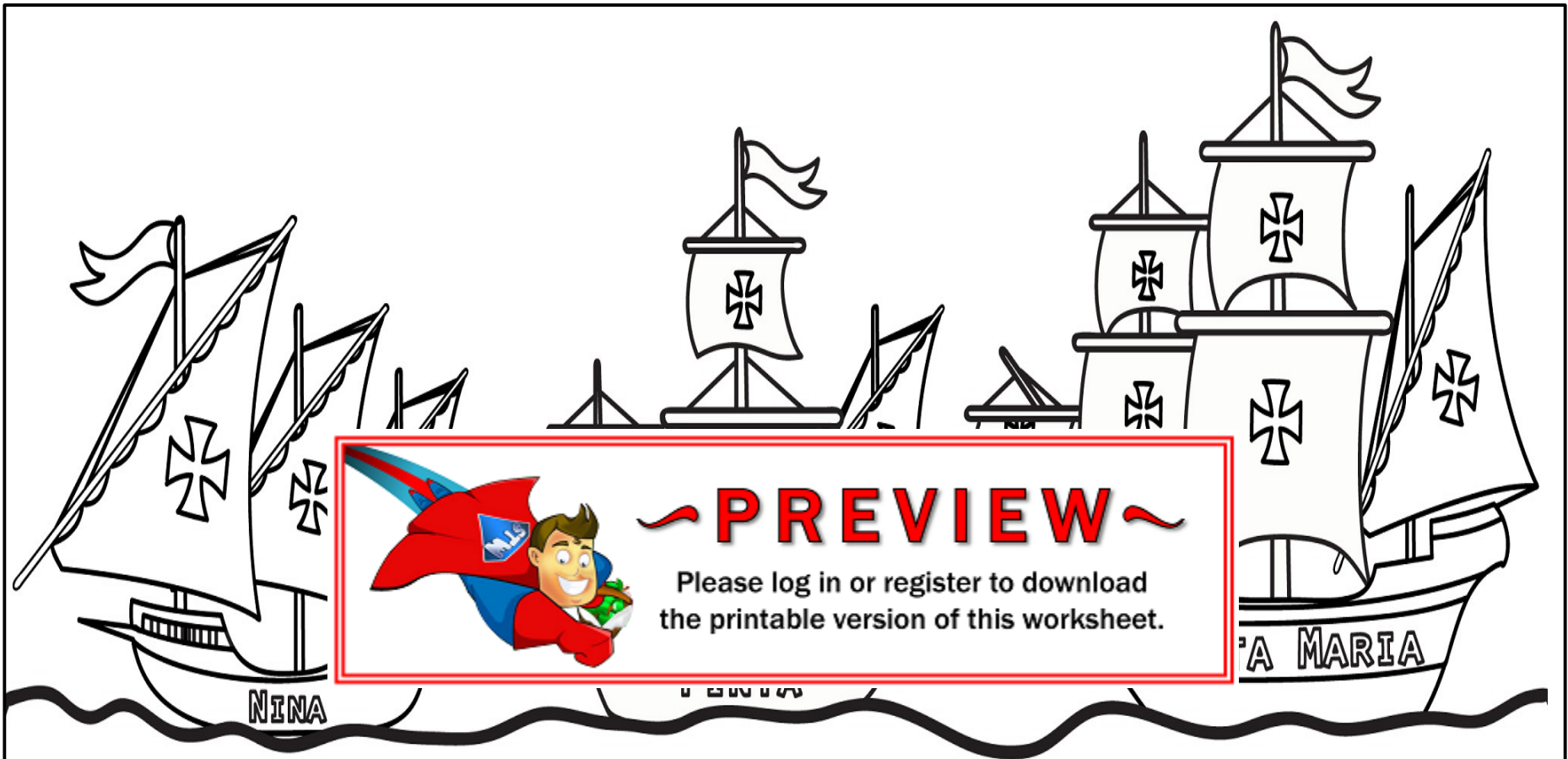
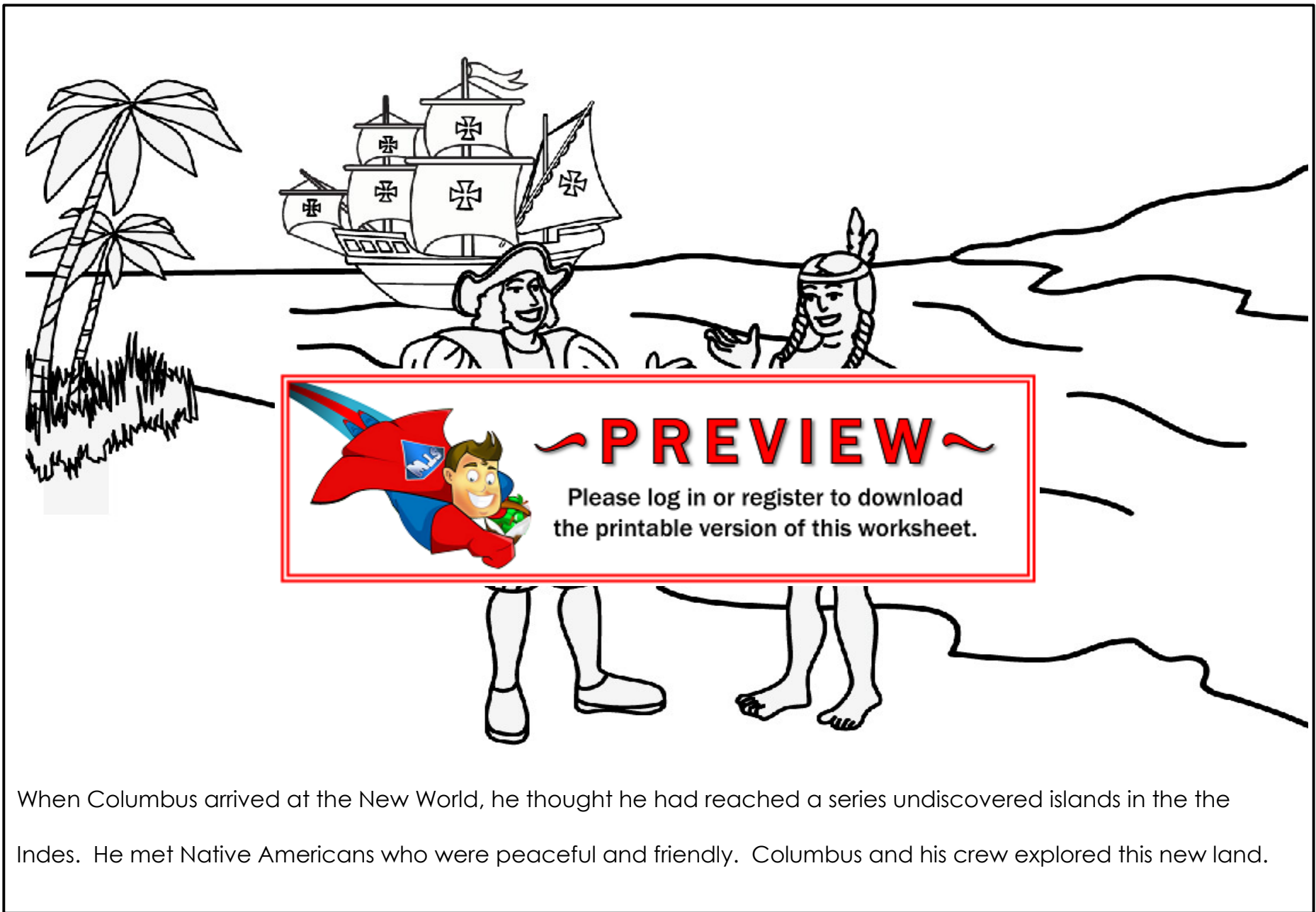




Christopher Columbus wanted to be the first man to sail around the world from Spain to the Indies in Asia. Columbus knew he would need expensive ships and a crew of many men. He asked the queen of Spain, Queen Isabella, to help pay for the voyage. She helped pay for the ships and the crew. In return, Columbus agreed to bring her expensive spices and gold back from the Indies.



Columbus and his crew set off to look for a route to the Indies. He had three ships: the *Nina*, the *Pinta*, and the *Santa Maria*. The *Nina* and the *Pinta* were small ships that were designed for exploring shallow water. The *Santa Maria* was a large ship, designed for carrying cargo. They were at sea for five weeks before they spotted land.



~ PREVIEW ~

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When Columbus arrived at the New World, he thought he had reached a series undiscovered islands in the the Indies. He met Native Americans who were peaceful and friendly. Columbus and his crew explored this new land.