

The First English Colonies

Why were the colonies established?

In the late 1500s and early 1600s English colonies were established in North America. Some colonies were established because people wanted to find gold. Other colonies were established because people wanted to be free to have their own religion.

Roanoke Island Colony

The first English colony in America was established in 1588 on Roanoke Island off of the coast of North Carolina. Two years later, a ship from England arrived with supplies for the settlers. But, the colony was no longer there! All the colonists had disappeared. No one ever found out what happened to them.



The Jamestown Colony

The first permanent English colony was at Jamestown, Virginia. This colony was established in 1607. At first the colonists had many problems. The land was not good for farming, and the colonists were more interested in finding gold than in farming. During the first winter many of the colonists got sick and died.

Then Captain John Smith became the leader of the Jamestown colony. He organized the colony and told people to build houses and to plant crops. Eventually the colonists began to grow tobacco and sell it to the people in England. The colonists of Jamestown made good money from their tobacco crops.



At first Jamestown colonists had problems getting along with the Native Americans. A story told by Captain John Smith shows this. He said that an Indian Chief captured him. The chief wanted to kill Captain Smith, but the chief's daughter, Pocahontas, asked her father to let John Smith live, so his life was saved. Nobody knows if the story is true, but Pocahontas was a real person, and she later married a different Englishman and went to live in London.

After a while, the Jamestown colonists and Indians became more friendly, and they began to trade. In 1619, the people of Jamestown selected a small group of colonists, which they called the House of Burgesses, to make laws. The council's job was to govern the colony. This means that the colonists of Jamestown had some freedom to decide for themselves how they wanted to live. The Jamestown colony was important for two major reasons. It was the first permanent English colony in America, and it was the start of democratic government in America.



Pilgrims Seek Religious Freedom in Plymouth

Vocabulary:

Pilgrim-(usually Pilgrim) a member of a group of English Puritans fleeing religious persecution who sailed in the *Mayflower* and founded the colony of Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620

Congregation-a group of people gathered, in this case for religious reasons.

Puritans- Protestant group that wanted to reform, or purify, the Church of England

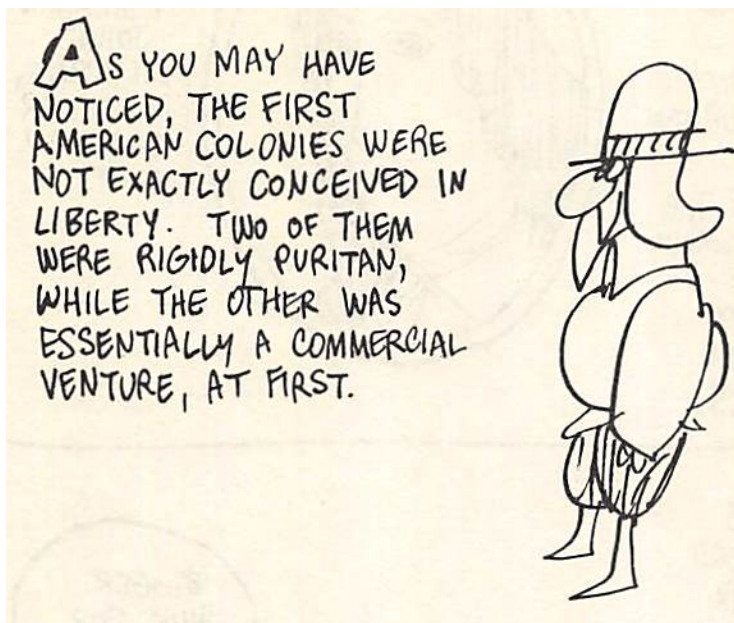
The time was the early 1600's. The place was England. The century before had seen the Protestant Reformation, and the Church of England was now the official church. A person could not choose to join a different church.

By the 1600's, some members of the Church of England felt that changes were needed. Some people tried to change the church from within; others decided to leave and start their own congregation. Those who decided to leave became known as the Separatists and pilgrims.

In 1620, they found merchants who were interested in financing a voyage to America. Forty-one members of the Leiden congregation decided to sail for America. Along with 61 other English people, they set sail in September aboard the *Mayflower*. Just before they left Holland, the Separatists celebrated a Fasting Day in their church to pray for God's guidance on the long journey to come.

With the help of the Wampanoag Indians, the Separatists, who became known as Pilgrims after their long trip, settled into their new home. They raised crops like corn that grew well in the soil of their new land. They raised cows and goats. They farmed, cooked, cleaned, and sewed clothes. The Pilgrims leader, Governor Carver, made a peace treaty with the Wampanoag leader, Massasoit.

