



# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 401: OUR EARTH

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# OUR EARTH

Man has always been curious about the unknown. This curiosity has led men to risk their lives to learn things they did not know about our earth, the heavens above it, and the deep oceans.

Man is still making new discoveries

in our world. Someday you may do it, too. The Bible says in Psalms 19:1, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork." You will study some of His handiwork in this LIFEPAC®.

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## OBJECTIVES

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have completed this LIFEPAC.

When you have finished this LIFEPAC you should be able to:

1. Define and find geographic features on a map or globe.
2. Identify and describe the continents and oceans.
3. Identify some of the great bodies of water in the world.
4. Know north, south, east, and west on a map.
5. Explain why Europeans began exploring the earth.
6. Explain the different ways Europeans tried to reach the Far East.
7. Describe what Prince Henry, Columbus, and Magellan did to become famous.
8. Explain what the Europeans learned about the earth during the Age of Exploration.
9. Describe the inventions used to explore under the ocean.
10. Describe what explorers found under the ocean.
11. Describe and name the stages of the American space program.
12. Name and describe some of the probes and satellites sent into space from earth.



# VOCABULARY

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

**aquifer** (ak' wə fēr). A large body of water underground.

**archaeologist** (är kē ol' ə jist). A person who is an expert in studying buildings, tools, pottery, weapons, and other objects of ancient times.

**axis** (ak' sis). An imaginary line through the earth around which the earth turns.

**caravan** (kār' ə van). A group of desert travelers with their animals and goods.

**cargo** (kär' gō). The load of goods carried by a ship.

**colony** (kol' ə nē). A land far away from the country that rules it.

**continental shelf** (kon' te nen' tl shelf). Shallow ocean water around the large land masses on earth.

**equator** (i kwā' tər). An imaginary circle around the earth halfway between the North and South Poles. It divides the earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

**feature** (fē' cher). A thing that stands out and attracts attention.

**geography** (jē og' rə fē). The study of the earth's surface, climate, continents, countries, peoples, industries, and products.

**globe** (glōb). A model of the earth.

**hemisphere** (hem' ə sfir). Half of a sphere.

**hurricane** (hēr' ə kān). A storm with violent wind and, usually, heavy rain. The wind blows at more than 75 miles (121 kilometers) per hour.

**instrument** (in' strə mənt). A tool to help you in your work.

**launch** (lônch). To send off with force.

**merchant** (mēr' chənt). A trader or seller of goods.

**navigate** (nav' ə gāt). To sail or steer a ship, airplane, or rocket.

**oceanography** (ō' shən og' rə fē). The study of the ocean and its floor.

**orbit** (ôr' bit). The path of a satellite or ship as it travels around another body in space.

**planet** (plan' it). A large body of matter, like the earth, that moves around the sun in space.

**probe** (prōb). A spacecraft carrying scientific instruments to record or report back information about planets or other objects in outer space.

**ridge** (rij). A long, narrow chain of hills or mountains.

**rival** (rī' vəl). A person or country who wants and tries to get the same thing as another; one who tries to equal or do better than another.

**rotate** (rō' tāt). To turn on an axis.

**route** (rüt). The path taken when going from one place to another.

**satellite** (sat' əlīt). A man-made object shot by rocket into an orbit around the earth or other heavenly body.

**sphere** (sfir). A ball-shaped object.

**spice** (spīs). A seasoning made from plants and used to flavor food.

**telescope** (tel' ə skōp). An instrument for making distant objects appear closer and larger. The stars are studied by means of telescopes.

**trench** (trench). A long, deep, narrow area like a valley or canyon in the ocean floor.

**voyage** (voi' ij). A journey by water, through the air, or through space.

**weaver** (wē' vər). A person whose job is to form threads into cloth.

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**Note:** These words appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used in this LIFE PAC. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, review the definition.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS

**archipelago** (är' kə pel' ə gō). A group of many islands.

**bay** (bā). A small area of sea or lake partly enclosed by land. A bay is usually smaller than a gulf.

**canal** (kə nal'). A waterway dug across land for ships or small boats to go through.

**coast** (kōst). The land along the sea; seashore.

**continent** (kon' ti nent). One of the seven great masses of land on earth.

**delta** (del' ta). A fan-shaped deposit of dirt and sand that collects at the mouth of some rivers.

**gulf** (gulf). A large part of an ocean or sea with land around it. A gulf is usually larger than a bay.

**harbor** (här' bər). A deep bay used to shelter ships.

**island** (ī' land). A body of land surrounded by water.

**isthmus** (is' mäs). A narrow bridge of land, with water on both sides of it, connecting two larger pieces of land.

**lake** (lāk). A body of water, usually fresh, surrounded by land.

**mountain** (moun' tən). A very high hill.

**mouth** (mouth). The part of a river where its waters flow into some other body of water, usually a lake or ocean. Also, the opening of a harbor or bay into the ocean.

**ocean** (ō' shən). Any of four major divisions of the great body of salt water that covers almost three-fourths of the earth.

**peninsula** (pə nin' sə lə). A piece of land almost surrounded by water, or extending far out into the water.

**river** (riv' er). A large natural stream of water that flows into a lake or ocean.

**sea** (sē). Any large body of salt water, smaller than an ocean. Often it is a part of the ocean surrounded by some land or islands.

**source** (sōrs). The beginning of a brook or river.

**strait** (strāt). A narrow waterway that connects two larger bodies of water.

**tributary** (trib' yə ter' ē). A stream or river that flows into a larger river.