

## Teacher's Guide

### Communication and Sea Travel Greatest Human Achievements

**Grade Levels:**

5-12

**Subject Areas:**

STEM

**Synopsis:**

In the past, face-to-face communication has been difficult for people around the world due to the fact that transportation options were limited. Eventually, lured by the opportunity to trade, explorers began overcoming these obstacles. With advancements in sea travel and navigation, we were able to make face-to-face communication more manageable.

**Learning Objectives:** Students will:

- Consider the impact of trade on economies
- Recognize the evolution sea travel
- Consider the impact canals and navigation had on travel and communication

**Vocabulary:**

Johannes Gutenberg, Yap, Phoenicians, Henricus Martellus, Christopher Columbus, Atlantic Triangle, Ferdinand De Lesseps, Suez Canal, William Gorgas

**Pre-Viewing Discussion:**

If you lived in the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century, how would you communicate with people who were not geographically close to you?

What did Johannes Gutenberg contribute to society? How did that impact the world?

**Post-Viewing Discussion:**

Why is Gutenberg important?

How have civilizations of the past helped shape sea navigation?

What was wrong with Henricus Martellus' map? How did this impact Christopher Columbus?

How did the Panama Canal come to be? Why was the project so difficult and expensive?

**Further Activities:**

Find a memoir or biography of an individual who worked on the Panama Canal. Consider how his telling of the creation of the canal differs from this program.

Research the navigational strategies of the Phoenicians.