

How did Europeans view the New World and Native Americans?

Teaching With Documents

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Europeans were surprised by what they found in the New World. They saw many new places, plants, animals, people, and activities. They sometimes had difficulty describing what they encountered.

Pretend a visitor came from outer space to visit your community. How might they misinterpret what they saw when they reported back to their home planet.

List three items in their report. Include how what they reported it and what they were actually describing.

Sample Report

Their description: A group of earthlings were standing in an open field. They seemed to be running in many different directions. They seemed to be attacking a round object and attempting to crush it with their legs. On a few occasions one of them picked it up and threw it to the ground in an attempt to break it. They finally trapped the object in a net and some of them screamed.

What they actually saw: A soccer game

Report