

Searching for El Dorado

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Summary

This book is about explorers going to the Americas to look for a city of gold.

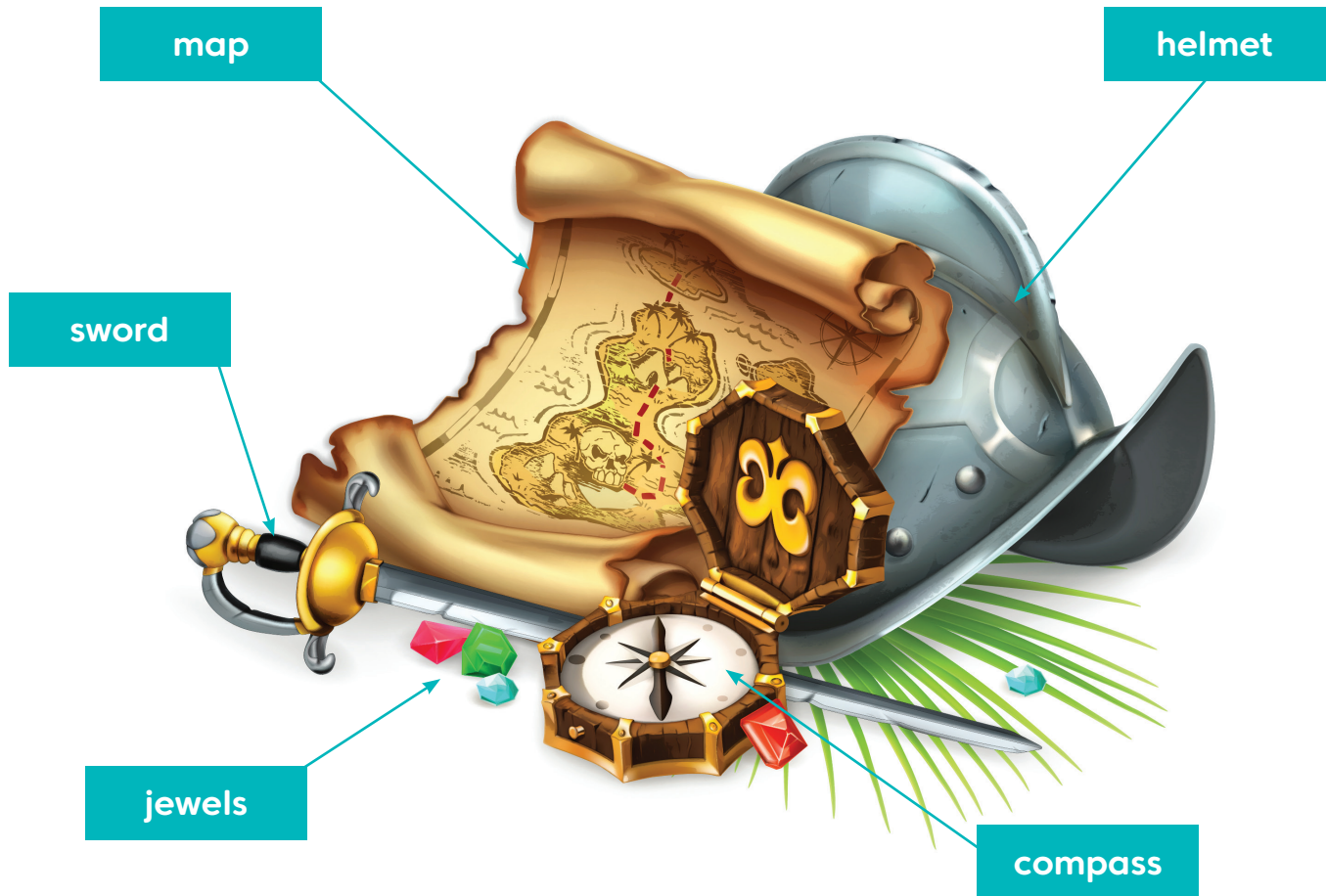
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Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. What did explorers wear on their heads?
2. What did explorers use for fighting?
3. What did explorers want to find?
4. What did explorers make and give to other explorers?

Vocabulary

A Read and match.

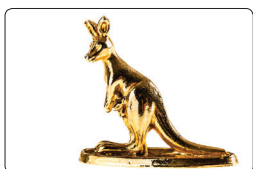
1.



•

• a. ceremony

2.



•

• b. edge

3.



•

• c. explorer

4.



•

• d. feather

5.



•

• e. golden

6.



•

• f. king

7.



•

• g. lake

8.



•

• h. shell

B Write the word for each definition.

culture

European

language

local

wealth

1. _____ a person from England, Spain, Germany, or a country around there
2. _____ all of the money or things of value that a person has
3. _____ the habits, traditions, and beliefs of a country or group of people
4. _____ from a place near or close by
5. _____ words that people use to speak or write

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. In some cultures, it is a usual thing to do to say hello with a kiss on the cheek.
 a. custom b. dust c. jewel d. snake
2. The city of El Dorado is only a story. It is not a real place.
 a. emerald b. legend c. llama d. mask
3. The man with the red clothes is a church or temple leader, not the king.
 a. gold b. middle c. religious d. south
4. There was a big war in Europe 100 years ago.
 a. a century b. a decade c. a month d. a week

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. European explorers had already visited South America.
- b. Europeans imagined a city with streets of gold.
- c. There were strange animals like llamas and monkeys in the new land.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. Where did Europeans think a place of great wealth was hidden?
 - a. In a European city
 - b. In South America
 - c. On the biggest mountain
 - d. Under some streets
2. What did European explorers not have?
 - a. Food
 - b. Horses
 - c. Maps
 - d. Water
3. What did European explorers find strange or different about the people in South America?
 - a. Their language
 - b. Their houses
 - c. Their interest in gold
 - d. Their music and ceremonies

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. Put on the Muisca king's body
- b. Found around the edge of Lake Guatavita
- c. The man who was "the Golden One"
- d. The Spanish looked for gold here
- e. What the Muisca bought with gold



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

1. _____ The Spanish found El Dorado in Colombia.
2. _____ Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada and explorers like him fought with South American people.
3. _____ The Muisca people made their new king eat little pieces of gold.
4. _____ An important ceremony for the Muisca people took place on Lake Guatavita.
5. _____ The Muisca people collected jewels and gold from the bottom of Lake Guatavita.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. The Muisca people thought gold was _____ like the sun.
ancient beautiful
2. The Muisca people didn't have much _____, but they used it for many things.
gold towns
3. The Spanish _____ some of Lake Guatavita in 1545.
emptied washed
4. Hundreds of _____ of gold were found around the lake's edge.
cities pieces
5. The Spanish didn't find the large _____ of gold they wanted to find.
amount forest

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ Europeans heard about a city called El Dorado in South America.
- b. _____ Explorers like Hernando de Soto and Francisco Pizarro traveled through South America.
- c. _____ Sir Walter Raleigh decided to look for El Dorado using some old maps.
- d. _____ The Spanish emptied part of Lake Guatavita because they were looking for gold there.
- e. _____ The Spanish heard that El Dorado was "the Golden One," the head of the Muisca people.

After Reading

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
_____ thought the city of El Dorado was a city called Manoa.	Today, El Dorado can mean a place of riches, a town, a flower, a movie theater, or _____.	Raleigh decided to look for El Dorado in _____.	Today, El Dorado just lives in our hearts and _____.	People never found the city of gold because it was only a _____.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.