

# Navigators - Come Fly With Me! America

What

I

Should

Know

**Dimensions**  
CURRICULUM



## Overview

"Come Fly With Me! America" is a thematic unit, based on North and Central America, with a key focus on geography and history. It begins with the location of countries and states, before we move on to learning about the discovery of America and the Native American people. We will also study weather and climate, as well as human and physical features.

## Key Dates

Christopher Columbus landed in America in 1492. The discovery of America by the first Europeans brought opportunities for many to travel there and make a new life.

## The American States

There are 50 states in America, the largest of which is Alaska. This is characterised by its Tundra.

## Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated in October (Canada) or November (USA). Families get together and have a traditional meal that includes turkey and pumpkin pie. It is a time of celebrating, originally to thank God for the Harvest, as the first Puritan pilgrims did in 1621 when they had their first harvest in America, after leaving England.



## Indigenous People

When Columbus landed, Native Americans had already lived there for hundreds of years. He referred to them as 'Indians' as he thought he had landed in the East Indies. The largest Native American tribes are the Navajo, Cherokee and Sioux people.

## Key Places

North America is split into six regions:- Canada, Greenland, Mexico, United States, Central America and the Caribbean.

**Human Geography:** The White House, Golden Gate Bridge, Statue of Liberty, Disneyland.

**Physical Geography:** Grand Canyon, Mount Rushmore, Niagra Falls, Mississippi River, Rocky Mountains

## The American Dream

This is the hope that anyone can become rich and /or famous if they work hard and try their best. People from other countries migrate to America for the chance of work, equal rights, freedom of speech etc.

The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of 'The American Dream'. It was a gift of friendship from France and was built by Gustave Eiffel (who also built the Eiffel Tower).

# Navigators - Come Fly With Me! America

## Vocabulary

<b>Country</b>	a nation with its own government, occupying a particular territory
<b>Continent</b>	a very large area of land, such as Africa or Asia, that consists of several countries.
<b>Indigenous</b>	original settlers of a given region
<b>Migrate</b>	to move to another country
<b>Persecution</b>	terrible treatment
<b>Pilgrim</b>	somebody who makes a long journey for a religious reason
<b>Puritan</b>	a strict form of Protestant Christianity
<b>Region</b>	a particular area or part of the world
<b>Stars and Stripes</b>	the national flag of the US, with fifty white stars representing the fifty American states
<b>State</b>	a place with its own government and borders within a larger country
<b>Tolerance</b>	a willingness to accept behaviour and beliefs that are different from your own
<b>Tundra</b>	large, flat, treeless Arctic region of North America in which the subsoil is permanently frozen

## Concept Flow

- To be able to locate North and Central America, including some of the different countries and states
- To learn about the discovery of America
- To know about the Native Americans
- To know about the weather and climate of North and Central America
- To identify the famous landmarks of North America, both physical and human
- To understand the meaning and importance of the 'American Dream'



## My Notes Questions