

COLOMBIA

AGES
5-7

JUNIOR EXPLORER PACK

Explore with Nick and Aya



¡Bienvenidos, Exploradores!

Join Nick and Aya as you explore Colombia,
a land of colorful cities, lush mountains,
golden beaches, amazing wildlife,
vibrant traditions, and delicious foods!

Complete fun activities, learn fascinating facts,
and earn your **Junior Explorer Certificate!**

PLACES & LANDMARKS



Discover exciting
places and landmarks!

HISTORY & LEGENDS



Learn about ancient
cultures and stories!

CULTURE & TRADITIONS



Explore traditions,
festivals, music, and more!

WILDLIFE & PLANTS



Get to know local
flora and fauna!

LEARN SPANISH

¡Hola!
Hello!

¡Gracias!
Thank you!

Learn easy Spanish
words and phrases!

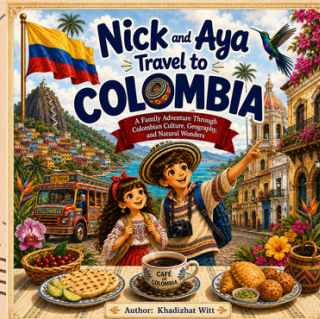
CERTIFICATE



Earn your Junior
Explorer Certificate!

Name: _____

Date: _____



DISCOVER ♥ LEARN ♥ EXPLORE ♥ DREAM

PLACES & LANDMARKS

Colombia is full of amazing places!

Discover some of its most famous landmarks.

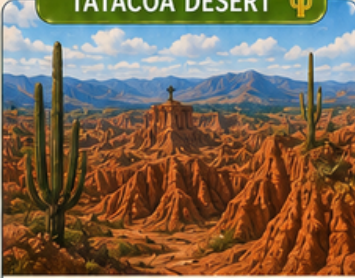


CARTAGENA



Cartagena is a beautiful colonial city on the Caribbean coast. Its colorful streets, old forts, and stone walls tell stories from hundreds of years ago.

TATACOA DESERT



The Tatacoa Desert is a unique place with red rock canyons and stunning starry skies. It is one of the best places in Colombia to explore nature.

SAN AGUSTÍN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK



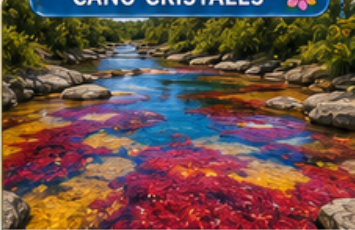
San Agustín is home to mysterious statues and tombs created by an ancient civilization over 2,000 years ago. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

LAKE GUATAVITA



According to legend, the indigenous Muisca people held a golden ritual here. Today, the lake is part of a beautiful nature reserve in the Andes mountains.

CAÑO CRISTALES



Also called the "River of Five Colors," Caño Cristales shines in bright colors between June and November. It is one of the most beautiful rivers in the world!

SALT CATHEDRAL OF ZIPAQUIRÁ



Built deep underground in a salt mine, this cathedral is an incredible place of faith and art. It is one of Colombia's most visited landmarks.

PUENTE DE OCCIDENTE



This modern bridge connects the western part of Colombia and is one of the longest cable-stayed bridges in Latin America. A true engineering wonder!

MORROCOY NATIONAL PARK



This park has white sand beaches, coral reefs, and clear blue waters. It is a perfect place to enjoy the Caribbean Sea and amazing marine life.

LOS NEVADOS NATIONAL PARK



Home to snowy mountains, volcanoes, and giant frailejones, this park is a paradise for hikers and nature lovers in the Colombian Andes.

CAN YOU FIND IT?

Check the places and landmarks you read about in Nick and Aya Travel to Colombia.



- ☐ Cartagena
- ☐ Tatacoa Desert
- ☐ San Agustín
- ☐ Lake Guatavita
- ☐ Caño Cristales
- ☐ Salt Cathedral
- ☐ Puente de Occidente
- ☐ Morrocoy National Park
- ☐ Los Nevados National Park



DID YOU KNOW?

