**Project Brief:**

**Exploring for Indies Riches**

**October 9, 2019**

**Background**

In the early 1500’s like many countries in Europe, Portugal and Spain are working very hard to bring back riches from the Indies for their people. In 1452 the Turks conquered Constantinople and blocked overland trade routes to the Indies. This was frustrating for Europeans because they had been receiving such fine goods as spices, gold, jewels, perfumes, and silk ever since Marco Polo wrote his famous book The Travels of Marco Polo. The Crown of Portugal and Spain are seeking adventurous explorers to find the best water route to the Indies. The explorer to find the best water route to the Indies will see an increase of wealth and power for themselves and their country.

**Assignment**

Your sailing crew will work to create an exploration pitch for either the Crown of Portugal or Spain. The king and queen are looking for explorers with the following information: their reason for needing to find a water route to the Indies, how this expedition will benefit their country, previous exploration experience with 2 other famous explorers, a map detailing the route they will take, a detailed list of items that they need for the voyage.

**Thoughts on Requirements**

Portugal & Spain would like to see teams that show proper etiquette and dress when talking with royalty.

Experience in sailing with other explorers and showing knowledge of those expeditions will help Spain and Portugal know that you are ready to make another successful expedition. (Your teacher will tell you what explorers you previously sailed with.)

Spain and Portugal really enjoy seeing their potential sailors sharing ideas, listening to others, and solving disagreements as a team throughout the process.

Spain and Portugal love to see creativity and technology in the pitches that are presented to them.

**Driving Question:** How can you prove to Spain/Portugal that they should choose you to be an explorer for their country?