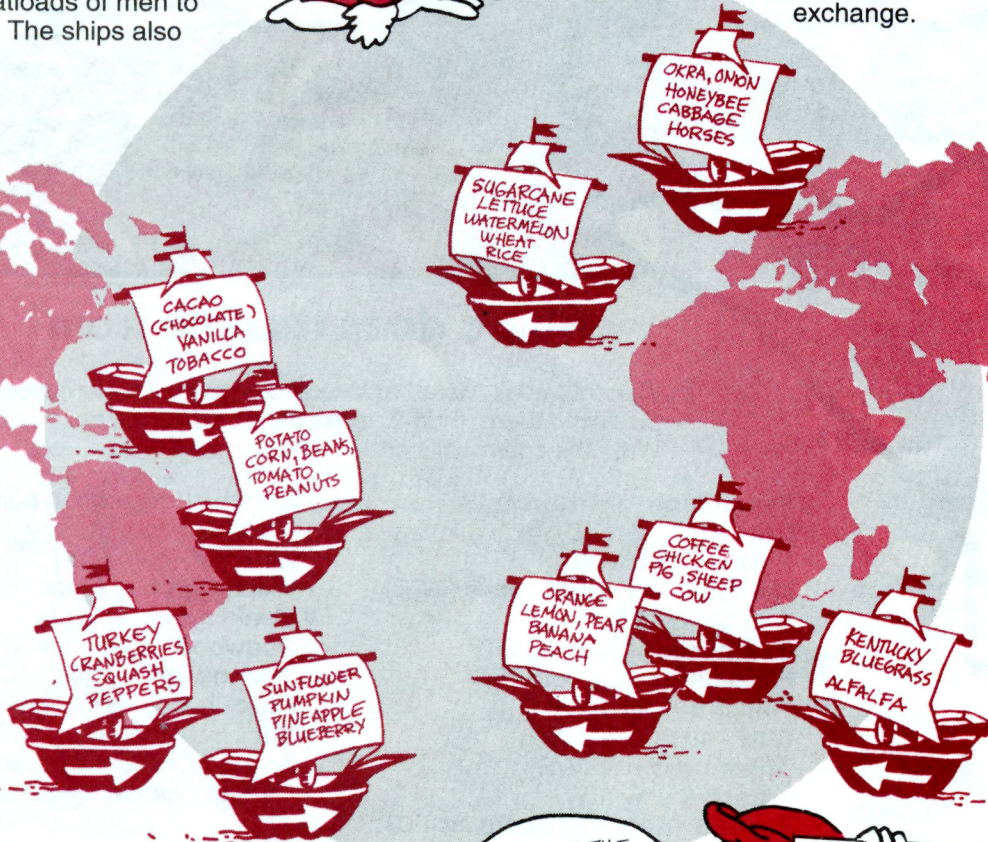


A Great Exchange

October 1992 marks the 500th anniversary of the first voyage of Christopher Columbus to the Americas. Native peoples were already living in North and South America. The four voyages of Columbus started an exchange of plants, animals and people that changed the world forever.

On his second voyage, Columbus brought 17 boatloads of men to start a colony. The ships also

brought many different kinds of plants and animals that native peoples had never seen before—things that completely changed the way they lived. And when Columbus returned to Europe, he took many plants that were new to Europeans. These things changed their cooking and eating. Here are some of the results that started with that great exchange.



THE GREAT EXCHANGE QUIZ BOWL

1. Columbus wrote in his journal that he had seen a plant that looked "like carrots and tasted like chestnuts." Now, more of this vegetable is grown than any other vegetable in the world.
2. This plant, brought by Columbus to the Americas, is used to make sugar.
3. The arrival of this animal changed the way Native Americans traveled and hunted.
4. When farmers in Europe planted this food crop from North America, they were able to produce more food and feed more people.

LOOK AT THE PICTURE TO HELP YOU FIND ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ BOWL QUESTIONS.

Think and Discuss

1. Imagine you are members of the crew of one of Columbus' early voyages. Make a list of things you would take with you on your journey. Remember things that could be used to trade with people you might meet.
2. Some people say Columbus came from an Old World to find a New World. Why might it be more correct to say it was the meeting of two Old Worlds?

Answers: 1. potato 2. sugarcane 3. horse 4. potatoes