

Significant Explorers: Key Knowledge



Christopher Columbus
1450 - 1506

- Born in Italy around 1450.
- His great ambition was to find a quicker way to sail from Europe to Asia
- Between 1492 and 1503, Christopher made four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean.
- He discovered the 'new' continent of North America.



Mary Anning
1799- 1847

- Mary Anning was a palaeontologist.
- She was born in Lyme Regis, England in 1799.
- She was a fossil hunter and discovered the first complete dinosaur skeleton.
- Her findings taught people about life in prehistory.



Ranulph Fiennes
1977 - present

- Ranulph Fiennes was born in England in 1977.
- He was the first person to travel on foot to both the North Pole and South Pole.
- He is the only person in the world to reach the summit of Mount Everest which is the highest mountain on Earth.
- Ranulph Fiennes is in the *Guinness World Records* because he is recognised as the 'world's greatest living explorer'.

Key Vocabulary

explorer	Someone who travels to places that no one has ever been or attempts to achieve something that no one has ever completed.
Antarctica	The southernmost continent in the world, Antarctica surrounds the South Pole.
continent	A continent is a large solid area of land. Earth has seven continents.
North Pole	The North Pole is the northern end of Earth's axis.
South Pole	The South Pole is the southern end of Earth's axis.
Mount Everest	The tallest mountain on Earth
Polar exploration	the exploration of the lands around the North and South poles
Europe	Europe is a continent. It is the second smallest of the world's seven continents
palaeontologist	A palaeontologist is a scientist who studies fossils.
fossil	The remains or traces of plants and animals that live a long time ago.
prehistory	Prehistory is any time that occurred before Human societies developed writing systems.

voyage

A journey especially by water from one place or country to another.