

### **Resource 3: Columbus Log Entries (October 12, 1492 - March 15, 1493)**

**Directions:** read the entries from Columbus' log below then determine whether the conclusions on Resource 4 are supported by what Columbus wrote. These are things Columbus wrote AFTER he landed in America.

#### **Friday, 12 October 1492**

At dawn we saw [naked] people...I unfurled the royal banner...After a prayer of thanksgiving I ordered the captains of the Pinta and Nina...to bear faith and witness that I was taking possession of this island for the King and Queen...To this island I gave the name San Salvador [meaning The Savior], in honor of our Blessed Lord.

No sooner had we concluded the formalities of taking possession of the island than people began to come to the beach...They are very well-built people, with handsome bodies and very fine faces...

Many of the men I have seen have scars on their bodies...they indicated that people from nearby islands come to...capture them...I believe that people from the mainland come here to take them as slaves. *They ought to make good and skilled servants...*I think they can easily be made Christians...

#### **Saturday, 13 October 1492**

...I want to go to see if I can find the island of Japan

#### **Sunday, 14 October 1492**

...By the signs they made I think they were asking if we came from Heaven...others shouted to everyone on the beach, saying, "Come see the men from Heaven, bring them food and drink." ...these people are very unskilled in arms. Your Highnesses will see this for yourselves when I bring to you the seven that I have taken. After they learn our language, I shall return them.

#### **Tuesday, 16 October 1492**

Just as I was preparing to board the ship, a big canoe came alongside the Nina, and one of the men from San Salvador jumped overboard and escaped in it. This is the second time this has happened...

I was also afraid that all the men who I had taken from San Salvador would escape if I did not move on and get further away. I wanted to go to another large Island...

#### **Wednesday, 17 October 1492**

I have seen no animals of any sort, except parrots and lizards - although a boy told me that he saw a big snake. I have not seen sheep, goats, or any other beasts...

I left this village around noon...and the *Indians* whom I had aboard told me that a southerly course leads to the island they call Samoet, where the gold is. [p. 84]

#### **Wednesday, 16 January 1493**

Three hours before dawn I departed the Gulf...after we had gone 6 miles the wind blew very favorably for going to Spain.

#### **Monday, 4 March 1493**

When the sun came up, I recognized the land, which was...near the river at Lisbon [Portugal].

**Wednesday, 6 March 1493**

When word spread that I had come from the Indies, many people came from the city of Lisbon to see me and the Indians.

**Friday, 15 March 1493**

...At noon...I was inside the harbor from which I had departed on August 3 of the past year. Thus, the writing is now completed...His Divine Majesty does all good things. This voyage has miraculously proven this to be so...I hope to Our Lord that it will be the greatest honor for Christianity, although it has been accomplished with such ease.