Expanding Knowledge of the Globe

**Directions:** These maps demonstrate the European progression of geographical knowledge from the 15th century to the late 16th century. Answer the questions by looking at the maps provided.

**Ptolemy Map of the World - 1467**

1. How many years before Columbus sailed was this map made?
2. What continents are on this map?
3. What continents are missing from this map?
4. What other geographical inaccuracies are on this map?
Martellus World Map – 1489

Waldseemuller World Map – 1507
Use the 1489, 1507, and 1570 maps of the world.

1. In Martellus’s map, Southern Africa is added. What does this indicate about European’s knowledge of the globe?

2. How might discovering Africa’s southern tip affect trade between Europe and Asia?

3. In Waldseemuller’s map, part of the Americas are on the map. Why isn’t all of the Americas on the map?

4. In Ortelius’ map, by 1570, Europe had a clearer picture of world geography. But when compared to a modern day map, what had they yet to learn about global geography?