Colombia has the most species of birds and orchids in the world!



HISTORY & LEGENDS

Colombia has a rich past
full of brave people,
ancient cultures, and fascinating stories.

ANCIENT INDIGENOUS CULTURES



Long before Colombia was a country, many Indigenous peoples lived here. The Muisca built the Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral and crafted beautiful goldwork. The Tayrona, Quimbaya, and other cultures left behind amazing treasures.

SPANISH ARRIVAL



In 1499, Spanish explorers arrived in Colombia. They founded cities like Cartagena (1533) and Santa Marta (1525). Colombia became part of New Granada, a Spanish colony, which lasted for more than 300 years.

THE FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE



Many brave people fought for freedom, led by Simón Bolívar. After many battles and years of struggle, Colombia achieved independence from Spain in 1819. Bolívar's dream was a free and united country.

COLOMBIA TODAY



Today, Colombia is a country full of life, creativity, and diversity. Its people are proud of their history and work together to build a peaceful and hopeful future while respecting nature and cultural traditions.

OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE



Colombia's culture is a blend of Indigenous, African, and Spanish traditions. We see it in our music, dances like cumbia and vallenato, our cuisine, crafts, and festivals that celebrate our history and the joy of our people.

A LAND OF MANY STORIES



From brave heroes to magical rivers, Colombia is full of legends passed down through generations. These stories teach important lessons and keep our traditions alive.

CAN YOU MATCH?

Match each person or place with what they are known for.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● Simón Bolívar | ☐ Underground salt cathedral |
| ● Zipaquirá | ☐ Fought for independence |
| ● Tayrona People | ☐ Ancient coastal civilization |
| ● Cartagena | ☐ Colonial city on the Caribbean |
| ● New Granada | ☐ Spanish colony of Colombia |



THE LEGEND OF EL DORADO

Long ago, the Muisca people had a sacred ceremony. Their chief covered himself in gold dust and sailed to the middle of Lake Guatavita. There, he offered gold and treasures to the gods as a sign of respect and gratitude.

Spanish explorers heard stories about this golden ritual and searched for "El Dorado" – the golden man and his treasures. Many never found it, but the legend lives on!

DID YOU KNOW?

- ★ Colombia is home to more than 80 Indigenous groups.
- ★ Colombia is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world!
- ★ Colombia's flag colors stand for riches (yellow), oceans (blue), and the blood of heroes (red).

WHAT BELONGS TO COLOMBIA?

Circle the pictures that are part of Colombia's history and culture.



The past shapes our present, and our stories lead us to a better future!



Author: Khadijat Witt

CULTURE & TRADITIONS

Colombia's traditions are full of music, color, flavor, and happiness!

Join Nick and Aya as they discover what makes Colombian culture so special!



FESTIVALS FULL OF LIFE!

Barranquilla Carnival



Dancing, music, colorful costumes and floats fill the streets with joy!

Feria de las Flores



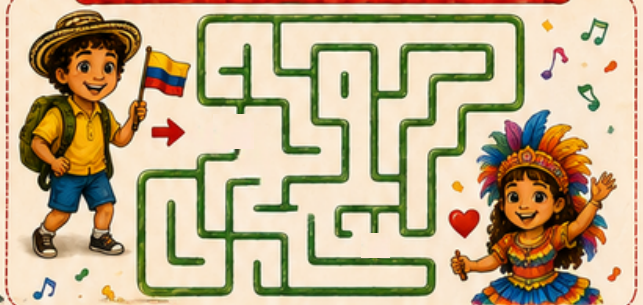
Held in Medellin, this festival honors flowers, nature, and hard work.

Día de las Velitas (Dec 7)



People light candles and lanterns to celebrate love, family, and hope.

HELP NICK FIND AYA AT THE CARNIVAL!



DELICIOUS FOODS TO TRY!

Arepas



Corn cakes that go with everything!

Bandeja Paisa



A hearty dish from the Andes region.

Empanadas



Crispy pockets filled with meat, potatoes, and spices.

Ajiaco



A warm chicken soup with potatoes, corn, and herbs.

