

**Pages 38-63**

**Explorers from Europe: Lesson 1 Pages 38-44**

The first Americans are referred to as Native Americans. Scientists think that Asians crossed the frozen northern hemisphere or crossed a land bridge from Russia over the Bering Strait to get here.

After Columbus, many explorers came from Europe:

- **Juan Ponce de Leon** from **Spain** landed in what is now Florida.
- **Hernando de Soto** from **Spain** also landed in what is now Florida.
- **Francisco Vasquez de Coronado** from **Spain** came from Mexico looking for gold.
- **Jacques Cartier** from **France** came looking for riches
- **Marquette and Jolliet** from **France** traveled up the Mississippi River. They wanted to bring Christianity to the Americas.

In 1803, the French sold the land that was called the **Louisiana Territory** back to the United States.

In 1804, **Meriwether Lewis and William Clark** began their trip on the Missouri River and traveled west to the Pacific Ocean to explore the land for the United States.

Between 1803 and 1853 the **United States continued to expand** to what it is today. In 1819, the U.S. purchased Florida from Spain and then Texas was added. **England ceded the Oregon Territory** and the U.S purchased a huge area of land from Mexico.

An **immigrant** is a person who comes to live in a new land.

**Culture** is the way of life followed by a group of people: food, clothing, music, art, religion, holidays, customs, stories, and games.

**E pluribus unum** is Latin for “out of many one.” Out of many other countries and cultures comes one country, the United States of America.

**Government for the People pages 46-52**

The **government** is made up of the rules, or laws, that we follow and the people who run our country.

The United States is a **republic**. In a republic, the leaders are elected by the people. The leaders make decisions for the people who elect them.

Our republic is also called a **democracy**. In a democracy every citizen has a right to take part in government.

A **citizen** is an official member of a country.

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The United States government is based on our plan for the government called the **Constitution**. The Constitution was written by the founders of our country.

There are three levels of our government: **local, state, and national**.

The capital city of the United States is **Washington, D.C.**

There are three branches of our government:

<b><u>Executive</u></b>	<b><u>Judicial</u></b>	<b><u>Legislative</u></b>
White House	Supreme Court	United States Capitol
President	9 Head Justices	Senate and House of Representatives
Enforces the laws	Interpreting the laws	Makes the laws

An **amendment** is a change to the Constitution.

The first 10 amendments to the Constitution are known as the **Bill of Rights**.

### **Our Constitutional Rights Pages 56-59**

The **Thirteenth Amendment** ended slavery. The **Nineteenth Amendment** gave women the right to vote.

A **passport** is a government document used in traveling to foreign countries.

**Taxes** are money the government collects to pay for its services, like schools and roads.

A **jury** is a panel of ordinary citizens who make decisions in a court of law.

Voting, working for the community, and paying taxes are all **responsibilities** of every American citizen.