

Colonial America Study Guide

Directions: Study the below information and concepts and you will be prepared for class and assessments.

Map: Label the Colonies: label the regions and the settlement cities



Vocabulary

Colony: an area settled by a group of people from another country that remains connected to the newly settled area and its people

Southern Colonies: warm climate and primarily agricultural. They had many small farms and large plantations. Their main crops were tobacco, rice, and indigo. People settled here for economic reasons. The important cities in the South included Jamestown, Savannah, and Charleston. They had big plantations, so they did rely heavily on slavery.

Middle Colonies: mild climate and primarily agricultural growing wheat. They were known as the breadbasket because of the large amount of flour they were able to produce mills. Because of high immigration to the Middle Colonies, Quaker opposition, and smaller farms, slavery did not develop there to the same extent as in the South.

New England Colonies: colder climate and had a shorter growing season than the other colonies. Soil was rockier and therefore not as good for farming. They had a lot of trees and so they exported timber. They also did shipbuilding and fishing were big industries as was fur trading. The colonists who first settled in the New England colonies did so primarily for religious reasons. They did not depend on slavery, but they did have some slaves in some towns.

1607: the year colonists arrived in Jamestown

1619: the year the first known slaves were brought to the colonies

1620: the year the Pilgrims arrive in Plymouth

Climate: the usual weather conditions of an area over a period of time

Plantations: large farms or estates in warm climates, usually growing a large, single crop, such as cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, rice, or indigo

Cash crops: a large amount of produce grown to be sold to others to make money rather than to be used or eaten by the people growing it (tobacco, indigo, rice)

Indentured Servant: people who agreed to work for a time—typically seven years—in exchange for travel to the New World in addition to lodging, clothing, and food

Slavery: the practice of forcing people to work without pay as enslaved people and denying them the freedom to decide how to live their lives

Mayflower Compact: an agreement signed in 1620 on the Mayflower among the Pilgrims to form a government

Pilgrims: also known as separatists because they wanted to separate from the Church and have freedom to worship as they pleased. Had the first Thanksgiving.

Puritans: wanted the church to be stricter and more pure

Stamp Act: all printed materials produced in the colonies would be taxed, for example, newspapers, magazines, legal documents, and cards.

Quartering Act: colonists had to help provide quarters or temporary places to live for the British soldiers stationed in the colonies.

Sugar Act: placed a tax on sugar and molasses making foreign sugar more expensive than British

Taxation without Representation: colonists said this when they felt they were be treated unfairly by being taxed without having representation in English Parliament.

July 4, 1776: when the Declaration of Independence was signed

Colonies:

Roanoke Settlement: Where Sir Walter Raleigh landed in North Carolina. The people had a very hard time surviving in this new land and many people starved to death, so they returned to England. Then John White led a second expedition to Roanoke. Once again they suffered, but John White and a small crew left to go get supplies. When they returned the settlers left behind had disappeared and this colony is also called the Lost Colony.

Jamestown Settlement: First permanent settlement in Virginia named after King James I. Settlers traveled there on the ships Susan Constant, Discovery, and Godspeed. At first the colony struggled with starvation, cold winters, Native American attacks and many were lazy. John Smith played a key part in the survival of this colony as he said "only those who work will eat." He also made an alliance with the Powhatan Natives (Pocahontas) who helped the colony survive even though they still had many conflicts.

Savannah Settlement/Georgia: Georgia was a colony for debtors where people could go to pay off their debts instead of being in debtors' prison. Georgia was also seen as a buffer for the English colonies from the Spanish colony in Florida to the south.

Plymouth Settlement/Massachusetts: where the Pilgrims settled to worship freely. They came on the Mayflower and signed the Mayflower Compact a very important document because it was the first document of self-government. Also where the first Thanksgiving took place.

New York Settlement: first New Netherlands claimed by the Dutch, but the Duke of York was sent by king Charles II to take it over and claim it for England. It was given up without a fight.

Philadelphia Settlement/Pennsylvania: settled by William Penn and the Quakers, members of the Christian Protestant religion, also known as the Religious Society of Friends, which was started in England in the 1600s and exists today and believed in equality for all.

Concepts

Explain some of the reasons people came to North America from other Countries

Choose one colony and describe the people involved in its settlement

Compare and contrast: Pilgrims and Puritans; Indentured Servants and Enslaved Laborers; colonial life and present day life

Describe the events that led to the American Revolution: French and Indian War, England's debt, taxation without representation, stamp act, quartering act, sugar act