In order to bring about stability, the leaders of the Pilgrims decided they needed a governing authority. If they did not establish order and agree to work together, the venture would fail. They would most likely die in the rough, new land. The leaders drafted the agreement, which became known as the Mayflower Compact. It is believed to have been written by William Bradford. As an educated man, he was familiar with government documents, such as the English Magna Carta, used as a model in formulating the English government in an earlier century.



King James eventually died, and his heir lost no time in taking the crown. You'll learn much more about European kings and warfare in your High School Global (World) History class. Here we'll continue our focus on American History.

British Colonial Regions

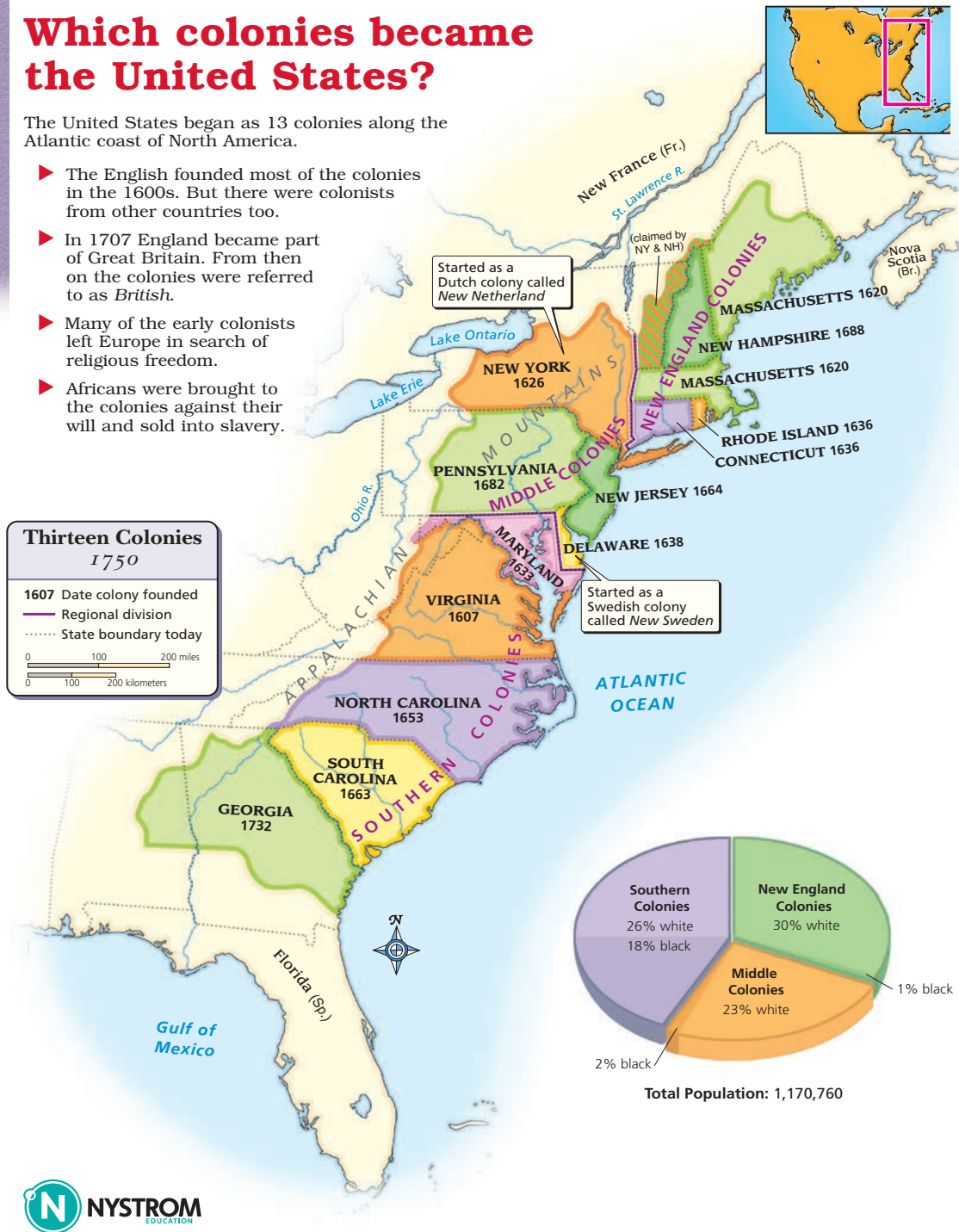
The Thirteen Colonies Map

Colonial America

Which colonies became the United States?

