Entry # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Who Was Zheng He???**

**Presentation Notes**

1. Why did the Chinese emperor send Zheng He on these voyages?
2. What did Zheng He take on his voyage to trade with other merchants?
3. What items did Zheng He receive from these merchants to take back to China?
4. Why did China abandon is overseas voyages in mid 1400s?

**Reading Notes** – *Answer the following questions after reading the “Ming Dynasty Sea Voyages” article.*

1. How many voyages did Zheng He make and when?

7 voyages, 1405-1433

1. In at least 2 sentences, describe Zheng He’s fleet and then compare it to the fleet of Christopher Columbus.

Zheng He had a massive fleet with over 200 ships, the largest being 3000 tons. His ships were manned by a crew of 20000 men. This compared to Columbus’s feeble 3 ships manned by 87 men with the largest ship only weighing 200 tons.

1. What was the purpose of Zheng He’s voyages?

To display China’s power and magnificence.

1. What technology did the Chinese have that Europeans lacked?

They had a magnetic compass, water tight compartments, maps, and stern post rudders.

1. How has learning about Zheng He and his voyages changed your opinion about early explorers?

Columbus is overrated. :p