The Columbian Exchange
The Columbian Exchange

• Columbus’ voyages May have had greater consequences biologically than culturally
• The Columbian Exchange was coined to describe the worldwide redistribution of plants, animals, and diseases that resulted from the initial contacts between Europeans and Natives.
Impact of Columbian Exchange

- Exchanged food, plants, and animals during colonization.
Columbian Exchange

- Old World (Europe) to New World (Americas)
  - Plants:
    - rice
    - wheat
    - barley
    - oats
    - coffee
    - sugarcane
    - bananas
    - melons
    - olives
    - dandelions
    - daisies
    - ragweed
    - Kentucky bluegrass
Columbian Exchange

- New World (Americas) to Old World (Europe)
  - Plants:
    - avocados    pumpkins    guavas
    - peanuts     pineapple  squash
    - corn (maize) tobacco
    - potatoes (white / sweet)
    - beans (snap / kidney, lima)
    - cacao (source of chocolate)
    - chicle (source of gum)
Columbian Exchange

- Old World (Europe) to New World (Americas)
  - Animals:
    - horses
    - cattle
    - pigs
    - sheep
    - goats
    - chickens
Columbian Exchange

• New World (Americas) to Old World (Europe)
  – Animals:
    • llamas
    • alpacas
    • guinea pigs
Columbian Exchange

- Old World (Europe) to New World (Americas)
  - Disease:
    - measles
    - chicken pox
    - smallpox
    - yellow fever
    - Malaria
    - influenza (flu)
    - common cold
Columbian Exchange

- New World (Americas) to Old World (Europe)
  - Disease
    - Syphilis
    - Hepatitis
    - Polio
    - Tuberculosis
Columbian Exchange

AMERICAS TO EUROPE, AFRICA, AND ASIA

ATLANTIC OCEAN

EUROPE, AFRICA, AND ASIA TO AMERICAS

Disease
- Smallpox
- Influenza
- Typhus
- Measles
- Malaria
- Diphtheria
- Whooping Cough

Livestock
- Cattle
- Sheep
- Pig
- Horse

Grains
- Wheat
- Rice
- Barley
- Oats

Connect to History

Forming Opinions What were the most beneficial and harmful aspects of the Columbian Exchange? Why?