

The Columbian Exchange

When people move, it is migration

When goods and ideas move, it is diffusion.

What was the impact of Columbus? Trade!

1. Cartography Columbus forced mapmakers to re-do all the maps of the world. Before Columbus, maps did not show two continents. After Columbus, maps did show North America and South America.
2. Cultural Diffusion Columbus set up a **cultural** exchange between the Old World and the New World.

The cultural exchange was of goods and ideas between Europe and the Americas.

Goods and ideas spread between the Eastern and Western hemispheres.

The cultural exchange is known as the Columbian Exchange.

The Columbian Exchange radically changed:
The world's plants and animals, the ethnic composition of the Americas, and the diet of people around the world.

The Smithsonian chose five things that caused change: The horse, sugarcane, maize, potatoes, and disease.

The greatest impact of the Americas on Europe, Asia and Africa? The spread of American food crops.

**What the Americas
gave to Europe**

**The impact on
Europe**

Plants

The Potato*

maize

squash and beans

peanuts

tomato

chocolate

tobacco

herbal medicine

Can be grown in cold regions

Can be grown in dry regions

Spread around the world

Spread to Africa

What did Italy do with the
tomato

The world's favorite dessert

The colony of Virginia was
built on it

Today's prescription drugs

*The incredible potato became the staple food of the average joe in Europe- especially Ireland, Germany, Poland, and Russia. The potato provides many more calories than grain. One acre of potatoes feeds many more people than one acre of grain. American foods created a population explosion in Europe. As a result, Europeans migrated to the Americas!

**What the world
gave to the Americas**

**The impact on the
Americas**

Plants

Sugar*

Sugar plantations in the
Caribbean

tea

Big issue in the American
Revolution

coffee

Coffee plantations in
Brazil and Columbia

grains (rice, wheat,
barley, oats, rye)

Wheatfields in the U.S.
Midwest

*Sugarcane meant slavery: It was the crop that launched the American slave trade. Sugar plantations in the Caribbean required massive labor. The native population died from disease. For sugar profits, Europeans kidnapped people in West Africa and brought them, as slaves, to the Americas. For the first time in world history, slavery was based on race. Africans became the majority population in the Caribbean islands-Cuba, Puerto Rico, Haiti, and Jamaica.

What the world gave to the Americas

The impact on the Americas

Animals

The Horse*

mules

milk cows

beef cattle

chicken and pigs,

goats and sheep

Revolutionized transportation

Draft animals improved farming

Dairy farms

Ranches in Mexico + California

More meat in peoples diet

*The horse first began in the Americas, but died off during the Ice Age.

For Native Americans, the horse revolutionized hunting.

For European farmers, the horse revolutionized farming. Horses and mules pulled the iron plow.

For Mexico and California, the horse created the cowboy.

For everyone, the horse improved transportation and communication.

(Remember the Pony Express?)

What the world gave to the Americas

Technology

The wheel, carts, wagons

Iron farm tools (the iron plow)

Iron and steel weapons,

gun powder

Culture

Languages

Immigration

The impact on the Americas

Revolutionized transportation

Revolutionized farming

Revolutionized warfare

Alphabet and writing system

Spanish is the main language of South America, Central America, and Mexico. English in North America.

Europeans became the majority.

Theirs became the dominant culture.

What the world gave to the Americas

Culture

Disease*

*Disease was the most effective weapon that Europeans brought to America. The diseases were smallpox, malaria, yellow fever, cholera, measles, typhoid, and bubonic plague. Today, another Old World disease travels to the Americas: AIDS.

Ideas

Religion

Politics

Economics

Slavery based on race

The impact on the Americas

Depopulation: Epidemics severely reduced the population of Native Americans

Missionaries spread Christianity.

The English brought English law.

Private ownership of property.

Slavery already existed in the Americas. Slavery based on race was a European idea.