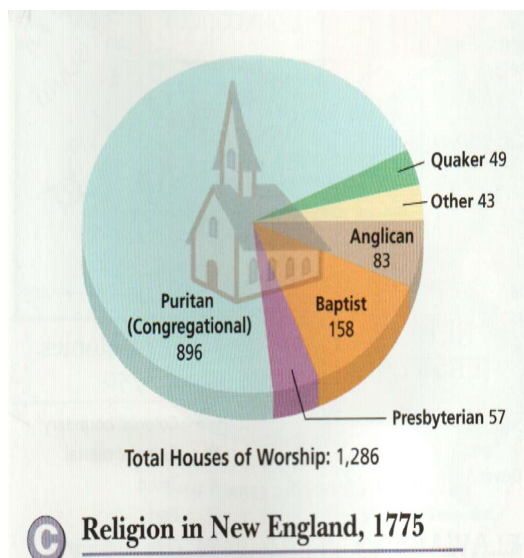
The United States began as 13 colonies along the Atlantic coast of North America.

- ▶ The English founded most of the colonies in the 1600s. But there were colonists from other countries too.
- ▶ In 1707 England became part of Great Britain. From then on the colonies were referred to as *British*.
- ▶ Many of the early colonists left Europe in search of religious freedom.
- ▶ Africans were brought to the colonies against their will and sold into slavery.



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Northern Region:



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The Northern Colonies



Many settlers in the Puritans colony disagreed with the government. One of them was a young minister named Roger Williams. Williams believed that government and religion should be separate; the church should not run the government, and the government should not run the church. Williams also believed that religious leaders should not force others to worship in their ways.

In 1635, he was forced to leave the colony. He and others like him founded new settlements near Massachusetts. Anne Hutchinson, a Puritan woman, also spoke out against the government. She, too, was driven out of the colony because of her religious views. She also founded a settlement just below Massachusetts. In 1647, those settlements became the colony of Rhode Island. Roger Williams based the government of Rhode Island on religious freedom. All who settled there were free to follow their own religious beliefs.

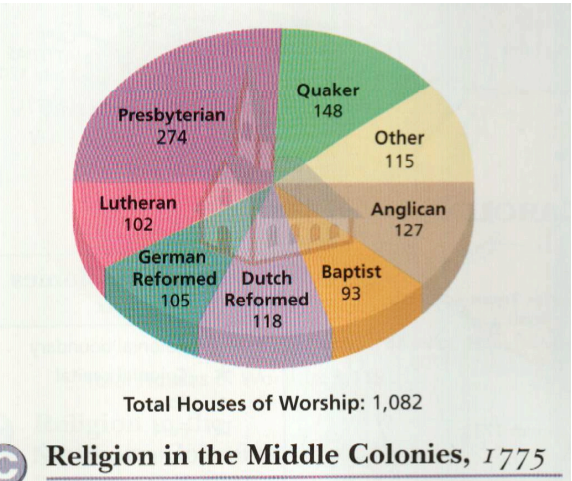
In 1636, another minister left the Puritan colony. His name was Thomas Hooker. Hooker and his followers settled west of Rhode Island. In time, their settlements became the colony of Connecticut. Other colonists moved north to found new settlements. In 1680, their settlements became the colony of New Hampshire.

Most New Englanders (as they became known as) were farmers who grew corn, fruit, and vegetables. Others fished for cod, cut logs in the forests, or worked as shipbuilders. Some New Englanders were merchants who shipped beaver furs and salted cod to Europe.

Every month, most New England townspeople gathered in their colony cities at what was known as a meetinghouse to solve the problems of the town. Everyone had a chance to speak. Then the men of the town voted. In their town meetings, New Englanders were starting to use of the ideas of democracy and self-government. In a democracy, the people choose their leaders and laws. Under self-government, people rule themselves; a king or his officials do not rule them.



Answer the questions in your support booklet.
Then complete the because but so activity to the best of your ability.



The Middle Colonies

The middle colonies were New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The settlers in those colonies came from many different places, such as England, the Netherlands, Germany, Ireland, and Africa.

The first settlers in the middle colonies were Dutch. They came from the Netherlands. In the early 1600s, the Dutch built trading posts and settlements throughout the Hudson River Valley. Those settlements became a Dutch colony called New Netherland.

In 1664, the English king claimed that all of New Netherland belonged to him. English warships were sent to the Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam. The Dutch surrendered to the English without a fight. The English divided New Netherland into two colonies. They called the northern colony New York. They called the southern colony New Jersey.



