

Good morning explorers!

The answers you will have found to our first few questions are as follows...

1. Traders needed to journey to the east to get their hands on ... SPICES.
2. Travel to the east by land was prevented by European/Arab conflict in the Middle East. It simply became too dangerous to travel by land. Constantinople – now Istanbul – was captured by Sultan Mehmed. Christians could no longer take this route to India.
3. The country that was the first to explore sea routes to the east was ... PORTUGAL. The ruler of Portugal – Henry the Navigator – paid for people to head off into the unknown in search of a sea route to the east. By 1450 most of the west coast of Africa had been mapped.
4. Progress was slow because of the stories that reached Europe of all sorts of dangers. The main danger was simply the sheer number of sea-monsters. Sailors dared not sail far.



These **did** exist.

Questions/tasks for this week.....

1. There was something other than spices beginning with 's' that traders heading east to China wanted to bring back to Europe. What was it? **Google: What did European traders want from China?**
2. Find a picture of Henry the Navigator – can you find anything about him?
Google: Henry the Navigator facts
3. Three things that early explorers wanted ... G, G and G. What do these three 'Gs' stand for?
Google: 3 Gs explorers
4. Some of you have made a great list of food and drink to take with you on the voyage. The problem is that you have no fridge! Look at your list. Is this a problem? What could you take instead of foods that will rot?
Google: foods that sailors ate?
5. Draw some pictures of sea-monsters. Try a **Google image search: 'Sea monsters on maps'**. Some of them are amazing. Some you might recognise as real creatures ...
6. Design your own 'Ultimate Sea-Monster'. Make a detailed picture of your ultimate sea monster in pencil or colour. You could even make a 3D model if you want to. We'd love to see some pictures of your work.