



Jacques Cartier Activity Bundle

Integrated Reading and

CRITICAL THOUGHT

Activities

For Grades 5-8

7 INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES
Perfect for Interactive Notebooks
Perfect for Morning Work or Assessments

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LEARNING + FUN

ANSWERS

Name	Answers
Jacques Cartier RC	C, B, C, C, A, A, A, D, B, D
Scurvy RC	C, C, A, D, B, D, B

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Jacques Cartier

Jacques Cartier was born on December 31, 1491 in Saint-Malo, Brittany – which would later become part of France. His career in exploration began in 1524, when he accompanied the Italian-born French explorer Giovanni da Verrazano on his explorations of the Atlantic Coast of Canada and the United States. The experience would prove valuable to Cartier's explorations in the future.

In 1534, Cartier was commissioned by the King of France to find the fabled Northwest Passage through the continent of North America to Asia (the Indies). When Cartier reached the New World, he sailed around parts of Newfoundland and parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. On July 24, 1534, Cartier planted a cross with the words engraved, "Long Live the King of France" on the shores of Gaspe Bay in Quebec. Cartier claimed the region for France and kidnapped the two sons of an Iroquoian chief. Later in 1534, Cartier returned to France, believing he had found Asia.

In 1535, Cartier and 112 men (including the two kidnapped natives) left France for their return trip and sailed up the St. Lawrence River to the Iroquoian capital of Stadacona. He reached the location of modern-day Montreal (then called Hochelaga) on October 2, 1535, where rapids prevented him from continuing. Cartier believed the rapids were the last obstacle in his discovery of the Northwest Passage. Today, the town on the banks of the rapids is called Lachine, the French word for China.

Cartier and his crew were forced to spend the winter of 1535-1536 at Stadacona, where the snow was four feet deep. In addition, scurvy broke out among members of Cartier's crew, though most were saved by ingesting a native remedy using the boiled bark of a white spruce tree. In early May of 1536, after enduring a brutal winter, Cartier returned to France with an Iroquoian chief who would tell the tale of the Kingdom of Saguenay, a mythical city said to be full of rubies, gold, and other riches.

In 1540, Cartier returned to the New World as Captain General of a colonization project. Nevertheless, Cartier set off with five ships down the St. Lawrence River for the purposes of finding the Kingdom of Saguenay and for starting a permanent settlement on the river. The site of the settlement was chosen near present-day Cap-rouge, Quebec and named Charlesbourg- Royal. Despite the forts built at the settlement, and the fact that Cartier's men falsely believed they had discovered diamonds and gold, conditions deteriorated rapidly. The settlers had begun to starve and attacks by nearby Iroquoian Indians resulted in the deaths of at least 35 of them. Cartier abandoned the settlement in 1542 and the entire settlement disbanded by 1543. Cartier returned to France and died of an epidemic in 1557. Although he was unsuccessful in establishing a permanent settlement, Cartier's explorations of the St. Lawrence River opened up the interior of Canada to further French exploration and eventual settlement.

1.) Where did Cartier travel on his first voyages?

- A. France
- B. Asia
- C. Canada and America
- D. Africa

2.) What did the King of France want Cartier to find in 1534?

- A. A new world
- B. the Northwest Passage
- C. Newfoundland
- D. America

3.) Which of the following accurately describes the places Cartier explored in the New World in 1534?

- A.) Newfoundland, British Columbia, and Quebec
- B. The Gulf of St. Lawrence, and Saguenay
- C. The Gulf of St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, and Quebec
- D. The Gulf of St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, and Asia.

4.) What did Cartier believe in 1534?

- A. He had found a new French settlement
- B. He would become King of France
- C. He had found Asia
- D. He had found Indian allies

5.) What did Cartier believe in 1535?

- A. He was close to finding the Northwest Passage
- B. He was close to starting a successful settlement
- C. He would never find the Northwest Passage
- D. That the local Indians were friendly.

6.) Which of the following is not true about the Winter of 1535-1536?

