

Resource 2: Log of Christopher Columbus

Monday, December 24, 1492

“...11 o’clock at night. I decided to lie down to sleep because I had not slept for two days and one night. Since it was calm, the sailor who was steering the ship also decided to catch a few winks and left the steering to a young boy, a thing which I have always forbidden throughout the voyage. It made no difference whether there was wind or calm; the ships were not to be steered by young boys.

The ship went up on the bank so quietly that it was hardly noticed. When the boy felt the rudder ground and heard the noise of the sea, he cried out. I jumped up instantly

...I did the only thing I could. I ordered the mast cut and the ship lightened as much as possible, to see if it could be refloated...I could not save her.

...I sent a representative to the Native American King who had invited me to his village last Saturday...My men told me that the King wept when he heard of the disaster. He sent all his people from the village with many large canoes to help us unload the ship...He himself, along with his brothers and relatives helped unload the ship.

The King ordered everything placed near the houses, even emptying some so that everything could be stored and guarded.

I certify to Your Highness [King of Spain] that in all the world I do not believe there is a better people or a better country. They love their neighbors as themselves...and are always smiling.

Explain how the information in this document contributes to, or changes, your understanding of the image that you analyzed on Resource 1.
