



## Time Travel Quest 5

# The Merchant's Market: Trade Items at Mission San Luis

## July Theme: Trade & Travel

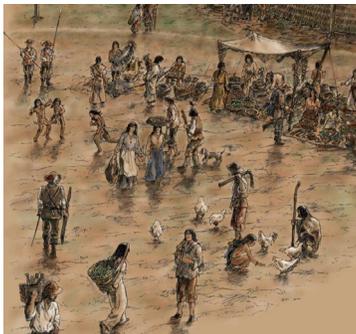
### Historical Background

In 17th century Florida, if a person wanted a bowl or a cup or a basket or even a house, they typically had to make it themselves or find someone in the village who could make it for them. Making things locally was useful and often necessary, as it could take months for items to arrive from Spain or from another town in the Spanish Empire. However, there were some items that could not be made locally, so the villagers had to rely on trade to get them. Items like iron, glazed pottery, silk, bells, glass beads, and more usually had to come from across the ocean!



A person called a **merchant mariner** helped make these trades possible. A merchant is a person who buys items from people all over the world and then sells them to others at a higher price. That way the merchant makes money from the trade and the buyer gets an item that they might not have been able to make themselves. The word mariner means that these merchants carried their cargo on ships, often buying goods like olive oil and wine in Spain and then sailing to *La Florida* to sell them to the Spanish and Florida Indians.

One of Spain's major trading centers in the New World was Havana, Cuba. Many merchant mariners based their ships in Havana because of its location in the Caribbean Sea. From Havana, merchant mariners could sail to Florida, Mexico, or any of the Spanish colonies in South America.



Trade goods coming from around the world to Apalachee Province – located in the Florida panhandle – would often first be brought to Havana and then be shipped to San Marcos de Apalache (modern day St. Marks). From San Marcos, the goods would be either loaded onto ox carts or canoes and then taken to San Luis to trade.

Once the goods from across the ocean made it to San Luis, they would be brought to the central plaza. At the plaza, the native Apalachee and the Spanish settlers would trade beef, ham, deerskins, corn and other items that were available at San Luis, for luxury items such as Chinese porcelain, Italian glass beads, Mexican majolica (a type of glazed pottery), and many other goods.

▲ Market day at the Mission

In the 17th and early 18th centuries, the Spanish Empire had colonies located all

over the world and was able to trade for almost any item. By the early 1700s, San Luis had grown so wealthy that its villagers could afford luxuries from across the empire, brought to them through the hard work of merchant mariners.

## Time Portal: Villagers through Video

We are going to use virtual time travel to talk with one of the villagers of Mission San Luis! Today, a merchant mariner has just arrived in Apalachee Providence from Cuba. He needs some help preparing to sell his trade goods! Let's take a look at the goods that he has brought from all over the world!

**Quest 4 Video Link:** [youtube.com/watch?v=hSKcdbgXGcc&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSKcdbgXGcc&feature=youtu.be)

## Quest Questions

Questions can help you focus your journey into the past!

Here are some questions to think about that will help guide you in your exploration:

- How did people in 17th-century Florida get some of the items they needed or wanted? Could everything people used be made in Florida?
- Whose job was it to bring trade goods to Florida and to Mission San Luis? Who did they trade with at Mission San Luis?
- What are three items that the people of Mission San Luis imported from around the world? What are three items that they produced locally?
- What are three types of transportation methods used for trade in 17th century Florida?
- What did the Spanish and the Native Americans in Florida use transportation for?
- Think about where the items you use every day come from. How was the method of obtaining items that people use in their daily lives similar to and different from 300 years ago?

## Quest Craft: Majolica Plate Puzzle

What has the merchant mariner brought to sell or trade at Mission San Luis today? Oh, majolica plates from Mexico! **Majolica** is a type of clay pottery that is covered with an opaque white glaze, which was made by adding the metal tin to a lead glaze. The pottery was then painted with stains or glazes to create different designs and fired in a kiln.

Majolica was a popular type of pottery in Spain in the 16th and 17th centuries when Spanish colonies started trading it. Spanish settlements in Mexico even began creating distinct types of majolica that were different from the types produced in Spain! Nearly all of the majolica found at Mission San Luis was produced in Mexico, and brought to the village by merchants via ship.

Would you like to see actual majolica fragments found by archaeologists at Mission San Luis? Take a look at the archaeology collections on our website! <https://www.missionsanluis.org/learn/archaeology/artifact-categories/>

### **Put together your own majolica plate puzzle:**

**Step 1:** On the next two pages (page 3 & 4) find the 16-piece Majolica Plate Puzzle craft.

**Step 2:** **Print** out these two pages of the pdf, making sure to print "**two sided**" (or print separate sheets and glue them with blank backs together). Heavy paper or cardstock is best.