Another religious group in England was the Quakers. The Quakers, like the Pilgrims and Puritans, disagreed with England's official religion. Quakers were often jailed in England because of their beliefs. For example, Quakers believed that war was wrong. So, they refused to fight in the king's army. Quakers saw no need for ministers. They believed each person could understand God's word without a minister's help.

In 1681, an English Quaker named William Penn saw a chance to help the Quakers. The

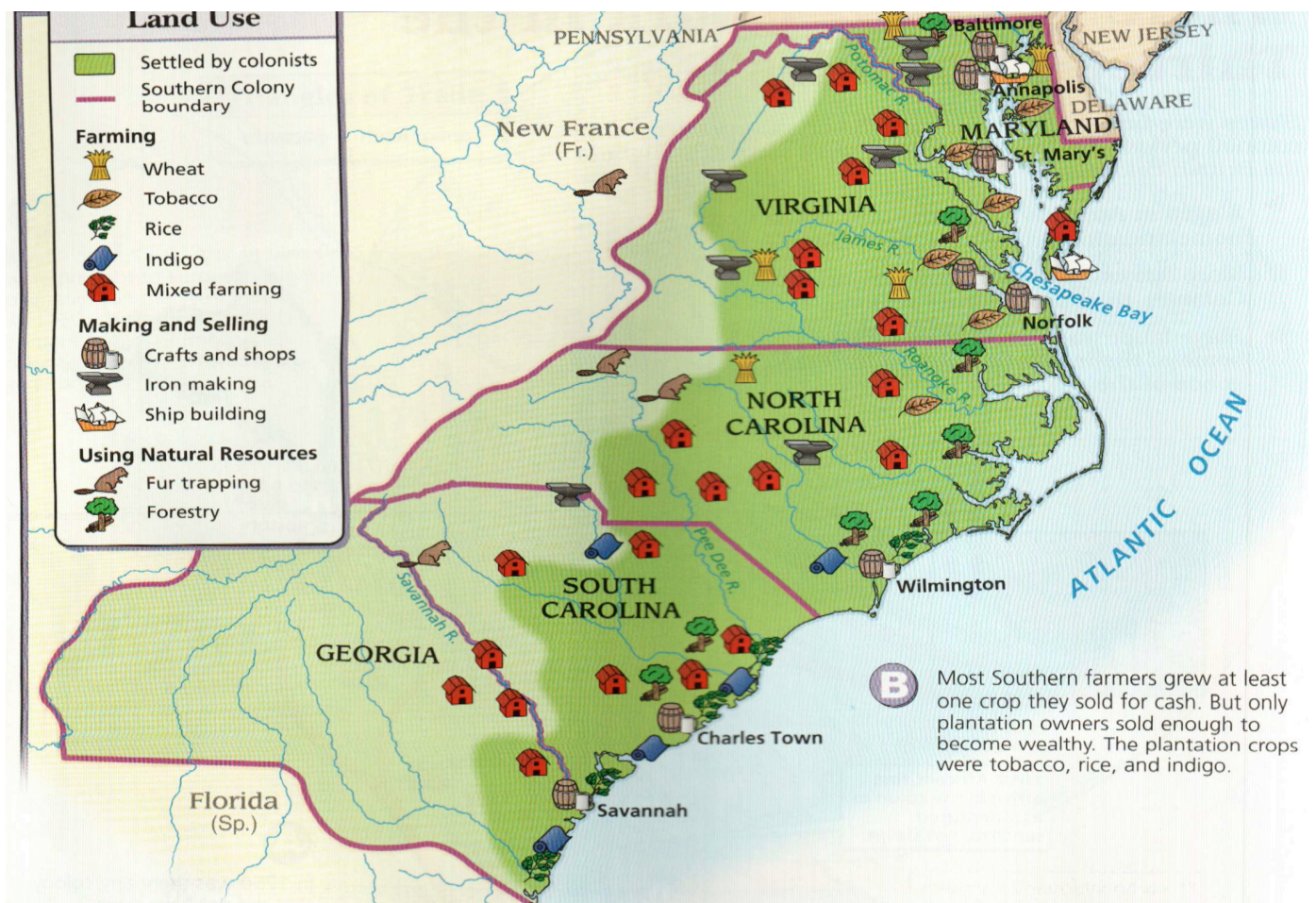


King of England, Charles II, owed Penn's father a large sum of money. The king repaid the debt by giving Penn a large area of land in America. Penn founded a colony on that land. He named it Pennsylvania after his father. Penn attracted Quakers and others by offering land and religious freedom. In 1682, Penn was given control of Delaware, an area first settled by people from Sweden. Delaware became a separate colony in the early 1700s.

