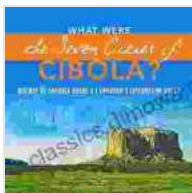


# What Were The Seven Cities of Cibola? History of America Grade Children

In the heart of the vast and unexplored American Southwest, a captivating legend whispered among the Spanish conquistadors: tales of a land of untold wealth, known as the Seven Cities of Cibola. Driven by an insatiable thirst for gold and the allure of unimaginable riches, these intrepid explorers embarked on perilous journeys into the unknown, determined to uncover the secrets of this fabled land.

The origins of the legend can be traced back to Native American tribes who spoke of a vibrant civilization in the distant north, adorned with grand cities and brimming with gold. These tantalizing rumors spread like wildfire among Spanish explorers, igniting their dreams of conquest and eternal glory.



## What Were the Seven Cities of Cibola? | History of America Grade 3 | Children's Exploration Books

by Baby Professor

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 44011 KB

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 72 pages



## The Lure of Gold and the Quest for Cibola

In 1539, a Spanish expedition led by Fray Marcos de Niza set out to find the Seven Cities of Cibola. Guided by Native American accounts, they ventured into the uncharted territories of what is now New Mexico. Along the way, they encountered the Zuñi Pueblo, a thriving Native American community that Niza mistakenly believed to be Cibola. His exaggerated descriptions of the city's wealth and splendor fueled the conquistadors' desire to conquer this elusive land.

### **Coronado's Expedition and the Disillusionment**

Inspired by Niza's glowing accounts, Francisco Vásquez de Coronado led a grand expedition in 1540 to claim the riches of Cibola. With a force of several hundred Spanish soldiers and Native American allies, they traversed the rugged landscapes of the Southwest, searching for the legendary cities.

After months of arduous travel, Coronado and his men finally reached the Zuñi Pueblo. However, the reality they encountered was far from the opulent paradise they had envisioned. The pueblo was a modest settlement, devoid of the gold and grandeur they had anticipated. Disillusioned and weary, Coronado continued his search, exploring as far as present-day Kansas, but the elusive Seven Cities remained undiscovered.

### **The Legacy of the Seven Cities of Cibola**

Despite the failure to find the legendary cities, the quest for Cibola had a profound impact on American history. The Spanish expeditions opened up new territories for exploration, paving the way for the eventual colonization of the Southwest. Moreover, the myths and legends surrounding Cibola

became ingrained in American folklore, inspiring countless stories, novels, and films.

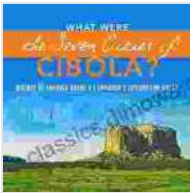
The Seven Cities of Cibola represent a captivating chapter in American history, a tale of dreams and disappointments, exploration and discovery. It is a reminder of the allure of the unknown and the enduring fascination with the search for hidden treasures.

For young explorers eager to delve into the mysteries of the past, the story of the Seven Cities of Cibola offers a thrilling adventure filled with historical intrigue and the excitement of unlocking the secrets of our shared history.

### **Additional Resources for Young Explorers**

\* Educational Resource 1 \* Educational Resource 2 \* Educational Resource 3





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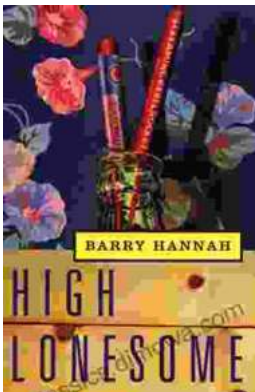
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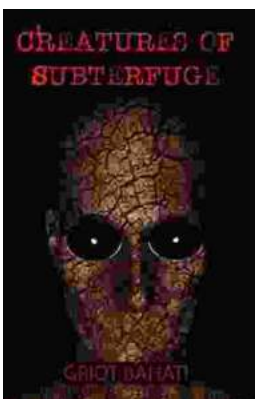
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