

Sir Francis Drake Subject Knowledge Organiser

Background Information

- Born in Tavistock, Devon, England
- Oldest of 12 sons of Edmund Drake and Mary Mylwaye.
- Named after his godfather.
- Family moved to Kent in 1549 to escape religious persecution.
- Apprenticed to a shipmaster who liked him so much that he left him the ship in his will.
- Married Mary Newman in 1569
- She died 12 years later
- Remarried in 1585
- Had no children, so upon his death he left all he had to his nephew Francis.



What Did He Do???

- Started sailing career by sailing to the New World with cousin
- Barely escaped an attack at sea by the Spanish
 - Hated the Spanish for the rest of his life
 - Vowed revenge
- First raid in 1572
 - Town in Spanish colonies, had to abandon treasure due to severe injury.
- Continued to raid
- Circumnavigated the planet
- Aided and knighted by Queen Elizabeth I.
- Suffered greatly due to loss of men and ships while on his many travels
- Knight
- Privateer (someone hired by their own country's government to attack ships belonging to the enemy of said country)
- Soldier
- Pirate

