Friday, September 12, 2014

**Do Now:**
1) Pick up do now sheet and complete it.

**Today’s Agenda:**
1) Do Now
2) Finish Spanish Explorers
3) Exit-slip

**Homework:**
Conquistadors and the Aztecs Worksheet

**Learning Target(s):**
I can describe the contributions made by European Explorers (Spanish, French, English, etc.).
I can describe how the Native Americans were affected by the Spanish Empire in the Americas.

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**Hernan Cortes:**
- Conquered the Aztec Empire (1519–1521), stole gold from the Aztecs
- Millions of natives killed by smallpox (unknowingly brought by the Spanish)
- Became governor of Mexico
- Established the first colony in Mexico

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**Aztec Empire:**
- Native Americans from Mesoamerica
- Empire was vast and wealthy
- Capitol city was Tenochtitlan
- Emperor was Montezuma II

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**Cortes Meets the Aztecs:**
- Montezuma wondered if Cortes was Quetzalcoatl (keht-sahl-koh-ahtl)
  - Fair skinned Aztec god who would return from the East
- Cortes was welcomed to the city
- Discovered gold in a secret room
- Fearing safety, Cortes took Montezuma hostage and left for the coast
- Montezuma was killed by his own people
Siege of Tenochtitlan:
- 1518- Cortes sailed from Cuba to Mexico and led an expedition of 16 horses and 600 soldiers
- Captured Montezuma and demanded ransom
- Cortes conquered the capital
- Established Mexico City

Reasons for Victory:
- Superior weapons (guns, cannons, armor, dogs, horses)
- Made allies with Aztec enemies
- Aztecs fought to wound, Spanish fought to kill
- Disease

Francisco Pizarro:
- Conquered the Incas
- Held the Inca ruler prisoner
- Once he controlled the area, he exploited the Incas: taxes, labor in mines
- Geography slows acceptance of Spanish rule; frequent rebellions
Spanish Empire in the Americas:

**Goal:**
- To colonize newly conquered territories
- Establish a model government, culture, language, and religion after the parent country
- Queen Isabella declared the *Indios* her subjects

The *Encomienda System*:

- Under this system, natives were forced to farm, ranch, and mine for Spanish landlords
- The landlords received the rights to the natives’ labor from Spanish authorities
- The landlords promised the Spanish rulers that they would be fair and respect the workers
- Many abused the natives and worked many laborers to death, especially inside dangerous mines

**Impact on the Spanish Colonies:**

- Exploitation of gold and silver
- Plantations established
- Trade increased
- Forced labor upon the natives
- Brought language and religion to their colonies (Catholic)
Benefits for Spain:

- Became a wealthy empire from silver and gold
- Built an armada
- Became one of the great powerful European nations

Religion in the Spanish Colonies:

- Missionaries brought Roman Catholicism to the New World
- The missionaries worked to stop Native American exploitation

Exit-slip:

- Who established the first colony in Mexico?
- Who was the Aztec Emperor around the time of Cortes’s invasion?
- Who destroyed the Incan Empire?
- What was the Encomienda System.