

THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE



The Big Surprise.

Christopher Columbus did not know the West Indies existed. Originally his voyage to the West Indies was a mistake because he thought he was going to Asia but landed in the West Indies. After that Christopher Columbus "discovered" the "New World". The Europeans took advantage of the Indigenous peoples kindness

Wanted land/wealth.

The European's main reason they went to the West Indies is because they wanted more land and wealth. The Native Americans were very nice to the Europeans and the Europeans stole their land, took gifts from them, and took a lot of money. This led to the West Indies being owned by the Europeans and more than 90% of the Native Americans died because of war and diseases.



Came to spread Religion

Once Christopher Columbus explored the West Indies and more Europeans went to the West Indies they wanted to spread Christianity. The Europeans burnt down the Indigenous peoples temples and **FORCED** them into Christianity. (They also did this to West African Slaves).

The War

After the Native People found out what the Europeans were doing they were not happy. They wanted war. The only issue was that the Europeans went prepared for war because they wanted land and money and they had better technology and weapons. The Natives were not prepared for war because they did not know that the Europeans were going to come. So as you can guess, the Europeans won the war which devastated the Native People.



What was left over

After the Europeans won the war they took over all of the land that was originally being taken care of by the Natives. The Europeans enslaved pretty much all of the Native people and 90% of the Indigenous people died and so did their culture, religion, and languages. The Europeans owned this land until George Washington protested the act.

The Columbian Exchange and why the Europeans went to the West Indies

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