



Warm Up, 9/9

NB 13

1. Why did the explorers come to the Americas? (Initial reason + 4 G's)
2. What did Mother Countries (Spain, France, England) hope to gain from their colonies?

Jamestown!

Brief Overview



- King James I grants a charter to the London Company.
- Colonists granted the same rights as English.
- 1607- 105 colonists arrived in Virginia and built homes along the James River.

Background

- 1605: English merchants asked King for permission to found a colony in Virginia.
- London Company- joint-stock: many investors

-Pros of joint-stock company

Limited risk with no one

Person totally responsible

(shared responsibility)





Shared responsibility and risk

Joint-stock companies involved shared responsibility and risk.

What other situations have share responsibility or shared risk or both?



London Company Advertisement

"The land yields... an abundance of fish, infinite store of deer and hares, with many fruits and roots... There are hills and mountains making a sensible offer of hidden treasure, never yet searched."

The First Voyage

- Three ships of 105 men land on April 26, 1607.
- Sailed up Chesapeake Bay and up James River 50 miles.
- Name area Jamestown for King.





Virtual [Jamestown](#)



Problems From the Start

- Interested in fortune (gold and silver) and returning to England
- Few with farming and carpentry skills; spent time looking for gold
- Picked poor spot: surrounded by swamps with mosquitoes, river too salty to drink
- By first winter, 2/3 dead, rest starving and sick



Biggest Problem

Of all the problems in Jamestown, what do you think was the most serious?

John Smith Takes Control

- September, 1608
- Forces settlers to build better homes and plant crops.
- Reduces number of starving and exposure deaths.
- 13 men chosen to rule colony.



Go Smith.



Help From the Indians

- Powhatan Confederacy- group of Algonquian Indians help colonists.
- Indians trade food in exchange for manufactured goods.
- Taught colonists how to grow crops such as corn / maize.



Taking Advantage of Indians

- Colonists take food by force on numerous occasions.
- Wahunsonacock, the leader of Powhatans, to John Smith: *“Why will you take by force what you may obtain by love? Why will you destroy us who supply you with food? What can you get by war? We are unarmed, and willing to give you what you ask, if you come in a friendly manner.”*

More Problems

- 1609- 400 more settlers arrive
- John Smith returns to England, leaving settlers with no strong leader.
- Winter: disease and famine strike, called “The Starving Time”
- Summer of 1610: only 60 colonists left after “The Starving Time.”
- Four causes of death:
1. disease 2. starvation
3. Indian attacks 4. exposure to cold
- 1611: new governor arrives, strict laws and punishments, but death rate stays high



Checking for Understanding

1. Why did the settlers come to Jamestown?
2. What caused the difficulty between the settlers and the Indians?
3. What major change did John Smith make that enable the colony to survive
4. What were the causes of death during the Starving time.



Warm Up

1. What was the reason for settling Jamestown?
2. What was the main problem in Jamestown?
3. How did John Smith solve the problem?

Economic Troubles

- No profit for London Company
- Tobacco?
- John Rolfe introduces sweeter tobacco.
- King's objection: "a custom disgusting to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, and dangerous to the lungs."
- Despite this protest... tobacco proves profitable
- "All our riches for the present consist of tobacco." John Pory





Different Government Needed

- 13 elected men argued constantly, needed a more organized government.
- Not governed by King's men.
- New governor appointed, with power to make laws.
- LoCo must approve laws.
- Colonists would choose members as their burgesses for the House of Burgesses.
- At first, anyone could own land.
- 1670- only free male, property owners
- What were the origins of representative government? (How do you think it started?)

A New Peace With Indians?

- 1614: John Rolfe marries **Pocahontas**
- 1617: Pocahontas dies of **smallpox while visiting Europe**
- 1618: Wahunsonacock dies
- Conflict begins to increase again:
 - Less dependent
 - Need more land
 - “**Thorns** in our sides”



The famous Sedgeford portrait of Pocahontas and her son, Thomas Rolfe, carefully preserved through the centuries, although its travels and whereabouts have been shrouded in mystery.



1619: A Big Year

- First boatload of Africans
- First boatload of women
- First labor strike
- First time English settlers are allowed to own land
- First elected lawmakers



Conflict Increases

- Great Massacre of 1622
- Powhatan's respond and attack; killing 350 men, women, and children- half the colony. John Rolfe among dead.
- Survivors burn Indian villages, fighting continues 20 years.
- 1644: Opechancanough leads another attack. He was captured and killed.
- 1646: war ends



On your desk

Vocabulary NB 9
ONLY

No pencils or pens



What did we learn from the war?

- London.Co.'s inability to help colonists:
 - lack of supplies sent by LoCo
 - no military help
 - stockholders wiped out

King revokes LoCo's charter, Virginia become a royal colony under the authority of a governor appointed by the King.



Daily Life in Jamestown

- Plantations established by tobacco farmers.
- Made possible by the headright system- each colonist who paid their way to Virginia received 50 acres of land for each person they brought with them.
- Raising a family difficult: first women arrived in 1619- but had to offer them land grants and marriage. (7-1)
- Malaria
- Made food, shelter, utensils, tools, furniture, and clothing by hand.
- School and religion lessons: at home



The Population Problem

- After 40 years: high death rates led to labor shortages
- To solve problem: indentured servants came- sign contract to work for 4-7 years for whoever paid voyage cost.
- 75% of colony indentured servants
- However, large number died due to disease and poor living conditions.
- To solve labor shortages, Africans were also brought to Virginia beginning in 1619.
- At first, white farmers preferred indentured servants over African slaves.
- Why? Slaves more expensive and workers died quickly



The Population Problem

- Once death rates and slave prices decreased, farmers preferred slaves: lifelong vs temporary
- Created much wealth for tobacco plantations, but great cost in human life and liberty.



Result

Jamestown grew into the Virginia Colony and established the pattern for the southern colonies.

The pattern? Agricultural economy based on slave labor.



Warm ups: Week of 9/17-9/21

1. How did John Smith save the Jamestown colony?
2. Why were the 13 men, chosen under John Smith's leadership, unable to rule the colony effectively?
3. Explain how representative government began at Jamestown.