



Get to know

Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

Directions:

1. Open Internet Explorer.
2. Click favorites and click Las Colinas Favorites.
3. Click on the 4th grade link. Click on the picture of Cabeza de Vaca to open the website about him.
4. Analyze the map which shows the journey of Cabeza de Vaca.
5. To the left of the map, you will see 9 topics listed. With each topic, you will see a book icon and a teepee icon. Click the book icon on each topic to read the diary entry of Michael Wood. Michael Wood is the writer of *Conquistadors*, a four part series following the epic journeys of Spanish Explorers.

Now, use the website to answer the following questions.

1. By looking at the map, which shows the route of Cabeza de Vaca's journey, determine how long it took Cabeza de Vaca to get from Galveston Island to Mexico City.

2. According to Cabeza de Vaca, how did the Native Americans react upon seeing the condition of the shipwrecked survivors?

3. Sequence the following events of Cabeza de Vaca's journey in chronological order: (place a numbers 1-4 in the boxes next to each statement)

- a. The four survivors journey 2,000 miles before meeting, by chance, Spanish slave-traders.
- b. Cabeza de Vaca learns that three other survivors live down the coast.
- c. Cabeza de Vaca and his men reach Mexico City, where they share their tale with Hernán Cortés.
- d. Cabeza de vaca and a handful of survivors arrive at the "Isle of Misfortune".

4. What was the reaction of the slave-traders upon seeing Cabeza de Vaca?

5. Now imagine that you are an explorer about to embark upon a journey to an unknown land. In the space below, write a "survival guide" of items you should learn about before you go - such as edible plant life - or items you should take with you on your journey.