- A. Most of Cartier's crew died
- B. Many of Cartier's men came down with Scurvy
- C. Snow was four feet deep in places.
- D. A native remedy may have helped cure scurvy.

7.) In 1540, Cartier's main purpose(s) in returning to the New World was to...

- A. Start a permanent French colony
- B. Find the mythical city of Saguenay
- C. Discover riches such as gold and diamonds
- D. All of the above

8.) Which of the following best describes Cartier's colonization attempt?

- A. Hard to tell
- B. Completely unsuccessful
- C. Successful; French colonies would continue to thrive and grow
- D. Unsuccessful; but his explorations led the way for future French colonies.

9.) What does the word 'remedy' mean in the following sentence?

In addition, scurvy broke out among members of Cartier's crew, though most were saved by ingesting a native **remedy** using the boiled bark of a white spruce tree.

- A. Food
- B. A curative medicine
- C. Trap
- D. Agent

10.) Which of the following is the best title for this passage?

- A. A history of the Northwest Passage
- B. The first permanent French settlement in Canada.
- C. Jacques Cartier and Giovanni da Verrazano
- D. The Explorations of Cartier.

Scurvy Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Scurvy is a horrible disease that results from an acute lack of Vitamin-C over time. Vitamin-C is most commonly found in fruits and vegetables. During the Age of Exploration, sailors on long ocean voyages often contracted Scurvy, as food supplies quickly spoiled, reducing diets to salted beef (though in many cases fresh meat has enough Vitamin-C to prevent or cure scurvy), dried grains, or in desperate situations, anything that could be eaten. Sailors during this time believed scurvy was caused by a wide range of potential culprits including putrid air rising from swamps. The idea that the disease was caused by a lack of Vitamin-C was not confirmed until 1932. According to some estimates, scurvy accounted for the deaths of over two million soldiers during the Age of Exploration.

Sailors with scurvy would first experience weeks of malaise or fatigue. As the disease worsened, bone and joint pain intensified and sailors would develop sores that failed to heal. In later stages, gums would swell, teeth would fall out, and mental changes such as agitation and confusion would manifest. In its final stages, scurvy would result in the swelling of various parts of the body, convulsions, and organ failure. Even in its later stages, the effects of scurvy could be reversed if Vitamin-C was introduced.

1. During the Age of Exploration...

- A. sailors knew the cause of scurvy.
- B. sailors believed scurvy was caused by a lack of Vitamin-c.
- C. sailors believed scurvy was caused by air over swamps.
- D. sailors believed scurvy was caused by spoiled meat.

2. The cause of scurvy was discovered...

- A. during the Age of Exploration.
- B. before the Age of Exploration.
- C. after the Age of Exploration.
- D. in desperate situations.

3. Which of the following diets could result in scurvy?

- A. Spoiled or salted meat over an entire month
- B. Spoiled and fresh meat over an entire month
- C. Fresh meat and grains over an entire month
- D. Vegetables and spoiled meat over an entire month

4. Which was NOT a symptom of scurvy?

- A. Sores throughout the body
- B. Joint pain
- C. Confusion
- D. Sneezing and coughing

5. In its final stages, scurvy...

- A. cannot be reversed.
- B. can be reversed with Vitamin-c.
- C. can be reversed with medicine.
- D. can be reversed without Vitamin-c.

6. What does “intensified” mean in the following sentence?

As the disease worsened, bone and joint pain intensified and sailors would develop sores that failed to heal.

- A. magnified
- B. clarified
- C. erupted
- D. became worse

7. Which of the following is accurate?

- A. The first paragraph tells about the history of scurvy and the second paragraph tells about the ways people could get scurvy
- B. The first paragraph tells about why sailors got scurvy and the second paragraph tells about signs of scurvy
- C. The first paragraph tells why sailors got scurvy and the second paragraph explains how scurvy is diagnosed today
- D. The first paragraph tells about how sailors spread scurvy and the second paragraph tells about signs of scurvy



The Greatest Mythical Place

While Jacques Cartier was searching for the Northwest Passage near the St. Lawrence River in what is now Canada, he was also hoping to find a magical kingdom known as Saguenay. Cartier had been tantalized by Iroquoian stories of a strange kingdom to the north. The kingdom was said to be inhabited by tall, blond-haired people who had rich gold and silver mines and an endless supply of furs. Today, historians believe the “story” was told to trick the French explorers; although some have speculated that the Iroquois may have been referring to an actual Norse settlement that existed hundreds of years earlier in modern-day Newfoundland.