Chocolo con Queso



Sweet corn cake with cheese. Yum!

Buñuelos



Chewy, cheesy and perfect for holidays!

Lulada



A refreshing drink made with lulo fruit.

Chocolate Santaferño



Hot chocolate served with a piece of cheese.

MUSIC & DANCE THAT MOVE THE HEART

Cumbia



A traditional dance with African, Indigenous, and Spanish roots.

Vallenato



Born in the Caribbean, this music tells stories of love, life, and adventures.

Bambuco



A beautiful dance from the Andes mountains.

Can you name the instruments?



ARTS & CRAFTS

Sombrero Vueltiao



This traditional hat is woven by hand and is a symbol of Colombian heritage.

Wayuu Mochlia



Bright, handwoven bags made by the Wayuu people in La Guajira.

WORD SEARCH

Find these words in the puzzle!

- CUMBIA
- CAFE
- FLORES
- AREPA
- COLOMBIA
- CARNIVAL
- BAMBUCO
- AMAZONAS

C	O	L	O	M	B	I	A	F
Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O
C	U	M	B	I	A	P	K	L
Z	X	C	A	F	E	Z	X	C
F	L	O	R	E	S	V	B	N
A	R	E	P	A	M	N	B	I
C	A	R	N	I	V	A	L	V
B	A	M	B	U	C	O	P	B
A	M	M	Z	O	N	A	S	Q

DRAW IT!

Draw your favorite place, food, or festival from Colombia!



FUN FACTS!

- ★ Colombia has more than 50 different types of orchid!
- ★ It is the second most biodiverse country in the world!
- ★ Colombians love coffee – it is one of the best in the world!



MATCH THE ICONS!



COFFEE

ORCHID

SOMBRERO VUELTAIO

ACCORDION

WAYUU MOCHILA

TRADITIONAL GREETINGS!

- ¡Buenos días! – Good morning!
- ¡Buenas tardes! – Good afternoon!
- ¡Buenas noches! – Good night!
- ¡Mucho gusto! – Nice to meet you!
- ¡Gracias! – Thank you!

Practice these words with Nick and Aya!

WILDLIFE & PLANTS

Look for these animals and plants in the book!

Colombia is one of the most biodiverse countries on Earth! From the Amazon jungle to the Caribbean Sea, thousands of species call Colombia home.

AMAZING ANIMALS OF COLOMBIA

Jaguar



The jaguar is the top predator of the jungle. It is strong, silent, and an excellent swimmer.

Spectacled Bear



The only bear found in South America. It loves to climb trees and eat fruits and bromeliads.

Basilisk Lizard



Also called the "Jesus Lizard." It can run across water using its long toes and strong back legs!

Flor de Labios



A beautiful orchid that looks like lips! It grows in the warm, humid forests of Colombia.

Tuna Fish



Found off Colombia's coast. Fast, strong, and an important part of local fishing and food.

Green Iguana



This lizard is often seen basking in the sun and eating leaves, flowers, and fruit.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?



Caribbean Coast

Warm beaches, coral reefs, mangroves, and tropical forests.



Andean Mountains

Cooler weather, valleys, cloud forests, and páramos (high mountain grasslands).



Amazon Rainforest

Hot, wet, and full of rivers, trees, and wildlife.



Pacific Coast

Rainforests, mangroves, and rich marine life.



Orinoquía (Llanos)

Open savannas and wetlands, home to many birds and mammals.



Different places create different habitats, and different habitats support different kinds of life.



PLANTS THAT MAKE COLOMBIA SPECIAL



Wax Palm (Palma de Cera)

The tallest palm tree in the world! It grows in the mountains of the Coffee Region and is the national tree.



Orchids

Colombia has more than 4,000 types of orchids. They come in many colors, shapes, and sizes.



Coffee Plant

Colombia is famous for its coffee. The red berries on the plant hold the beans we drink every day!



Ceiba Tree (Ceibo)

A giant tree with big roots and beautiful red flowers. It is important in many stories and legends.



Frailejón

This plant lives in the páramo, high in the mountains. It stores water in its leaves and helps protect the mountain ecosystems.

