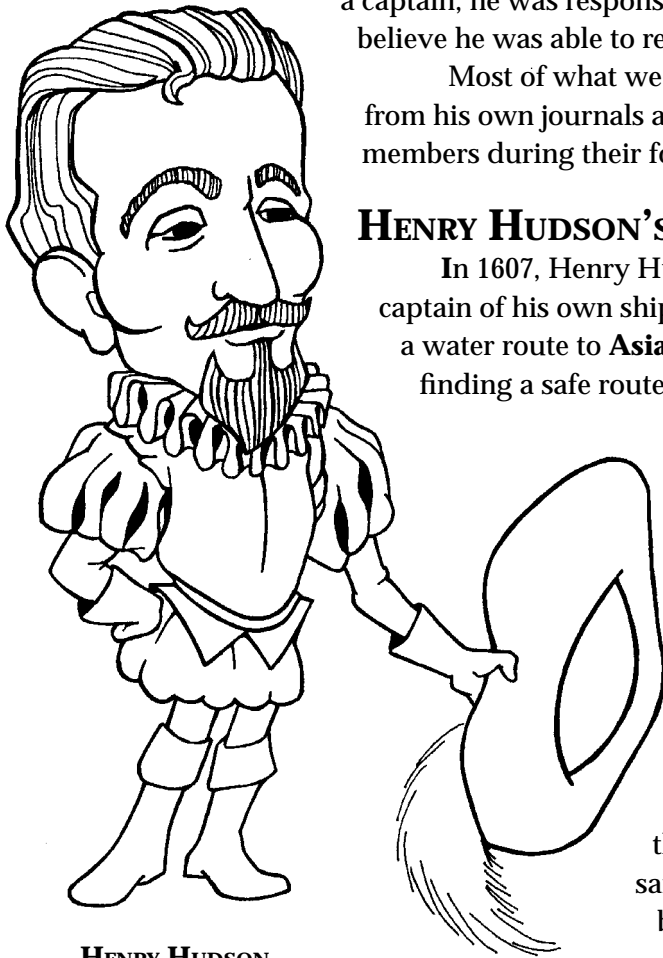


HENRY HUDSON



Henry Hudson was born in England around the year 1570. As a young man in his teens, Henry worked as a cabin boy, running **errands** for the ship's captain and waiting on passengers and crew members. He worked his way up to captain, learning how to cook, sail, **navigate**, and read weather maps. As a captain, he was responsible for keeping a journal, so **historians** believe he was able to read and write.

Most of what we know about Henry Hudson's life came from his own journals and written records kept by his crew members during their four **voyages** with Henry Hudson.



HENRY HUDSON

HENRY HUDSON'S FIRST VOYAGE

In 1607, Henry Hudson sailed from **England** as the captain of his own ship, the *Hopewell*. He was trying to find a water route to **Asia** through the **North Pole**. Remember, finding a safe route to Asia was very important for Spain,

France, and England. In Asia, they could buy jewels, silk, and spices that were not available in **Europe**. Hudson wanted to be the first explorer to find the important route to Asia.