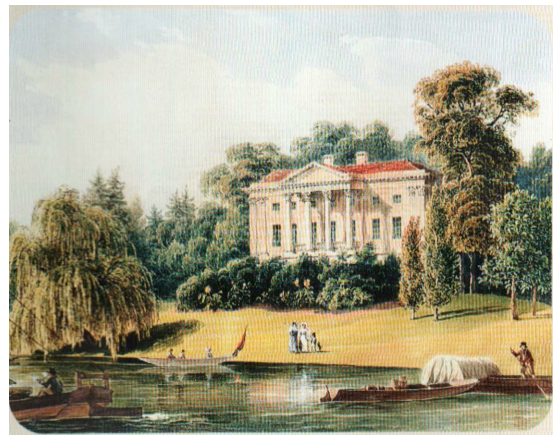
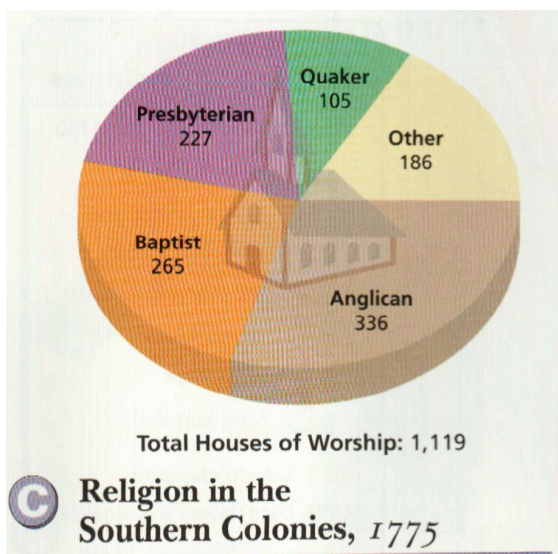
The middle colonies grew rapidly. Many immigrants from England, France, Germany, Sweden, Ireland, and other

countries settled there. Most settlers were farmers. They found the soil there good for raising wheat, rye, oats, and corn. Soon, the middle colonies were growing more grain than any other region. They became known as the bread colonies because they sold so much wheat to Europe and other American colonies,

Complete the questions in your support booklet and the but b/c so activity.



L4



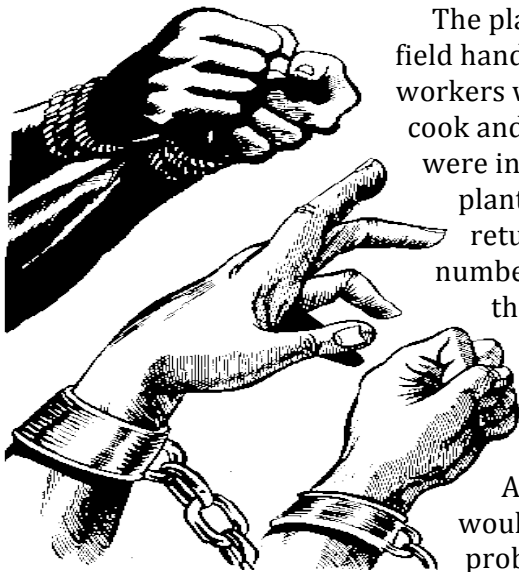
L4 Southern Colonies

Five English colonies developed along the southeastern coast of North America. They were Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. They were colonies that were owned by a person or a group of persons (proprietary). Proprietors made money by renting or selling their land to settlers. They also taxed settlers.

After Jamestown, the first permanent settlement in North America, the next was Maryland. Its owner Lord Baltimore, an English noble, started it in 1632. The land had been given (chartered) to him by King Charles I. Lord Baltimore promised religious freedom to Catholic and Protestant settlers. The next King of England, Charles II, gave a group of nobles land south of Virginia. The land was called Carolina. The colony grew only after the proprietors offered settlers land of their own. Later, Carolina was divided into North and South Carolina. Georgia was the last of the 13 English colonies to be settled. Georgia was not set up for profit. Georgia remained small: Few poor people settled there.

Settlers were drawn to the southern colonies by the chance to own land. Most settled owned small farms. A farm family could raise most of the food they needed. They could also raise a *cash crop*, a crop grown to be sold. In Virginia and Maryland, farmers raised tobacco as their major cash crop. In the Carolinas, farmers raised rice and *indigo*, *indigo* is a plant used for making blue dye.

