The Great North Storybook

Episode 1 — The Land Before Canada

“And the land remembered it all.”

Explorer: _____ **Listen to the story first — then play!**

Story Words

1. Land bridge — Long ago the sea sank low, and a wide bridge of grassy land joined Asia to Alaska. People walked across it into a brand-new land.

2. Mammoth — A giant animal of the Ice Age, like a huge hairy elephant, with tusks that curved like swords.

3. Three Sisters — Corn, beans and squash, planted together because they help each other grow.

4. Longhouse — A long, long house where many families of one nation lived together.

5. Tree rings — The circles inside a tree trunk. A tree grows one new ring every year, so the rings can tell you how old a tree is — or the year it was cut down.

Put the Story in Order

Number the boxes 1 to 6 to put the story in order.

☐ **A.** The people spread across the whole wide land and became many nations, with towns, farms and more than fifty languages.

☐ **B.** Around the year 1000, Norse sailors built little houses at L'Anse aux Meadows — and a baby named Snorri was born there.

☐ **C.** A little girl walks on a beach with her mother and father, and her footprints press into the wet clay.

☐ **D.** Searchers find the Viking houses sleeping under the grass — and a secret mark from the sun, hidden in tree rings, tells the year: 1021.

☐ **E.** Long before the footprints, people walk across a wide, grassy land bridge from Asia, following the animals they hunt.

☐ **F.** Far in the north, the ancestors of the Inuit make the coldest place in the country their home, and learn to read the ice.

Boost for older explorers: *One beat happened about 13,000 years ago, and one in the year 1021. Can you write the years beside them?*

Word Search

Find and circle the ten story words.

Q	M	E	U	C	A	M	E	L	M
S	X	A	I	V	I	K	I	N	G
A	B	O	M	A	M	M	O	T	H
L	R	E	P	I	I	I	V	M	C
M	C	K	P	O	L	A	P	O	A
O	B	E	A	N	S	N	U	H	N
N	M	A	V	O	C	O	R	N	O
A	M	M	A	P	L	E	M	A	E
H	U	N	S	Q	U	A	S	H	E
B	E	A	V	E	R	R	M	S	N

MAMMOTH
BEAVER
CAMEL
SALMON
CANOE
MAPLE
CORN
BEANS
SQUASH
VIKING

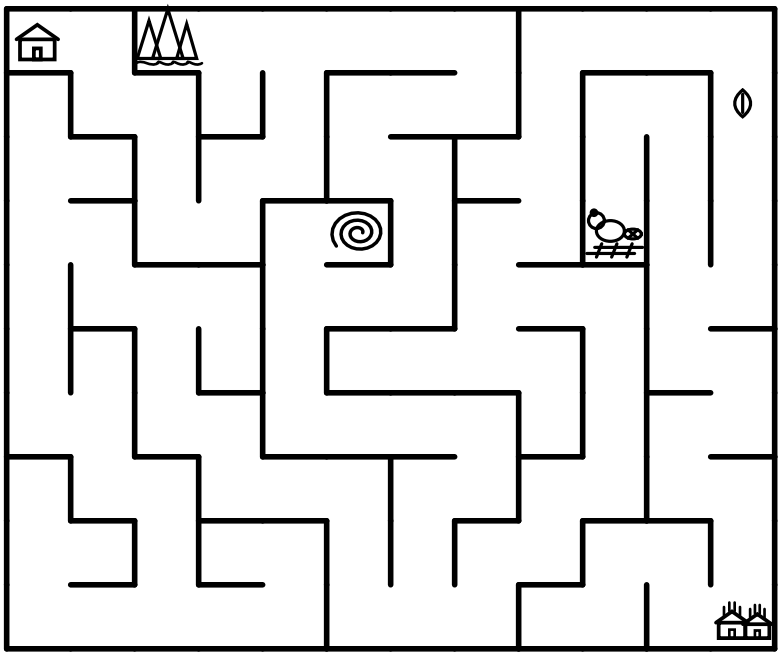
Draw a Line to Match

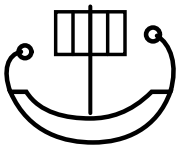
Draw a line from each word to its clue.

Corn	●	told scientists the year 1021
Beans	●	spreads its wide leaves to keep the ground cool and wet
Squash	●	the clue that the Norse sailed farther south
Butternuts	●	gives the beans a pole to climb
Tree rings	●	feed the soil

Leif's Voyage

Draw Leif's route from Greenland to Vinland.





START — Greenland. Where Leif's father, Erik the Red, built his colony.



FINISH — Vinland! The little houses by the sea at L'Anse aux Meadows.

Watch out for:

- the great ice blanket
- a giant beaver's dam
- the stormy grey ocean

Bonus: a butternut hides on the right path, near the end!

Talk It Over

What three foods did the Three Sisters grow together?

Ask a grown-up, then tell them what YOU think.

Draw or Write

Draw the land long ago: one giant animal, one Three Sisters garden, and your own house hidden somewhere tiny.

More stories, games and our story map: www.thegreatnorthstorybook.com

For grown-ups: this sheet practises story order, new words and remembering details.
Answers live in the Grown-Ups section of the website.