## Spanish Explorers: Who Brought What, Where?

The QUEST for the Whole Enchilada

## Step 1: Read about the following Spanish Explorers

- **Columbus** explored the West Indies from 1492 until 1504. Crops and livestock began being exchanged between America and Europe.
- **Cortez** explored the Tenochtitlan and Mexico City areas in 1521. "New Spain" was then founded in Mexico City. Spanish cities, mines, and estancias were developed. The Catholic faith and Spanish customs were required for all people.
- Cabeza de Vaca explored the Texas area from 1528 until 1536. While traveling by boat to the New World, his boat was shipwrecked. He was one of only four survivors. He raised interest in a "New Mexico" by telling stories about the "Seven Cities of Gold."
- **Coronado** explored the American Southwest from 1540 until 1543. He added geographical knowledge of this area as well as the indigenous people who lived there. He introduced the people to the horse and Spanish firearms.
- Onate explored Northern New Mexico from 1598 until 1608. He brought new crops such as the chile as well as new livestock such as horses, sheep, and cattle. He also taught the people to make cheese. *Estancias* (farms) were started and *acequias* (irrigation systems) were developed under the *encomienda* system (forced or slave labor). In the Pueblo culture, women and children were the primary farmers and livestock owners. The men developed irrigation systems and were in charge of religion, hunting, and conflicts.

## Step 2: Label the *Terra Incognita* map with the correct explorer and date.

- West Indies- Columbus, 1492-1504
- New Spain's Mexico City- Cortez, 1521
- Texas area- Cabeza de Vaca 1528-1536
- American Southwest- Coronado, 1540-1543
- Northern New Mexico- Onate, 1598-1608

## Step 3: Label the pictures below with the explorer the drawing best describes.



