

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

Columbian Exchange Activity  
**PART 1: DISEASE DIFFUSION**

For each of these activities, you will be creating a detailed map that shows the exchange of all things via the “Columbian Exchange”. Work in pairs, or work by yourself, but be sure to put in as much detail as possible

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Draw the *general* diffusion routes for the following diseases on the world map provided. **THE WIDTH OF THE ARROWS SHOULD REFLECT THE NUMBER OF DISEASES DIFFUSED!!** (For example, the arrow showing the diffusion of disease from Europe to the Americas should be the width of 6 lines because “we” sent them 6 diseases. The arrow showing the diffusion of disease from the Americas to Europe should be the width of 2 lines because “they” sent us “2”).
2. Make a color-key that shows the disease. For example, the “red” lines on your map within the arrows represent “small pox”.
3. Title your map, “Disease Diffusion in the Columbian Exchange”

**- DISEASES AND THEIR DESTINATION -**

Europe to Americas  
small pox  
measles  
diphtheria  
typhus  
the flu  
tuberculosis

Americas to Europe  
syphilis  
hepatitis

Europe to Africa  
syphilis

Africa to Americas  
malaria  
yellow fever

Answer the following on a separate sheet of paper:

1. How did “syphilis” diffuse across Europe AND Africa if the Americas never “gave” it to Africa?
2. Who is the “loser” in the “Disease Diffusion” game? Why?
3. Why do you think the Americas had so many diseases transmitted to them, when the Europeans only “gave” Africa one disease (syphilis)

Columbian Exchange Activity  
**PART 2: PRODUCT DIFFUSION**

For each of these activities, you will be creating a detailed map that shows the exchange of all things via the “Columbian Exchange”. Work in pairs, or work by yourself, but be sure to put in as much detail as possible.

**DIRECTIONS**

1. On a NEW map, draw the *general* diffusion routes for the following products (animals and crops). This is very similar to the first map, only it’s with products, not diseases
2. Make symbols for the products exchanged and include these on your map. Make a key that tell what those symbols mean.
3. Title your map, “Product Diffusion in the Columbian Exchange”

**- PRODUCTS AND THEIR DESTINATION -**

**Europe to Americas**

horses  
cows

**Americas to Europe**

sugar  
tobacco  
molasses  
rice  
indigo (blue dye)  
lumber  
potatoes  
cocoa  
corn (maize)  
wheat  
grapes

**Europe to Africa**

clothing  
guns  
cloth  
beer  
iron

**Africa to Americas**

slaves  
ivory

**Answer the following on a separate sheet of paper:**

1. What impact do you think the horse has on the “New World”?
2. Why do you think so few animals “diffused” from the Americas to Europe?
3. Why do you think planting wheat, grapes, and tobacco in the “New World” is so important to Europeans?
4. In your opinion, what are the 2 most important crops “diffused” from the Americas to Europe?
5. Who are the losers in the “Product Diffusion” game?

Columbian Exchange Activity  
PART 3: PEOPLE DIFFUSION

For each of these activities, you will be creating a detailed map that shows the exchange of all things via the “Columbian Exchange”. Work in pairs, or work by yourself, but be sure to put in as much detail as possible.

**DIRECTIONS**

1. On a NEW map, draw the *general* diffusion of slaves to the different parts of the New World. There are various destinations for these slaves, so be sure to use a different color for each.
2. Make a symbol for a slave and include this on your map. **NOTE: FOR THIS ACTIVITY, MAKE ONE SLAVE “SYMBOL” EQUAL TO 100,000 SLAVES. THEREFORE, MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE AS MANY SYMBOLS AS NEEDED TO SHOW HOW MANY SLAVES ACTUALLY WENT TO THESE DESTINATIONS.** For example, 400,000 slaves went to South America, so you should include 4 “slave symbols” on this arrow. Then have little arrows breaking off from the big one to show which cities in South America the slaves went to. For India, 1.5 million slaves went there. So you should include 15 “slave symbols”.
3. Title your map, “People Diffusion in the Columbian Exchange”

**- SLAVES AND THEIR DESTINATION -**

Africa to South America (see below)	Africa to Mesoamerica (12,000,000)	Africa to Europe/N.Afr (1,500,000)	Africa to Asia (1,500,000)	Africa to Mid East (500,000)
Buenos Aires (200,000)	Jamaica	Spain	India	Saudi Arabia
Rio de Janeiro (200,000)	Puerto Rico	Portugal		Egypt
Salvador da Bahia (3.9 mil)	Dominican Republic	Morocco		
	Mexico City			
	Yucatan Peninsula			

Answer the following on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Do some quick math: what percentage of all slaves went to “Mesoamerica”? What percentage went to “South America”?
2. Based on the number of slaves diffused, what areas of the world do you think grew the fastest, in terms of economics, etc.? Why?