Cartographer Profiles

Directions:

- Use the cartographer profiles to determine which mapmaker wrote which fictional journal entry in “The Lives of Cartographers.”

- Cut out the samples of each cartographer’s work (in the green dashes) and paste them in the correct spot in your booklet.

*Important: This is intended to accompany the “Lives of Cartographers” booklet.

Claudius Ptolemy
Born 90
Died 168

- Greek
- Roman Citizen
- Lived in Alexandria, Egypt
- Worked at Great Library of Alexandria
- Wrote Guides to Geography
**Gerardus Mercator**
Born 1512  
Died 1594

- Flemish
- Born to travelling shoe-makers
- Trained under Gemma Frisius
- Married Barbara Schelleken at the age of 22
- Had 3 sons and 3 daughters
- Was imprisoned as a heretic for a time
- Created the Mercator projection which is famous for being the easiest map to use for sea navigation
- In his 70s and 80s worked with his sons to create a book of maps he named *Atlas*
- Died at the age of 82
- His sons sold his map engraving plates to Jodocus Hondius

**Abraham Ortelius**
Born 1527  
Died 1598

- Dutch
- Began his career as a colorist
- Started a map dealing business with his sister
- Came up with the idea to sell maps bound together like a book rather than in scrolls
- Was good friends with Gerardus Mercator
- Published *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*
John Ogilby
Born 1600
Died 1676

- British
- His father was in debtor's prison for much of John's childhood
- Became a dancer, but broke his leg while performing for the king, which ended his career
- Became a dancing instructor for the children of Thomas Wentworth, who is famous for his role in the 1641 Irish rebellion.
- After his patron was executed, John went back to London and opened a book publishing business
- At age 50, he married a widow named Christian
- After his book publishing business was destroyed in the London fire of 1666, he went into mapmaking
- His most successful atlas, Britannia, was published a year before he died at age 70.

Joan Blaeu
Born 1596
Died 1673

- Dutch
- Along with brother Cornelius, inherited his father's mapmaking business
- Married Geertruid, with whom he had 6 children
- Cornelius died in 1642
- The Blaeu mapmaking business was destroyed in a warehouse fire when Joan was 75.
- He died at the age of 77
Isidore of Seville  
Born 556  
Died 636  

- Spanish  
- Archbishop of Seville  
- Wrote a large encyclopedia using classical books is credited for creating excellent examples of T-O maps

Olaus Magnus  
Born 1490  
Died 1558  

- Swedish  
- Catholic Archbishop  
- Fled to Rome to escape Protestants in Scandinavia  
- Wrote *Historia di Genti*
**Jodocus Hondius**  
Born 1563  
Died 1612

- Flemish  
- Lived in the Netherlands  
- Was a protestant refugee in London from age 13 to 30  
- Married Coletta van der Keere  
- Started his business in 1595  
- Bought Mercator’s map engraving plates  
- Died at the age of 49  
- Coletta and his teenage sons, Henricus and Jodocus II, ran the shop after his death

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**Henricus Hondius**  
Born 1597  
Died 1651

- Flemish  
- Born in the Netherlands  
- Kept the family mapmaking business going with the help of his brother after his father's death  
- When Jodocus II died in 1629, he sold many of the business’ map engraving plates (originally by Mercator) to the Blaeu family  
- Henricus went back into the map business with his brother-in-law, Jan Jansson  
- Died at the age of 54
Guillaume Delisle
Born 1675
Died 1724

- French
- The son of a well-known cartographer
- He relied on mathematical accuracy in his maps, rather than speculation
- His maps dispelled many myths that passed on through maps since the Middle Ages.
- His 2 brothers also became famous cartographers

Emmanuel Bowen
Born 1714
Died 1767

- British
- One of the most respected British mapmakers during his time
- Became the “Royal Engraver of Maps” for both the English and French monarchies.
- Despite his success, he lost all of his money by the time he died at age 53.
Jan Jansson
Born 1588
Died 1664

- Dutch
- Son of a bookseller
- Married Elizabeth Hondius, the daughter of Jodocus Hondius
- Was in the publishing industry in Amsterdam
- Went into business with his brother-in-law, Henricus
- Lived next door to the Blaeus
- Died at the age of 76

Willem Blaeu
Born 1571
Died 1638

- Dutch
- Born to a herring packer
- Studied astronomy under Tycho Brahe
- Married Maertgen, with home he had 7 children
- Began making globes in Amsterdam in 1599, and soon branched out to maps
- Published a book of maps for seafarers called Light of Navigation
- Became Hydrographer for the Dutch East India company
- Died at the age of 67
- His son, Joan, took over the business
Sebastian Munster
Born 1488
Died 1552

- German
- Lived in Switzerland for most of his life
- Was a Franciscan monk from age 18 to 41
- After he left his Order, he became known as an "enemy of the Roman church"
- Married Anna Selber, widow of his former business partner
- Died from Bubonic Plague at the age of 64

Gemma Frisius
Born 1508
Died 1555

- Belgian
- Taught in France
- Developed method of land measurement called triangulation
- Taught mathematics to Gerardus Mercator
- Helped to defend the City of Louvain during the siege of 1542
- Died of "stones" at the age of 47
- His son, Cornelius, also became a professor at Louvain