In thinking about the Kingdom of Saguenay, what is your favorite mythical place that you've read about, seen in a movie, or ventured to in a video game? Describe it in detail below and then draw a colorful picture of it.

Name _____

Compare and Contrast Samuel de Champlain and Jacques Cartier
Name _____



Cartier



Champlain

Read the narratives at: <https://mrnussbaum.com/jacques-cartier-biography> and <https://mrnussbaum.com/samuel-de-champlain-biography>. Then, organize the statements below into: Cartier, Champlain, or Both.

Statements:

1. From France
2. Started the first permanent French settlement at Quebec
3. Was searching for a mythical city kingdom called Saguenay
4. Explored Canada
5. Explored in the 17th century
6. Explored in the 16th century
7. Searched for the Northwest Passage
8. Explored part of upstate New York and Michigan
9. Explored the St. Lawrence River
10. Accompanied Giovanni da Verrazano on his trip to the New World.

Cartier	Both	Champlain

Answers:

Cartier	Both	Champlain
3. 6. 10.	1. 4. 7. 9.	2. 5. 8.

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a passage on Jacques Cartier. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

Jacques Cartier was born on December 31, 1491 in Saint-Malo, Brittany, which would later become part of France. His career in exploration began in 1524, when he accompanied the Italian-born French explorer Giovanni da Verrazano on his explorations of the Atlantic Coast of Canada and the United States. The experience would prove valuable to Cartier's explorations in the future.

I Know I Found Asia!

In 1534, Cartier was commissioned by the King of France to find the fabled Northwest Passage through the continent of North America to Asia (the Indies). When Cartier reached the New World, he sailed around parts of Newfoundland and parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. On July 24, 1534, Cartier planted a cross with the words engraved, "Long Live the King of France" on the shores of Gaspe Bay in Quebec. Cartier claimed the region for France and kidnapped the two sons of an Iroquoian chief. Later in 1534, Cartier returned to France, believing he had found Asia.

The Search for the Northwest Passage

In 1535, Cartier and 112 men (including the two kidnapped natives) left France for their return trip and sailed up the St. Lawrence River to the Iroquoian capital of Stadacona. He reached the location of modern-day Montreal (then called Hochelaga) on October 2, 1535, where rapids prevented him from continuing. Cartier believed the rapids were the last obstacle in his discovery of the Northwest Passage. Today, the town on the banks of the rapids is called Lachine, the French word for China.

Surviving the Winter and Cities of Gold

Cartier and his crew were forced to spend the winter of 1535-1536 at Stadacona, where the snow was four feet deep. In addition, scurvy broke out among members of Cartier's crew, though most were saved by ingesting a native remedy using the boiled bark of a white spruce tree. In early May of 1536, after enduring a brutal winter, Cartier returned to France with an Iroquoian chief who would tell the tale of the Kingdom of Saguenay, a mythical city said to be full of rubies, gold, and other riches.

Paving the Way for New France

In 1540, Cartier returned to the New World as captain general of a colonization project. Nevertheless, Cartier set off with five ships down the St. Lawrence River for the purposes of finding the Kingdom of Saguenay and for starting a permanent settlement on the river. The site of

the settlement was chosen near present-day Cap-Rouge, Quebec, and named Charlesbourg-Royal. Despite the forts built at the settlement, and the fact that Cartier's men falsely believed they had discovered diamonds and gold, conditions deteriorated rapidly. The settlers had begun to starve and attacks by nearby Iroquoian Indians resulted in the deaths of at least 35 of them. Cartier abandoned the settlement in 1542, and the entire settlement disbanded by 1543. Cartier returned to France and died of an epidemic in 1557. Although he was unsuccessful in establishing a permanent settlement, Cartier's explorations of the St. Lawrence River opened up the interior of Canada to further French exploration and eventual settlement.

