The Vikings

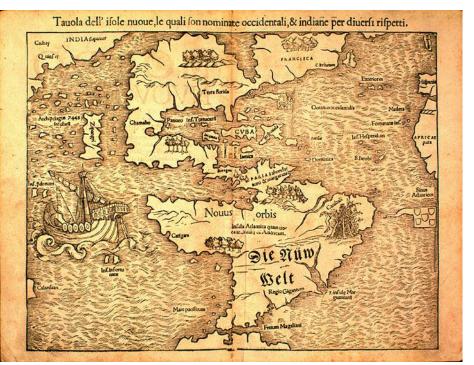
Who were the Vikings?

- A culture originating in the northern part of Europe in Norway, Finland, Denmark and Sweden.
- The Vikings were fierce conquerors, brave explorers, and skilled craftspeople; they invaded and settled countries throughout Western Europe.
- They were the first Europeans to discover America (in about AD 1000), almost 500 years before Columbus.



https://www.youtube.com/watch ?v=QxKw68Xo4eI

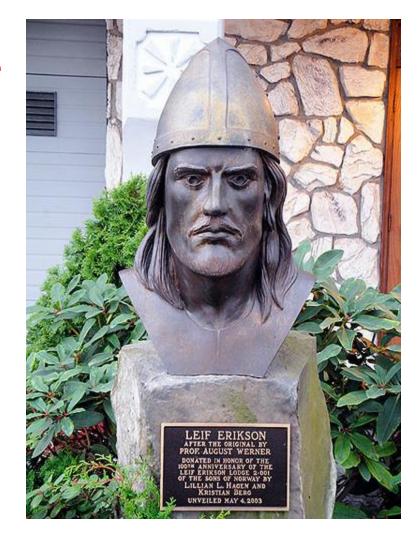
Stories of an Unknown Land



- For a very long time, people had told stories about an <u>unknown land</u> between Europe and Asia.
- No one knew for sure if stories of a New World could be true.
- These stories began a new era called the Age of Exploration.
 - We will learn about this era in Chapter 4.

Leif Erikson/Ericsson/Eriksson – birth unknown - 1020

- Leif Erikson was the son of Eric the Red, a famous Viking leader.
- Erikson started the first European settlement in Greenland in 985.
- After setting up the settlement in Greenland, Erikson continued on and sailed to Newfoundland, located in North America.
- Leif was a leader of Viking expeditions and may have been the first European to reach North America.



Greenland

Iceland

Sweden Norway

Russia

Newfoundland

https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=R3GM 3F7JZ2c Germany France

Europe North Newfoundland America Eriksson's Route: 1000 A.D. Africa South Equator America

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Greenland



Iceland Thingvellir

Atlantic Ocean

http://www.history.com/topics/exploration

Erik the Red's voyage A.D. 983 to A.D. 986

> Leif Eriksson 1000 A.D.