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Amerigo Vespucci

Today we live on a continent called North America. Who do you think named it? Amerigo Vespucci is the explorer that named both North and South America. He used his name, Amerigo, and added a few extra letters. Next, he put north and south in front of that. He did many interesting things over his lifetime.

Here is some basic information about Amerigo. He was born March 9, 1454, in Florence, Italy. He later died February 22, 1512 at sixty years old from malaria. His parents names’ were Nastagio Vespucci and Lisabetta Venicci. His wife was named Maria Cekez Mini Vespucci. They did not have any children (Foster).

Amerigo was inspired by Christopher Columbus to explore the new lands. He made two to four expeditions to the Americas and each time he went to a different place. He also mapped most of the Americas and saw that they did not look like Asia. That’s how he figured out the Americas were different places (Almagia).

There are many interesting facts about Amerigo Vespucci. He met Columbus in Spain and they shared their appreciation for exploring. One of his most famous discoveries was finding the mouth of the Amazon River (Foster). He also mapped the stars and used the moon and mars to figure out how much he went west. Finally, his name means “masterworks man” (Almagia).

Later in Amerigo Vespucci’s life he worked for the Spanish government. He also created official maps that helped others explore the new lands (BKIDS). He had many great discoveries over his lifetime. He went on some amazing expeditions. So now when you hear the name America you know that it came from the great explorer Amerigo Vespucci.

Works Cited

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