	FACT	FICTION
Cartier's initial exploration goal was to find the Northwest Passage.		
When Cartier claimed Quebec for France, he actually believed he had found Asia.		
Cartier believed that if he could cross the rapids of the St. Lawrence River, he could find a shortcut home.		
Cartier explored the St. Lawrence River as far as modern-day Montreal.		
On October 2, 1535, Cartier and his crew reached the Iroquoian capital of Hochelaga.		
Cartier's crew suffered from scurvy during the winter of 1535-1536.		
During the winter of 1536, Cartier learned of a mythical kingdom known as Saguenay.		
Jacques Cartier was able to establish the first permanent French settlement in what is now Canada.		
Cartier's crew members discovered gold and diamonds at Charlesbourg-Royal.		
Cartier's explorations set the stage for French settlement along the St. Lawrence River.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Cartier's initial exploration goal was to find the Northwest Passage.	X	
When Cartier claimed Quebec for France, he actually believed he had found Asia.	X	
Cartier believed that if he could cross the rapids of the St. Lawrence River, he could find a shortcut home.		X
Cartier explored the St. Lawrence River as far as modern-day Montreal.	X	
On October 2, 1535, Cartier and his crew reached the Iroquoian capital of Hochelaga.		X
Cartier's crew suffered from scurvy during the winter of 1535-1536.	X	
During the winter of 1536, Cartier learned of a mythical kingdom known as Saguenay.	X	
Jacques Cartier was able to establish the first permanent French settlement in what is now Canada.		X
Cartier's crew members discovered gold and diamonds at Charlesbourg-Royal		X
Cartier's explorations set the stage for French settlement along the St. Lawrence River.	X	

Virtual History Teacher
Jacques Cartier Test

Name: _____

Instructions: You are playing the role of a history teacher who is grading the test below. See the questions and your “student’s” answers. Grade the quality of the answers on a scale of 1-4, “1” being a poor answer and “4” being a great answer. For each answer you grade, use your knowledge of Ferdinand Magellan, or, reference the mrnussbaum.com online biography, to add the missing pieces.

Question 1: What were some of the things that Jacques Cartier was looking for? Explain.	Score:
Student Answer: A passage and a magic kingdom.	

Question 2: If you were pessimistic about Cartier’s accomplishments, what evidence would you use?	Score:
Student Answer: He didn’t accomplish much.	

Question 3: Why were Cartier’s explorations important?	Score:
Student Answer: Because he traveled to new places.	
Your Response:	

Answers:

Question 1: What were some of the things that Jacques Cartier was looking for? Explain.	Score:
Student Answer: A passage and a magic kingdom. Your Response: Jacques Cartier was indeed looking for the fabled Northwest Passage – a shortcut through the North American continent to Asia. In later journeys, he turned his attention to the Kingdom of Saguenay, a mythical land full of rubies, gold, and other riches.	

Question 2: If you were pessimistic about Cartier's accomplishments, what evidence would you use?	Score:
Student Answer: He didn't accomplish much. Your Response: I would be pessimistic, first, because his assumptions were wrong, and second, because he never accomplished his goal of starting a permanent settlement. He was wrong in thinking that the Northwest Passage lay just past the rapids of the St. Lawrence River. Also, in 1542, when he and his crew abandoned the settlement at Charlesbourg-Royal, and were wrong about finding gold and diamonds, his expedition could truly be labeled as a failure.	

Question 3: Do you think Ferdinand Magellan should get credit for being the first to circumnavigate the world? Why or why not?	Score:
Student Answer: No. He died. Your Response: Even though Cartier was unsuccessful in establishing a permanent colony, the explorations he did make paved the way for French settlement in Canada.	