FUN FACTS! ★



Colombia has more bird species than any other country in the world—more than 1,900!



You can find pink river dolphins in the Amazon and Orinoco rivers. They are freshwater dolphins!



The Amazon rainforest in Colombia is home to jaguars, monkeys, sloths, macaws, and so much more.



Coral reefs in the Caribbean Sea protect the coast and provide homes for many sea creatures.



Many animals and plants in Colombia are found nowhere else on Earth.

HOW WE PROTECT NATURE

People in Colombia are working together to take care of nature and wildlife.



National Parks protect forests, rivers, mountains, and animals.



Wildlife Reserves give animals a safe place to live and grow.



Reforestation plants trees to help forests grow back.



Sustainable Fishing helps keep fish populations healthy in the oceans.



Community Projects teach people why nature matters and how to protect it.

LIFE IN THE OCEAN



Starfish



Sea Turtle



Manta Ray



Coral Reefs



Humpback Whale



Sea Horse

THINK & SHARE! 💡

- Which animal from Colombia is your favorite? Why?
- How can we help protect animals and plants?
- What did you learn that surprised you?

Exploring nature helps us understand the world and inspires us to keep it safe for the future.

LEARN SPANISH

¡Hablemos Español!

Learning a few Spanish words helps us connect with people and places!

Here are some useful words and phrases to use on your adventures around Colombia!

GREETINGS & ESSENTIALS

¡Hola!	Hello!
¡Buenos días!	Good morning!
¡Buenas tardes!	Good afternoon!
¡Buenas noches!	Good evening / night!
¿Cómo estás?	How are you?
Estoy bien, gracias.	I'm good, thank you.
¿Y tú?	And you?
¡Gracias!	Thank you!
De nada.	You're welcome.
Por favor.	Please.
Lo siento.	I'm sorry.
¡Adiós!	Goodbye!

¡Hola!
Hello!

PLACES

	ciudad	city
	playa	beach
	montaña	mountain
	selva	jungle
	río	river
	cascada	waterfall
	isla	island
	pueblo	town / village

COLORS

	rojo	red
	amarillo	yellow
	azul	blue
	verde	green
	naranja	orange
	morado / púrpura	purple
	rosa	pink
	blanco	white
	negro	black
	marrón	brown

¡Vamos!
Let's go!

AROUND COLOMBIA

comida food 	agua water 	casa house 	mercado market 	amigo / amiga friend (m) / (f) 	familia family 	música music 	baile dance 	fútbol soccer
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USEFUL PHRASES

¿Cuánto cuesta?	How much does it cost?
No entiendo.	I don't understand.
¿Dónde está el baño?	Where is the bathroom?
Necesito ayuda.	I need help.
Me gusta mucho.	I like it a lot.
Está delicioso.	It's delicious.
¡Qué bonito!	How nice!
Hasta luego.	See you later.

¿Dónde está
el baño?
Where is the
bathroom?

NUMBERS 1-10

1	uno
2	dos
3	tres
4	cuatro
5	cinco
6	seis
7	siete
8	ocho
9	nueve
10	diez



COLOMBIAN SPANISH TIP

In Colombia, people speak Spanish with a warm and friendly accent! Some words are a little different than in other countries.

	carro	→ car (coche)	
	papa	→ potato (patata)	
	choclo	→ corn (mazorca)	
	parcero / parcera	→ buddy / friend	

LET'S PRACTICE!

Write the missing Spanish word for each picture.



playa



Try using these words on your next adventure in Colombia!



Hablar un poco de español hace que cada viaje sea aún más especial.



Nick and Aya Travel to COLOMBIA

A Family Adventure Through
Colombian Culture, Geography,
and Natural Wonders

Author: Khadijat Wit

CERTIFICATE OF

COLOMBIA EXPLORER

Well done, explorer!

You've traveled through Colombia with curiosity and an open mind, learning about its people, places, nature, and traditions.

Keep exploring and keep discovering!

Presented to:

Date: _____

Explorer's Signature: _____



Curious minds make the world a better place!

