

Conquistadors Web Activity Orellana (The Amazon)

Go to http://www.pbs.org/conquistadors/orellana/orellana_flat.html

Click on "Discovery of Amazonia" on the left. Click on the icons below the map to find the answers to the questions. Use both the Diary and the Indian icons if the topic has both. If your computer is able to play the videos watch them, but they will not be covered in the questions.

1. Rumors of El Dorado

What does El Dorado mean?

Who led the expedition in 1541?

What three things did he seek?

How many people did he take with him?

2. Crossing the Andes

What made travel difficult?

Who arrived at Sumaco?

How many men did he have?

3. Building El Barco

What was the situation of the expedition in October 1541?

Why did they build a boat?

4. The Expedition Splits

Why did they split the expedition?

How many men did Orellana take?

5. Starving on the Napo

Why couldn't Orellana go back?

How did the Indians treat them?

What did Orellana learn that helped them survive?

6. Amazon Proper

Why was the *Victoria* built?

Where did Pizarro go?

How did the Apurians help with the construction?

7. Under Attack

What was Machipao territory like?

Why was River Negro given its name?

At what craft did the Omagua excel?

8. To the Sea

When did Orellana reach the mouth of the Amazon?

Why is the river called the Amazon?

9. The Journey Home

Where did the boats land?

How many men survived?

Click on "Golden Man" on the left. Click on each picture to find the answers.

The Legend

What was the legend of El Dorado?

What was the probable origin of the legend?

The Amazons

What English explorer wrote about the Amazons?

The Expeditions

Who were some of the other explorers who searched for El Dorado?

The Native Disgust

What was the Indians' opinion of the European lust for gold?

The Wonders

What kind of people were reported by Raleigh?

What did he call the area?

The Literature

Name three authors who wrote about El Dorado.

Go to <http://www.pbs.org/opb/conquistadors/amazonia/amazonia.htm>

Begin with "Geography is Everything." Use the "more" button to read the rest of the article. Click on the icons in the right margins to find some of the answers in the links.

1. How large is the Amazon Rainforest?
2. How many native people lived there 500 years ago?
3. How many tribes still have no contact with the modern world?
4. What is the main food of the Amazon?
5. Why must it be processed before it can be eaten?
6. Describe the native method of fishing.

Click on "Early Amazonia." Read "Exploring the Amazon."

1. What are the oldest ecosystems on earth?
 2. How much of the earth do they cover?
 3. How many species of plants and animals live in the rainforest?
 4. What are the four layers of plants and animal in a rainforest?
 5. Why is the soil poor and shallow?
 6. What is evapotranspiration?
 7. What will happen if the rainforest is cut down?
 8. At the present rate, when will the rainforest become a savanna?
- What is a savanna? Look it up in <http://www.dictionary.com/>.
9. Why are the plants in Amazonia the most valuable resource?
 10. Name five other natural resources found in the Amazon rainforest.
 11. What kind of agriculture had intruded on the rainforest?

Click on "The Quest for El Dorado" at the top of the page. Read "The Lure of El Dorado." Remember to use the icons on the right.

1. How old was Orellana when he left Spain?
2. What injury did he receive during a battle with the Incas?
3. Where was the land he was given by Pizarro?

Click on "The Quest for El Dorado" at the top of the page. Read "Orellana's Expedition."

1. What was Orellana's first rule of leadership?
2. Did he believe it was better to be loved or feared?
3. How did he suggest finding the cowards?

Click on "Legacy of the Conquest" at the top of the page. Read "The Story Ends."

1. What did Gonzalo Pizarro's men eat to survive?
2. How many of them returned to Quito?
3. What was the title the king gave to the administrator in the New World?
4. What happened after Gonzalo Pizarro crowned himself "King of Peru"?
5. How was Orellana received when he returned to Spain?
6. What happened during the Atlantic crossing he made in 1545?
7. How did he die?

Click on "Legacy of the Conquest" at the top of the page. Read "The Last New World."

1. What are some policy proposals about the future of the rainforest?
2. Who was Chico Mendes? What happened to him?
3. What products are being protected in extractive reserves?