The largest farms in the South were plantations. They were often hundreds of acres in size. A plantation usually had a large family house, beautiful lawns and gardens, stables, and barns filled with tobacco or rice. Plantation owners, or planters, became rich selling their crops in England and elsewhere. Planters often became leaders in colonial legislatures.



The plantations of the South needed workers. Large numbers of field hands were needed to plant and harvest (pick) the crops. Other workers were needed to tend the gardens, care for the horses, and cook and clean for the planters' families. The first plantation workers were indentured servants. Most of them came from Europe. The plantation owners paid the cost of their trip to America. In return, the workers agreed to work as servants for a certain number of years. When their time of service ended, they received their freedom. Some also received a small piece of land as well as tools. Some indentured servants had time added onto their contracts for poor behaviors.

As plantations grew larger, the need for workers increased. There were not enough indentured servants. Also, planters wanted permanent workers, workers who would not leave someday. The planters found a solution to their problem -enslaved people from Africa.

In the 1600s, Virginia and Maryland made slavery legal. Other colonies soon followed their lead. By 1672, slave trading was a profitable business in the colonies. Slave traders bought or kidnapped African men, women, and children. The traders then shipped them in chains to the Americas in what is known as the Triangle Trade and The Middle Passage.

In America, the slaves were sold as property, chattel. Most slaves worked long hours in the fields. Others were trained to be carpenters or blacksmiths. A few worked as cooks or household servants. Enslaved people had no rights. They had to give up their names. They could be sold from one master to another. Any children they had belonged to their owners.

By 1770, there were almost a half-million slaves in the colonies. For them, America was not a land of freedom.



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L6 homework reading: **NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN V. EUROPEAN WOMEN**

Difference of attitudes over ownership of land that was a major cause of conflict between the Indians and the Europeans. Differences in language, religion, and life-style only sharpened conflict.

Ruling Classes

Upon arrival to the New World, the European Americans followed a monarchy form of government. The Native Americans followed a tribal form of government. These structures were an intense part each society, so that the very practice was one of deep cultural practice. The Europeans believed in an absolute commitment to the crown, monarchy, of England. However, the Native Americans devoted themselves to each other and had no central ruler. Nonetheless, they did have many chiefs among the tribes that regulated relations among each tribal member. A monarchy is government rule by one, tribal rule is governance by respected elders.

Relationship to Nature

European settlers, came from countries where land was individually owned. On the contrary, Indian cultures in the Americas never developed a system of private landownership, the Indians practiced communal landownership; what is mine is yours. The Native Americans hunted and farmed the lands, they rarely stripped the land of resources. On the other hand, the Europeans practiced environmental depletion by cutting trees in large numbers, damming streams for water reserves and killing many animals in a wasteful manner. The Native Americans were spiritually connected to the land and practiced culturally distinct methods to stay one with the land. The Europeans, on the other hand, saw the land as an unending right.

Spiritual Beliefs

The Native Americans worshiped sun gods, corn gods and nature spirits of birds, bears and wolves. The Native Americans were considered barbarous by the Europeans because they lived in tipis, hunted with primitive weapons, barely wore any clothing, and they worshiped wooden or carved and painted images. The Europeans came as messengers from God, some as missionaries, to convert the Natives to Christianity, as they saw it. Spanish missions converted many Natives. However, those who would not convert were killed, or imprisoned.

Gender Differences

Native American Indians usually did not value one gender above the other. Native American women held upstanding positions among the tribes. Women were respected and valued for what they did to help their family and tribe survive. Knowledge of plants, women's ability to cure and to preserve food aided every member of the tribe. Their opinions even mattered politically within the tribe. The Cherokee women ruled and controlled certain factions within the tribe, with many making important economic decisions for the entire tribe. In the Iroquois tribe women had the political right to nominate and discard civil chiefs. The women controlled and managed their families, and had the right to divorce, and to determine how many children they would have.

In the Blackfoot tribe a woman owned the products that she made herself including the tipi that her family lived in. The tribe judged the women by her quality of work, and was treated with respect due to her good work. Women were always seen as very powerful because they could bear children. Women were considered so powerful that only they could unwrap and rewrap holy bundles because men would not be able to handle the power directly. A woman's superior spiritual power was determined in her ability to alone hold a Sun Dance Ceremony. Women in the Blackfoot tribe were Shaman, or religious leaders, as often as men.

