

## *Spanish Exploration: Primary Documents vs. Textbook - A Compare and Contrast Activity*

*Materials: Primary Documents (Excerpts from Primary Source Adventures: Cabeza de Vaca)  
Textbook (Kids Discover: Explorers)  
Pencil/Paper*

*EQ: Who were the Spanish explorers, and what did they accomplish?*

*Prior Knowledge: Students must have a basic knowledge of what explorers are and what their goals were (Gold, God, Glory).*

*Objectives:*

- Students will construct an understanding of early Spanish explorers.*
- Students will compare and contrast primary documents with textbook sources. This will develop the skills of sourcing, corroboration, and healthy skepticism of sources.*

*Procedures:*

- 1. Activator: KWL chart about Spanish exploration.*
- 2. Students will examine the given primary documents. The students will work in teams of 4-5 to pull out key points of information from the documents.*
- 3. Once they have fully analyzed the documents, the students will independently write a paragraph summary of the information gained from the documents.*
- 4. The students will then be given the textbook excerpt to read and analyze as a group.*
- 5. The students will compare and contrast their paragraph summaries with the textbook summary.*
- 6. The class will come together to share and discuss their findings. ("What differences did you find with your summary and the textbook summary?", "Which version is more correct?", "Why did they turn out so different?", etc.)*
- 7. Complete KWL chart about Spanish exploration.*