



In 1592 Newport took a job as captain of the *Golden Dragon*. Using his left hand to hold his sword, Newport and his crew captured nineteen Spanish ships in the West Indies.

On his way home, Newport spotted a large Portuguese ship, the *Madre de Dios*, on its way home from India with silks, spices, gold, and jewels worth a fortune. The crew drew their swords and defeated the *Madre de Dios*.

Newport spent the next ten years as a privateer until King James made peace with Spain. On one voyage, he brought back baby crocodiles for the king!



**Christopher Newport:
Jamestown Explorer**
by Sharon Solomon

Discussion questions to encourage reading comprehension:

1. Where did Christopher Newport grow up?
2. Why was Newport hired to sail with Sir Francis Drake? What is a "privateer"?
3. During Newport's fight with a Spanish treasure ship, what tragedy occurred?
4. Why was Newport hired to go to the Roanoke colony in America? What did he find?
5. What did the Virginia Company and King James hire Newport to do next?
6. How did Newport stay on course as he sailed for America? What route did he take?
7. When Newport anchored in Chesapeake Bay, what happened?
8. Who was with Newport on this trip?
9. Why did Newport name the harbor he found "Jamestown"?
10. Who were the tribes Newport met?
11. On his second voyage to Jamestown, what did Newport find? Who did he ask for help?
12. On his third voyage to Jamestown, what did Newport bring?
13. Describe what happened on Newport's fourth voyage to Jamestown.
14. How did Christopher Newport help Jamestown succeed?
15. What did Captain Newport do after his final voyage to Jamestown?