Native American Women were generally in charge of the home and sometimes the fields. They worked extremely hard. Some of a Native American woman's work would include:

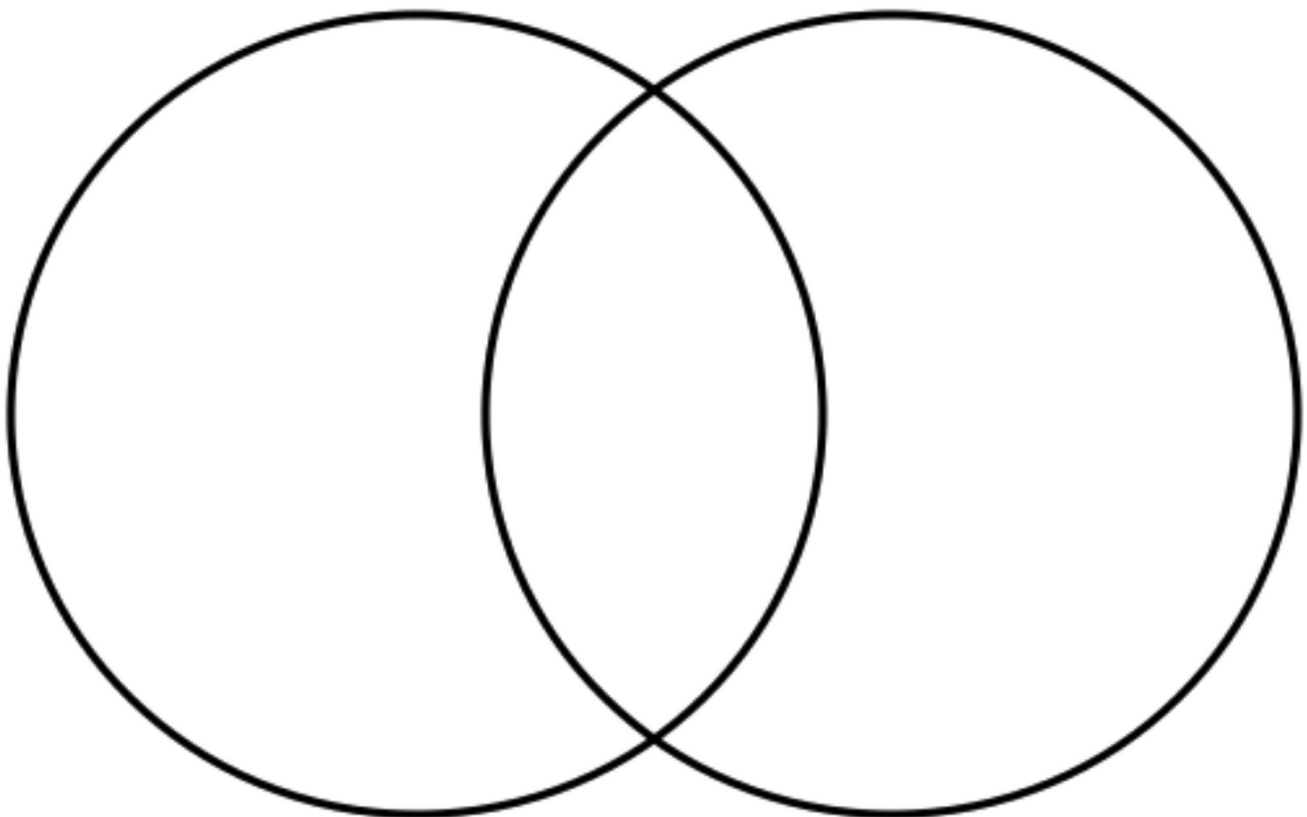
- **Cooking** - The women cooked and prepared the meals. This could involve skinning and cleaning the animals, gathering fruit and nuts, building a fire, and smoking meat to be stored for the winter.
- **Crafts** - Women had a variety of crafting skills they used around the home including making baskets, weaving cloth, preparing animal hides, and making clothing.
- **Harvesting** - In many tribes the women were responsible for harvesting the crops. The men might help in this task, but it generally fell upon the women.
- **Other Jobs** - Women had a variety of other jobs including raising the children and gathering firewood. When a tribe moved, it was generally the woman's job to pack up the home for moving and then set it back up at the new location.

On the other hand, European Women had many obligations but little control over their lives or freedom to make their own decisions. European women's rights were similar to that of a child or even a slave. The Father, brother, male relatives and or husband controlled the women in the family. Her sole purpose in life was to find a husband, have children, and then spend her life serving the husband and taking care of the children. An unmarried woman would be pitied and ridiculed by the community. If married, anything she inherited would become the property of her husband. The husband had rights to all of the person of a woman, even her body. If a woman tried to leave her unhappy marriage she would lose everything she had, including her children. For the most part Europeans subjected their women to childbirth and house chores only. Poor European men had their wives home-school the children, while the rich sent their children to schools. Young girls received a limited education, as their future was meant to be in the home. When the Europeans saw that Native American women were strong willed and spirited, they fought against the tribal nations to suppress the Native cultures into submission. European and Native American Indian women roles differed greatly.