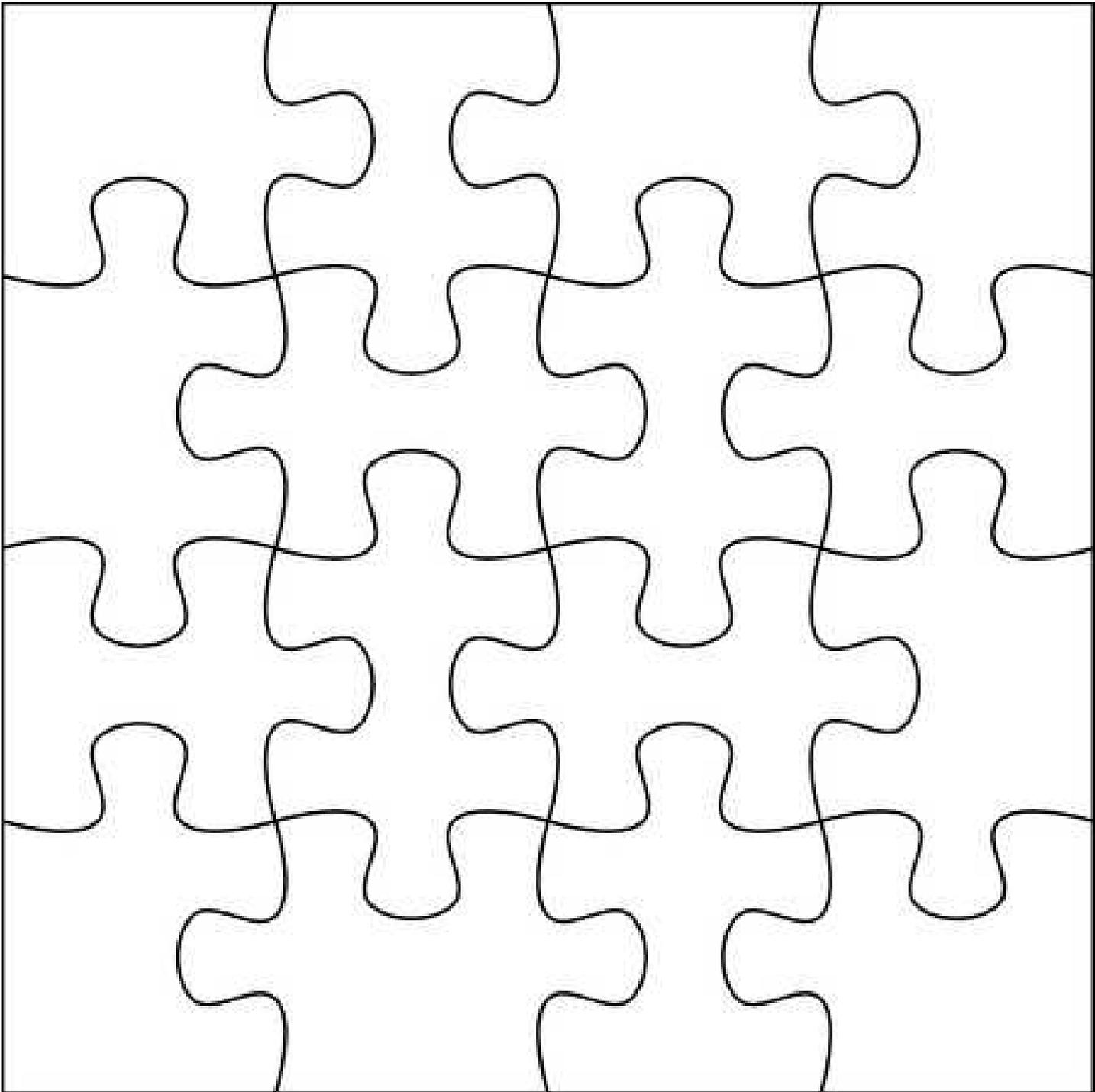
**Step 4:** Once your puzzle is printed out, **color your plate**. Feel free to use any colors you would like!

**Step 5:** With scissors, follow the lines to **cut out each puzzle piece** on the back of your newly colored majolica plate.

**Step 6:** With **colored sides up, mix up the puzzle pieces**.

**Step 7:** **Piece your puzzle back together** to recreate your majolica plate!





## Adventure Activity: Merchant's Memory

The Spanish in the 17th century had a global trade network! This means that merchants traded goods from all over the world: Europe, Africa, Asia, Central and South America, and North America! To keep a record of all the goods they traded and where they came from, merchants recorded the items they were carrying in a document called a manifest. Take a look at some of the goods that the merchant of Mission San Luis has recorded in the Merchant's Manifest below. You will see pictures of each of these items on the Memory Cards on the next page as well!

