

TIMELINE SAMPLES

Sample Timeline Events for Postclassic Period:

- Around the year 800, when the Postclassic Period was just beginning, Mesoamerica's most important cities were abandoned or destroyed.
- Seminomadic people came from the vast northern area of Arid America and settled in Mesoamerica.
- Little by little, they developed new, advanced civilizations.
- The peoples of the Postclassic Period were wonderful artisans and developed new ways of working with gold, silver, and copper.
- The Spaniards arrived in Mesoamerica in 1521.

Sample Timeline Events for Discovery of America:

- In 1492, the Catholic Kings took over Granada, which was Spain's last Muslim kingdom. Columbus finally received the support he had been wanting for many years.
- On August 3, 1492, Columbus' ships, the Nina, Pinta, and Santa María set sail from the port of Palos.
- On October 12, 1492, they landed at an island in the Bahamas. Columbus named the island San Salvador. On this trip, he also reached Cuba and the island of Haiti, which he named La Española.
- Columbus returned to Spain with amazing objects, animals, and people from the American continent and showed them to the Catholic Kings.
- The Kings paid for another trip to the Indies, or America as we now call it. Columbus took fifteen ships and more than one thousand men on this voyage.
- The Europeans made the indigenous people work in mines and took their lands. They also forced them to accept a new religion and way of life.

Sample Timeline Events for The Conquest of America:

- The Mexican conquest began in 1517, when sailor Francisco Hernández de Córdoba explored the coast of the Yucatán peninsula. The Mayan culture was already starting to decline, but the explorers were still impressed when they saw its cities.
- Hernández de Córdoba was seriously wounded in a battle with the Indians and he returned to Cuba to tell of all he had seen.
- The Governor of Cuba, Diego Velázquez, wanted to do more exploration in Yucatan. He organized another trip under the command of Juan de Grijalva. They discovered that a large empire controlled the region and that it was feared and hated by the other indigenous peoples in the area.
- Governor Velázquez decided to send more of his people to the area. He sent eleven ships and almost seven hundred men under the command of Hernán Cortés.
- Cortés and his men landed in Veracruz and began communicating with the native people. They learned that the Aztec empire was very wealthy and that other groups of indigenous people no longer wanted to be dominated by them.
- As Cortés and his men marched towards Tenochtitlan, capital of the Aztec Empire, he showed the native people how strong and cruel he could be, but also invited them to join him to fight against the Aztecs.
- Moctezuma, the *tlatoani* or ruler of the Aztecs, thought Cortés and his men might be gods and treated them well at first when they arrived in the Valley of Mexico.