502 - 1506

Christopher Columbus sailed to America in 1502 for the fourth time, still hoping he would get to China. Instead, he ended up in Central America. His ships had holes in them so he had to wait a whole year to sail home. When he got home he was very ill and he died in 1506.



1912

When they reached the South Pole on 17th - 18th January 1912, they discovered that a team of Norwegian explorers had arrived before them. Scott and his companions had to travel back 800 miles through freezing temperatures and ice. They had a disastrous time with blizzards, gale force winds, poor clothing and little food. Eventually, they all died. Many months later, a search party found their bodies, wrapped them in their tents and buried them in the snow.



2009

Ranulph Fiennes climbed Mount Everest when he was 65. He is the only person to have been to both poles and also climbed Mount Everest.

1979 - 1982

Ranulph Fiennes and another explorer, Charles Burton, were the first people to travel all the way around the world through both the North and South Poles without flying.



2005

1980

1970

1960

1940

1980 - 2000

Mid 1900s

1986

In 1986 Ann Bancroft became the first woman to reach the North Pole on foot and by sled. It took the team of six 65 days to get there. She was also the first woman to cross both polar ice caps to reach the North and South Poles, as well as the first woman to ski across Greenland.



1969

In 1969, Neil Armstrong went aboard Apollo 11 and became the first man to walk on the Moon. They launched from Kennedy Space Centre on July 11th 1969. The Moon landing was shown all across the world on television.



1962

Neil Armstrong was accepted to be part of the NASA Astronaut Corps in September 1962. His first trip to space was aboard Gemini 8.

1930

Neil Armstrong was born in America in 1930. He was an American astronaut and the first man to walk on the Moon.