### Merchant's Manifest:

- **Olive oil** – from Spain
- **Majolica** – from Mexico
- **Silver** – from Peru
- **Silk** – from Indonesia
- **Black pepper** – from India
- **Deer Pelts (Fur)** – from Apalachee Province (Mission San Luis, Florida)

## Memory Game

Like a manifest, can you remember the various goods the merchant is going to sell? Let's play a game to find out! The whole family can join the fun!

- First, **PRINT out the Memory Cards on the next page** (use cardstock or make sure you can't see the images through to the back side). Next, **CUT OUT the Memory Card squares**. You will see that there are two pictures of each trade good.
- After cutting out the trade goods, **lay them picture-side down on a table and mix them up**.
- Next, **flip one card over** and see which item it is.
- Leaving the card flipped over, **try to guess where the card that matches the visible card is on the table**. Flip the selected card over to see if you have a match.
- If the cards **do not match, flip both of them back over and try again**. But remember where those cards are!
- If you do get **two matching cards, call out the name of the item and where it comes from** (found in the Merchant's Manifest above). Then **take those two matching cards away**.
- **Do this until** there are **no more cards left** on the table. As a family game, **see who can find the most matches!**
- **Bonus Activity:** Get a map of the world, and try to find each location that the items on the Merchant's Manifest came from! See how far these locations are from Spain.



**SILK**  
Embroidered Spanish silk cape  
17th century, Metropolitan Museum of Art



**OLIVE OIL**



**SILVER COINS & BARS**  
Spanish Treasure  
Museum of Florida History



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**MAJOLICA PLATE**  
Fragments  
Mission San Luis



**DEER PELT**



**BLACK PEPPER**



**MAJOLICA PLATE**  
Fragments  
Mission San Luis



**DEER PELT**



**BLACK PEPPER**

## Additional Exploration Resources

**Your time travel adventure doesn't stop here!** If you want to learn more about this subject, here are some suggested resources:

- *Mission San Luis de Apalachee: A Teacher's Guide (Illustrated)*  
[https://www.missionsanluis.org/media/1099/01-teachers\\_guide.pdf](https://www.missionsanluis.org/media/1099/01-teachers_guide.pdf)
- *Colonial History Bibliography for Young Readers (Museum of Florida History)*  
<https://museumoffloridahistory.com/learn/colonial-history-bibliography-for-young-readers/>
- *Spanish Galleon, 1530–1690 (Angus Konstam) -*  
<https://www.amazon.com/Spanish-Galleon-1530-1690-New-Vanguard/dp/1841766372>
- *Florida Pirates: From the Southern Gulf Coast to the Keys and Beyond (James Kaserman and Sarah Kaserman)*  
[https://www.amazon.com/Florida-Pirates-Southern-Coast-Beyond/dp/1609494199/ref=pd\\_lpo\\_14\\_t\\_0/143-8416520-8229628?\\_encoding=UTF8&pd\\_rd\\_i=1609494199&pd\\_rd\\_r=8979f037-3c3b-44e9-9a74-d23485609c6a&pd\\_rd\\_w=FhFef&pd\\_rd\\_wg=YLf7u&pf\\_rd\\_p=7b36d496-f366-4631-94d3-61b87b52511b&pf\\_rd\\_r=RFDHXQNB8EFT7N42MVZA&psc=1&refRID=RFDHXQNB8EFT7N42MVZA](https://www.amazon.com/Florida-Pirates-Southern-Coast-Beyond/dp/1609494199/ref=pd_lpo_14_t_0/143-8416520-8229628?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1609494199&pd_rd_r=8979f037-3c3b-44e9-9a74-d23485609c6a&pd_rd_w=FhFef&pd_rd_wg=YLf7u&pf_rd_p=7b36d496-f366-4631-94d3-61b87b52511b&pf_rd_r=RFDHXQNB8EFT7N42MVZA&psc=1&refRID=RFDHXQNB8EFT7N42MVZA)

## Virtual Time Traveler Checklist

**Prizes** await your journey's end! For all virtual time travelers who complete four of the weekly summer camp *Time Travel Quests*, your family will receive free admission passes to Mission San Luis Living History Museum for a future visit! Steps to getting your prize are:

- Complete at least four of the twelve *Time Travel Quests* provided between June 15 and August 31, 2020.
- Fill out the *Virtual Time Traveler Checklist* (blank checklists can be found at:  
[http://www.missionsanluis.org/media/1742/virtual-time-traveler-checklist-2020\\_2ue.pdf](http://www.missionsanluis.org/media/1742/virtual-time-traveler-checklist-2020_2ue.pdf)
- Email the checklist to [Rebecca.Woofter@dos.myflorida.com](mailto:Rebecca.Woofter@dos.myflorida.com) or print and mail it to:

Mission San Luis (c/o Rebecca Woofter)  
2100 West Tennessee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32304

FOR YOUR PRIZE: the **deadline is September 14, 2020** for completing and sending in your 2020 *Virtual Time Traveler Checklist*

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