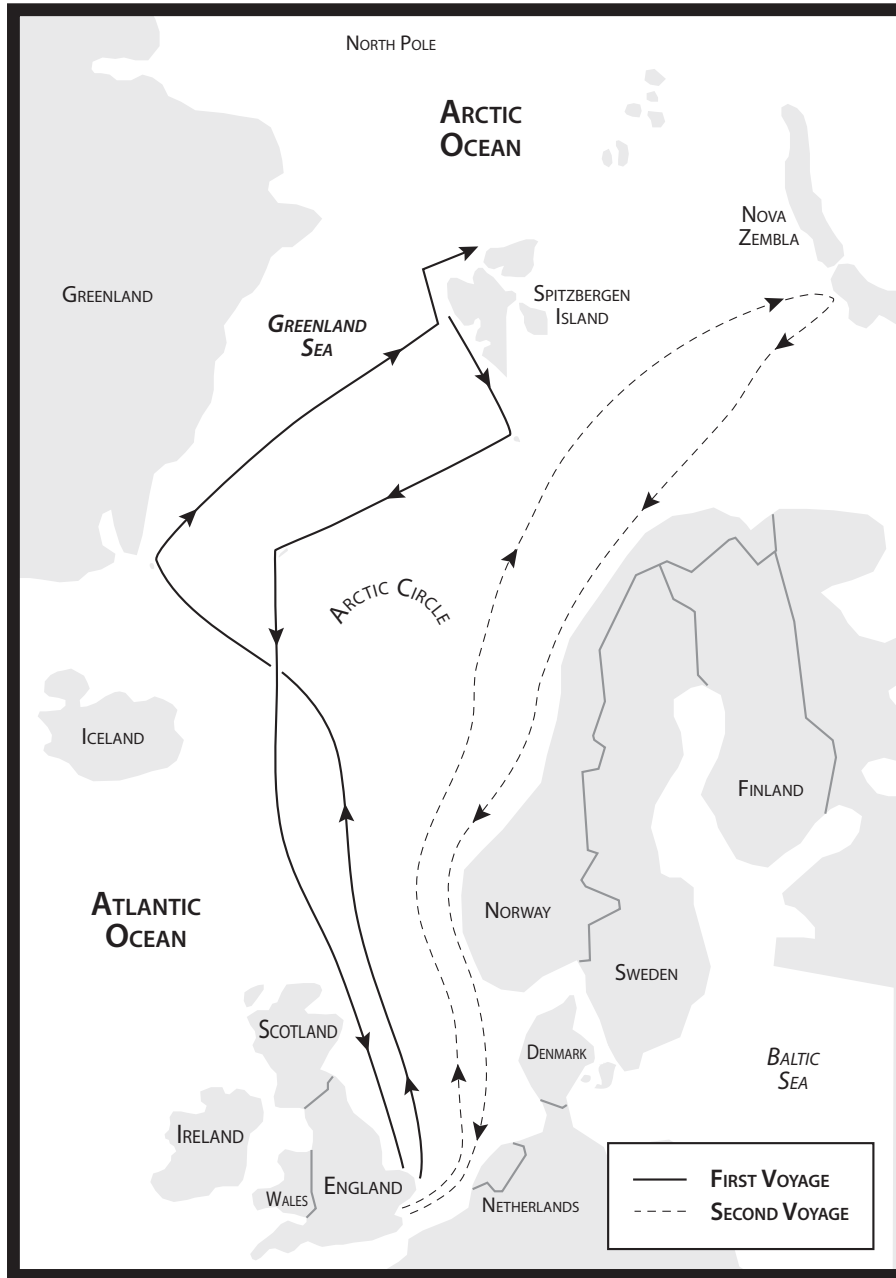
During Hudson's first voyage, he sailed northwest from England along the **coast** of **Greenland**. He was only 700 miles from the North Pole. He did not find the passage to Asia. He did, however, sail farther north than any other explorer before him. He also discovered seals, walruses, and **pods** of whales on **Spitzbergen Island** in the Arctic

Ocean. This discovery would be important to English whale hunters in later years. In fact, Henry Hudson is often remembered as the grandfather of the whaling **industry**.

HENRY HUDSON'S SECOND VOYAGE

In 1608, just three months after returning from his first voyage, Henry Hudson was ready to sail again. This time he sailed northeast from England. He traveled as far north as the Nova Zembla islands in the Arctic Ocean. Huge pieces of ice blocked his way. Once again, he was forced to return to England without any information about a waterway to Asia.

After two unsuccessful voyages in search of a water route to Asia, England was no longer interested in supporting Henry Hudson's **expeditions**. Not willing to give up, Hudson turned to the Dutch, England's biggest trading **rival**.



SAILING FOR THE DUTCH

In 1609, Henry Hudson left **Amsterdam** on his voyage for the Dutch. Instead of sailing north through the icy Arctic waters like he had done before, he sailed his ship, the *Half Moon*, west toward **North America**.

On July 12, 1609, the *Half Moon* sailed along the coast of **Newfoundland** in **New France**.

The crew continued sailing south, passing Nova Scotia. They reached the coast of present-day Maine where they were trapped in a thick fog for several days. After the fog lifted, Hudson and his crew went ashore and traded with the Native Americans.

