

# Lesson 2: Creating Accounts Using Columbus' Log



Unit 3  
Grade 4

# Storyboard for a Short Movie

In this lesson we are going to ask you to create a *storyboard* for a short movie that provides viewers with information about the historic first voyage of Christopher Columbus.

This movie will be more like a *documentary*. A documentary is a movie or a television or radio program that provides a factual record or report.



# Storyboard for a Short Movie

Scenario:

Someone has discovered what they now know to be pieces of paper that contain parts of Christopher Columbus' log or journal from his famous voyage in 1492. You will have an opportunity to read Columbus' own words - the words he wrote down so that people would know about his famous voyage.

The papers are currently a scrambled mess! You have been asked to organize the papers in chronological order so that we can know some of the things that happened during the historic 1492 voyage known as the Enterprise of the Indies, and when it happened.

**Monday, 1 October 1492**

*"I did the math and it shows that we have traveled 2,121 miles. I did not reveal this to the men because they would become frightened, being so far from home."*

**Thursday, 11 October 1492**

*"About 10 o'clock at night...I thought I saw a light to the west. ...I was so eager to find land that I did not trust my own senses...I now believe that the light...was the first positive sign of land..."*

**Monday, 10 September 1492**

*"Today I made 180 miles at a speed of 7½ knots. I wrote down and told the crew that we only traveled 144 miles so that the sailors would not get scared if the voyage is long."*

**Introduction** [exact date unknown]

*"I left... in 1492 and went to the town of Palos, Spain which is a seaport. There I put supplies on three ships...I left Palos with a lot of supplies and with many sailors on the third day of August."*

**Thursday, 4 October 1492**

*"A frigate bird came to the ship and a white bird that looked like a gull. So many birds are a sure sign that we are near land."*

**Thursday, 20 September 1492**

*"...Very early this morning 3 little birds flew over the ship... and flew away as the sun rose. This was a comforting sign, for unlike the large water birds, these little birds could not have come from very far away."*

Scene 1



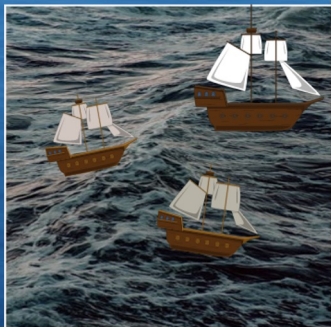
Scene 2



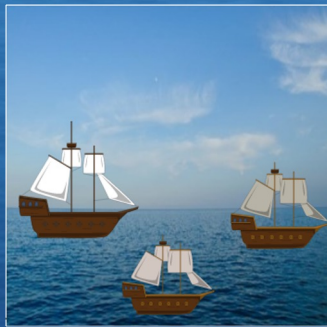
Scene 3



Scene 3



Scene 4



Scene 5







Scene 1:

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Scene 2:

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Scene 3:

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Scene 4:

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Scene 5:

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Scene 6:

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In groups of 4:

- Arrange the log entries into chronological order.
- Divide the strips among members of the group.
- Students will read what is on their strips, including dates, in chronological order for everyone in the group to hear.
- The person to the right will paraphrase the information on the strip after each is read aloud.

**Monday, 10 September 1492**

"Today I made 180 miles at a speed of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  knots. I wrote down and told the crew that we only traveled 144 miles so that the sailors would not get scared if the voyage is long."

**Tuesday, 5 September 1492**

"The ships have been loaded for the next part of our trip, and all is ready for the voyage. At sunrise, I will anchor to begin the journey westward."

**Introduction** [exact date unknown]

"I left... in 1492 and went to the town of Palos, Spain which is a seaport. There I put supplies on three ships...I left Palos with a lot of supplies and with many sailors on the third day of August. It was a Friday. We left a half an hour before sunrise. I headed for the Canary Islands...which are in the Ocean just off the coast of Africa. I will then leave from there on a voyage that will last until I arrive in the Indies... I decided to write everything down."

**Sunday, 9 September 1492**

"This day we completely lost sight of land, and many men sighed and cried for fear they would not see land again for a long time. I comforted them with great promises of lands and riches. In order to make them less afraid, I decided to tell them that we traveled fewer miles each day of our trip. I did this so that they would not think that we were far away from Spain as they really were. I will keep an accurate record of how far we really traveled."

**Saturday, 25 August 1492**

"I reached Grand Canary Island this

**Thursday, 20 September 1492**

"...Very early this morning three little birds flew over the ship, singing as they went, and flew away as the sun rose. This was a comforting sign, for unlike the large water birds, these little birds could not have come from very far away. The sailor saw many weeds in the water. This also comforted the men because they believe that that the weeds must have come from some nearby land..."





Scene 1:

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Scene 2:

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Scene 3:

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Scene 4:

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Scene 5:

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Scene 6:

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Discuss and select 6 notable senses that should be part of the storyboard.

Make sure you include dates and brief quotes from the log entries on your storyboard.



Scene 1: \_\_\_\_\_

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Scene 4: \_\_\_\_\_

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Scene 2: \_\_\_\_\_

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Scene 5: \_\_\_\_\_

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Scene 3: \_\_\_\_\_

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Scene 6: \_\_\_\_\_

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We are now going to hear and read excerpts from Columbus' log that he wrote **AFTER** landing in the New World for the first time.

After hearing about what Columbus thought and saw, you will be asked to decide whether certain conclusions were supported by what Columbus wrote.

#### 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].

With a partner, read the conclusions on Resource 4, discuss with your partner whether the conclusions are or are not supported by the information in the log (circle Yes or No in Column 2 of Resource 4), and record any date from the log that supports a conclusion in Column 3 on Resource 4.

Use Resource 3 to help.

#### Resource 4: Drawing Conclusions from Sources

**Directions:** Read each conclusion in Column 1 then decide whether that conclusion is supported by what you read in Columbus' log. Circle Yes or No in Column 2. If the conclusion is supported, write the date in Columbus log on which you found evidence to support the conclusion.

Conclusion	Is it supported in Columbus Log?	Date this is supported in the log
1- Columbus thought the Native Americans were attractive.	Yes No	
2- Columbus thought he was in the Far East.	Yes No	
3- Native Americans thought the Europeans were gods.	Yes No	
4- Columbus kidnapped Native Americans.	Yes No	
5- Columbus thought he was in India.	Yes No	
6- There were animals in Europe that did not exist in the "New World."	Yes No	
7- Columbus spent more than a year in the "New World."	Yes No	
8- Columbus was a religious man.	Yes No	
9- Native American dressed like the Europeans	Yes No	
10- There was gold in the "New World."	Yes No	



## Four Corner Discussion

What was your original impression of Columbus based on his log entries?

1. Very positive
2. Somewhat positive
3. Somewhat negative
4. Very negative



Why might there be different points of view and interpretations of Columbus?