

Notice short information blocks.

SPICE SEEKERS:

Other European explorers reached Canada. Why did those explorers come to Canada? Accidentally! In fact, they were searching for a faster route to India. What was in India? Spices. The explorers met Canada on the way to India. They didn't even know this large continent existed. But why did they come and why did they stay? Let's find out!

The Orient produces spices the Europeans want. The Portuguese are the first to go to India and China. Then the Portuguese and the Spaniards go to South America, looking for gold.

ENVIRONMENT



Europe is lacking in spices and in fish. But there are spices in the Orient and many fish at the Great Reefs off the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. Why did they need spices? When you put spice on your meat, it tastes better, right? Europeans put a lot of effort into finding spices. They travelled halfway around the world to India and China. They desperately wanted to find faster routes to spices in the Orient. Men died along the way. Why? Were Europeans so desperately in love with their cooking they were ready to die for the *perfect filet mignon*? Did they load boats with chefs to compete for the *Filet of Fish Award*? No. Europeans needed spices because spices help preserve meat.

The light tone departs from traditional academic texts and makes the subject matter more accessible to the young reader!

Remember that the refrigerator will not be invented for another 300 years. If you do not freeze meat or process it with spices, it spoils quickly and is wasted.

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