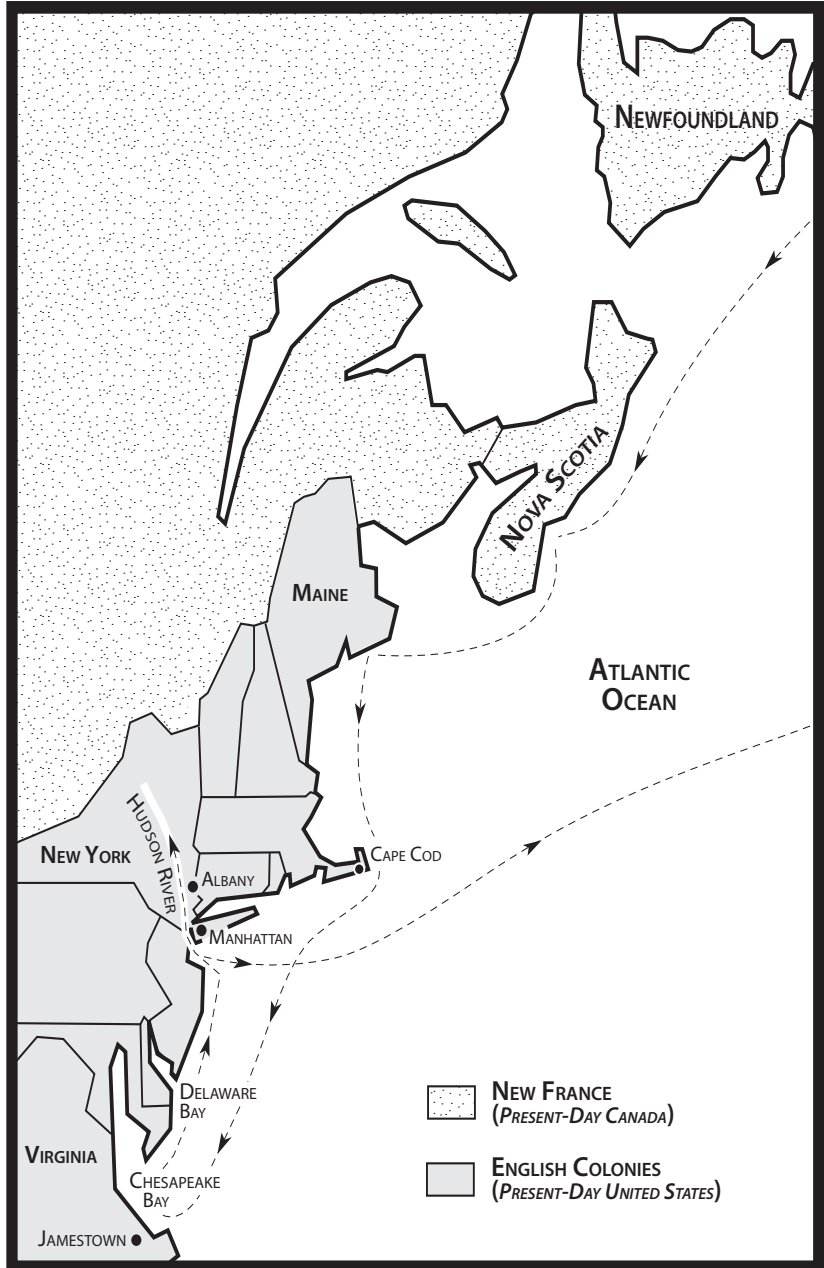
Hudson continued sailing south, discovering Cape Cod, the Delaware **Bay**, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Before turning north, the *Half Moon* had sailed as far south as Virginia, where English **colonist** John Smith had recently **founded** Jamestown.

Hudson sailed up the Hudson River and claimed all of the land along the river for the Dutch.

The *Half Moon* **anchored** first in Albany and then off the northern tip of Manhattan Island in present-day New York. Both times, the crew went ashore to eat and trade with the Native Americans.

Henry Hudson planned to spend the winter in Newfoundland before searching again for a water route to Asia. His crew **threatened** to throw him overboard if he didn't take them home. On November 7, 1609, the *Half Moon* landed safely in England. Historians aren't sure why Hudson sailed to England instead of returning to Amsterdam.