A Simple but Elusive Explanation

By some account, millions of sailors died of scurvy during the Age of Exploration. At the time, the accepted explanation was that sailors contracted the horrendous condition from breathing in the evil vapors of swamps. It wasn't until the nineteenth century, that scientists determined that scurvy was caused by a lack of Vitamin-C over time. A simple squeeze of a lemon into the mouth would reverse even advanced cases.

Fast forward to modern times. Think of something or some things that we currently have no explanation for or cannot explain adequately that you think people in the future will figure out. It could be one of the secrets of the universe, the pathology of certain diseases, or ways in which the human mind works. Write about it in detail below and hypothesize how future humans will find the answers.

The Sick Ship

During long oceans voyages across the oceans and unfamiliar lands, sailors and explorers could contract a variety of different diseases, each of which could be equally terrible and deadly (and each of which can still be contracted today). Below are explanations of each. On the next page, play the role of a ship doctor by identifying the ailment that each sailor has contracted.

Scurvy	Scurvy is a condition caused by a lack of Vitamin-C over time. Sailors during the Age of Exploration, with inadequate and contaminated food supplies, were particularly vulnerable. Scurvy results in the formation of painful sores, bleeding from the gums, and eventually, organ failure. It can easily be reversed with Vitamin-C, although during the Age of Exploration, it was thought scurvy was contracted through contaminated air of swamps and marshes. Scurvy is thought to have killed over two million sailors in the Age of Exploration.
Yellow Fever	This deadly virus is caused by infected mosquitoes. It shuts down the kidneys and liver and makes the skin yellow from jaundice. It results in a high fever and is often fatal.
Dysentery	This is a virus that spreads in unsanitary conditions (such as those found on crowded ships). It attacks the intestines and results in severe, bloody diarrhea. Some people who get dysentery die of dehydration.
Cholera	This virus is similar to dysentery and spreads in unsanitary conditions. People get cholera from contaminated food or water (often when human waste comes in contact with food or water). Those who contract cholera get diarrhea, vomiting, and high fevers. It can be fatal from dehydration.
Malaria	Malaria is caused by infected mosquitoes and is contagious. It can result in high fever, brain damage, coma, and death. Like scurvy, malaria was thought to be caused by contaminated air in swamps and marshes. Today, it remains one of the deadliest diseases in the world, particularly in poor, tropical regions of the world.
Typhoid	Typhoid is another disease that is spread in unsanitary conditions. Like cholera and dysentery, it results in severe fevers, diarrhea, or internal bleeding. Typhoid can also cause a rash on the chest.
Beriberi	Beriberi is a rare disease caused from a lack of vitamin B1 (thiamin). It was more common on ships during the Age of Exploration where diets were inadequate. People with beriberi have shortness of breath, increased heart rate, confusion, difficulty walking, insomnia, and swelling in the lower legs. It can occur simultaneously with scurvy.
Pellagra	Pellagra was a common disease of sailors during the Age of Exploration. It is caused by a lack of niacin in the diet. Symptoms of pellagra included inflamed skin, diarrhea, dementia, and sores in the mouth. Left untreated, pellagra can be fatal.

Diagnose the patients.

Patient 1:

Our first patient is having severe diarrhea and cannot hold down any food or water. We are afraid that he is becoming more and more dehydrated. We noticed that he is developing a rash on his chest.

Doctor's Diagnosis _____

Patient 2:

This patient came to us with a high fever after we sailed across the equator. It was probably the vapors that rise from the swampy water we passed through! We need to help him because he is danger of falling into a coma.

Doctor's Diagnosis _____

Patient 3:

This patient came to us near death. He has a very high fever. I noticed before he closed his eyes (possibly for good) that his eyes were discolored and his skin was yellow.

Doctor's Diagnosis _____

Patients 4, 5, 6, and 7

These patients all seem to have the same symptoms. They are developing sores all over their bodies and they are bleeding from the gums. Their teeth are falling out. We need to avoid the swamp waters! Too many of our sailors are falling to this terrible condition!

Doctor's Diagnosis _____

Answers:

Patient 1 - Typhoid

Patient 2 - Malaria

Patient 3 - Yellow Fever

Patient 4 - Scurvy