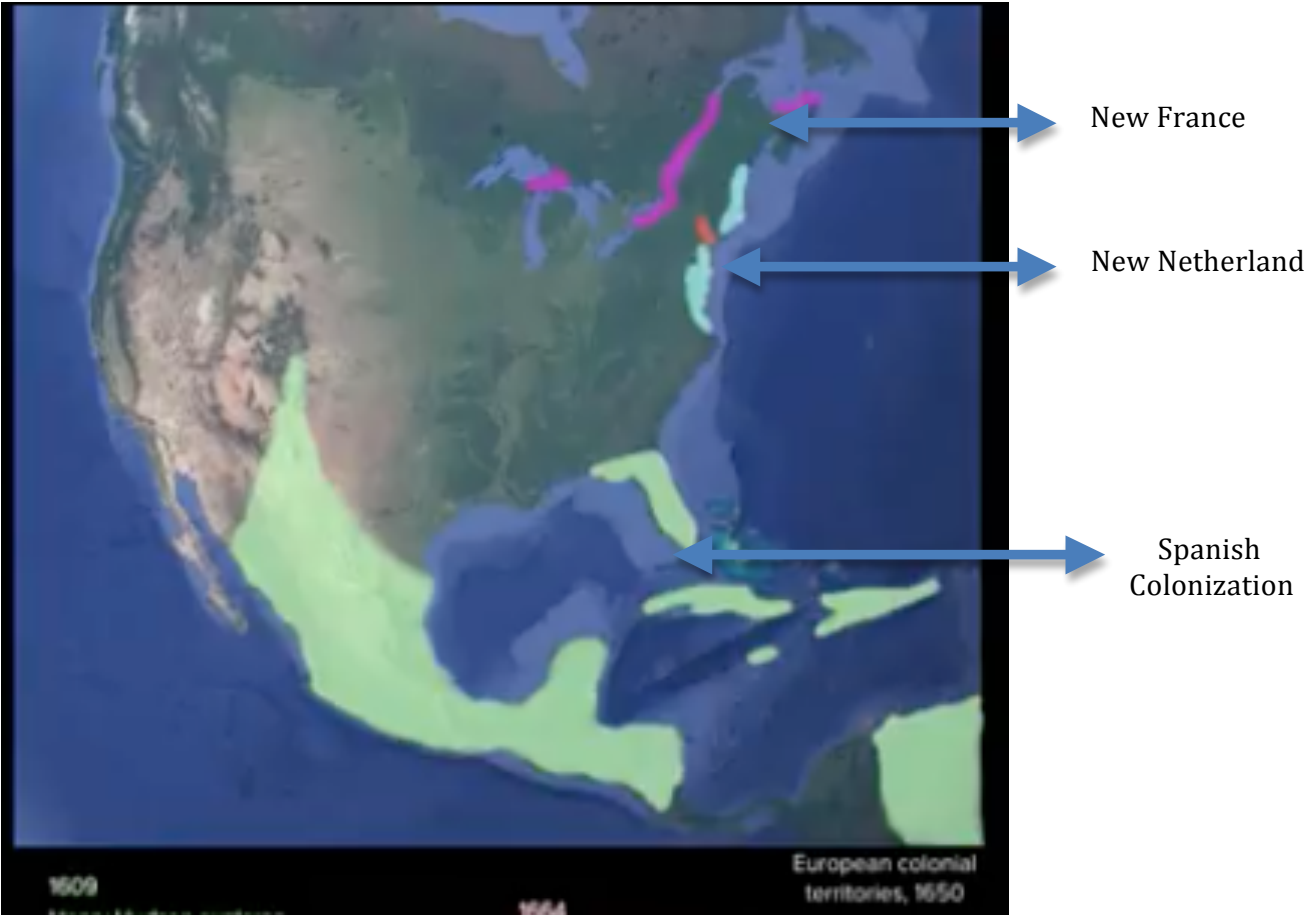
NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN

BOTH

EUROPEAN WOMEN



L6 French and Dutch Colonization in North America v Spanish Colonization, student take home add to support booklet:



Take notes below using NTF.
_Goals → types of settlement → _____



So, how did this focus on trade affect the relationships between Europeans and Native Americans in the area?

Thinking of what was said about the Spanish, how would the relationships differ?



<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/colonial-america/early-english-settlement/v/french-and-dutch-colonization>

