The Great North Storybook

Episode 2 — The Ships That Came Back

“And every spring, the ships came back.”

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

Story Words

1. Flakes — The wooden racks where fishermen spread their split cod out to dry in the sun.

2. Scurvy — A sickness that comes when your body goes too long without fresh food. It crept over Cartier’s crew in the ice, and twenty-five men died.

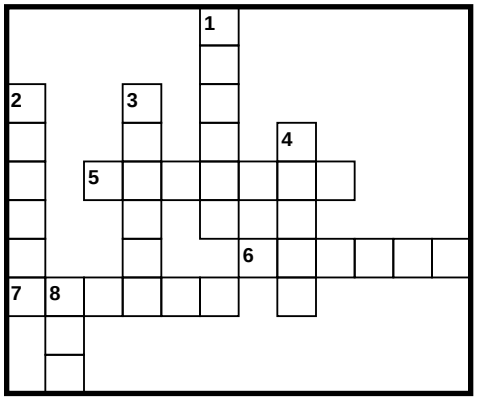
3. Kanata — A word in the language of the people of Stadacona. It meant simply “the village” — and it became the name of our whole country: Canada.

4. Fool’s gold — A glittering rock that looks like gold but has no gold in it at all. Cartier loaded his ships with it!

5. Pension — Money a king pays someone every year for the rest of their life. King Henry gave one to John Cabot.

Crossword

Fill the grid using the story clues.



Word bank: *BEAVER, CEDAR, COD, FLAKES, KANATA, MATTHEW, QUARTZ, SCURVY*

Across

5. Cabot’s little ship, smaller than a ferry, with just eighteen men aboard. (6)

6. The word that means “the village” — and became the name of a country. (6)

7. The sickness that comes when your body goes too long without fresh food. (6)

Down

1. Cartier’s shining “diamonds” were really this pretty, worthless rock. (6)

2. The wooden racks where split cod dried in the sun. (6)

3. The animal on our nickel, whose fur made the finest hats in Paris. (6)

4. The kind of tree whose bark and needles were boiled into the tea that saved Cartier’s crew. (5)

8. The fish so thick in the sea that sailors said you could haul them up in a basket. (3)

Word Search

Find and circle the ten story words.

C	O	D	K	R	A	F	T	G	K
P	B	H	G	A	S	P	E	R	A
Z	E	E	C	R	W	C	A	A	N
S	A	F	A	C	A	B	O	T	A
S	V	T	C	E	D	A	R	C	T
C	E	A	T	E	H	E	Q	V	A
U	R	C	K	V	L	P	Z	D	G
R	P	Q	U	A	R	T	Z	K	C
V	C	U	M	A	T	T	H	E	W
Y	F	L	A	K	E	S	Y	B	R

CABOT

KANATA

MATTHEW

SCURVY

COD

CEDAR

FLAKES

QUARTZ

BEAVER

GASPE

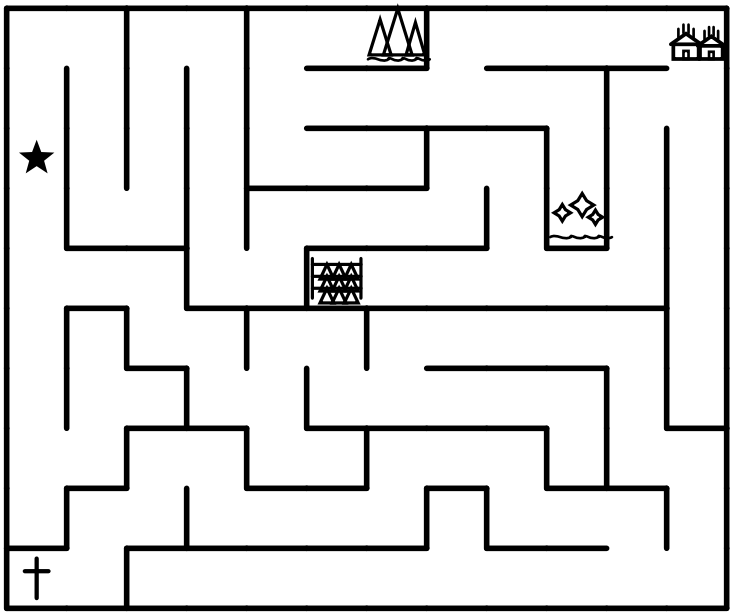
Draw a Line to Match

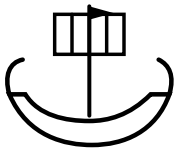
Draw a line from each word to its clue.

John Cabot	wooden racks for drying cod
The Matthew	taught the French the cedar-tea cure
Flakes	the “treasure” that was no treasure at all
Domagaya	was looking for a shortcut to Asia
Fool’s gold	carried just eighteen men

Up the Great River

Draw Cartier’s route up the river to Hochelaga.





START — Gaspé, 1534. Where Cartier raised his tall wooden cross.

FINISH — Hochelaga! The great town where Montreal stands today.

Watch out for:

- the frozen river ice
- the cod-flake coves
- the glittering cove

Bonus: a star on the river marks Stadacona — you sailed past it!

Talk It Over

What did the word ‘kanata’ mean, and how did it become the name of a country?

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

Draw or Write

Draw Cartier’s ship arriving. Add speech bubbles: what do the sailors say? What do the people on shore say?

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

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