ARRESTED FOR TREASON

Less than a day after returning to England, Henry Hudson immediately made plans for a fourth voyage. Unfortunately, he wouldn't get the chance. He was arrested in England and found guilty of **treason** for sailing for the Dutch. He was held in England and never returned to Amsterdam. The Dutch were disappointed that Hudson had failed to find a safe water route to Asia, but they were excited about the land discoveries that Hudson had made in the **New World**. Dutch navigator Adriaen Block was sent to explore the new areas that Hudson had claimed for the Dutch. Block returned from his voyage with beaver furs and Native American **captives**. Block's explorations led to the first Dutch trading post in 1614, and New York's first permanent settlement in 1624.

HUDSON'S FOURTH VOYAGE

In 1610, Henry Hudson was released from jail. Though he had been found guilty of treason, England still wanted to find a water route to Asia. Since Henry Hudson was the explorer with the most experience, he was permitted to make a fourth voyage. This time, he sailed for England.

Shortly after dawn on April 17, 1610, the ship *Discovery* set sail from England. *Discovery* was loaded with crew and only eight months worth of supplies. Henry Hudson had difficulty with his crew from the beginning. There were constant fights between crew members and threats made against their captain, Henry Hudson.

A month later the crew reached Iceland. Bad weather and heavy fog forced them to stay in a safe **harbor** for another month. By June, Hudson and his crew sighted Greenland. They tried to land several times, but thick ice blocked the way. Strong winds and rough waters pushed the *Discovery* south and made many of the men sick. They sailed around the southeastern tip of Greenland and into a narrow area of water that was later named Hudson **Strait**.

As the *Discovery* sailed into the Hudson Bay, Captain Hudson mistakenly thought he had finally reached the Pacific Ocean. Ice formed on the water, forcing Hudson's crew to spend the winter in the southern end of the Hudson Bay. The crew suffered from cold, hunger, and disease. They were so angry with Hudson that they put him, his son, and a few of his crew members in a tiny boat and sailed away without them. The remaining crew members sailed the *Discovery* back to England. Henry Hudson was never seen again.



HENRY HUDSON

Directions: Read each question carefully. Darken the circle for the correct answer.

- 1 After reading the first paragraph about Henry Hudson, you can conclude that –**
- A he was a very lazy man
 B explorers who kept journals could read and write
 C he never became the captain of his own ship
 D he was born in the early 1500s.
- 2 During his first voyage, Henry Hudson –**
- F sailed from France
 G found the water route to Asia through the North Pole
 H sailed farther north than any other explorer before him
 J sailed through the Pacific Ocean
- 3 What can you learn by studying the map of Henry Hudson's first two voyages?**
- A Both voyages left from Greenland.
 B Only his second voyage sailed through the Arctic Circle.
 C Hudson's second voyage took him to Spitzbergen Island.
 D Henry Hudson was closer to Norway during his second voyage.
- 4 While sailing for the Dutch, Henry Hudson discovered all of the following except –**
- F Cape Cod
 G the Chesapeake Bay
 H the Pacific Ocean
 J the Hudson River
- 5 After spending the winter in Newfoundland, Henry Hudson planned to –**
- A search for the water route to Asia
 B stay in New France for a few years
 C kidnap Native Americans and take them back to Amsterdam with him
 D return to New York and build a Dutch colony
- 6 Which phrase describes how his crew felt about his plans?**
- F ...went ashore to eat and trade with the Native Americans...
 G ...threatened to throw him overboard if he didn't take them home...
 H ...landed safely in England...
 J ...sailed as far south as Virginia, where colonist John Smith had founded Jamestown...
- 7 Henry Hudson made his fourth voyage for –**
- A England
 B France
 C the Dutch
 D Italy
- 8 According to the map on the last page, Henry Hudson's fourth voyage –**
- F ended north of Iceland
 G sailed through the Gulf of St. Lawrence
 H only made it to Greenland
 J ended west of New France

READING

Answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 (A) (B) (C) (D) | 5 (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 2 (F) (G) (H) (J) | 6 (F) (G) (H) (J) |
| 3 (A) (B) (C) (D) | 7 (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 4 (F) (G) (H) (J) | 8 (F) (G) (H) (J) |