

Globe Lesson 8 - Early Spanish Settlements - Grade 4-5

Skills used Latitude & Longitude
Using scale to measure distance
Using directions
Tracing routes on maps
Solving problems

Vocabulary missions, haciendas

Materials Needed Globe in Horizon Ring Mounting

Lesson

While the English colonies were gaining a foothold on the east coast of North America, the Spanish were busy building **missions** and establishing large ranches called **haciendas** in the West. By the time Jamestown was founded in 1607, Mexico City had been a thriving Spanish city for more than half a century, and Spanish missions were already established in what is now the state of New Mexico. By the early 1800s the Spanish had settlements in the West that reached as far north as the present site of San Francisco, California.

On your globe, find the cities of Mexico City, Mexico at 20°N/99°W and San Francisco at 37°N/122°W. Use your globe's mounting ring to determine the great circle distance between Mexico City and San Francisco. How far is it? (1.)

_____ What direction is San Francisco from Mexico City?
(2.) _____

One of the things that helped the Spanish govern settlements scattered over such long distances was an excellent road network called El Camino Real.