

## ***Social Studies – The English Colonies - Unit 3 Study Guide***

### New England Colonies

- The Puritans wanted to change some religious practices and purify the Church of England. They were first brought by John Endecott in 1628 to found the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- All people who lived in Massachusetts Bay Colony had to follow Puritan beliefs. The New England Puritans felt education was important so everyone would be able to read the Bible. Every town with more than 50 families needed to have a school.
- The Wampanoags and the English settlers of New England fought each other in King Philip's War.
- New England towns were built around a common, also called village greens.
- The meetinghouse is where church services and town meetings were held to conduct all town business.
- Some colonists moved from Massachusetts Bay Colony because the Puritans drove out anyone who disagreed with their teachings and some nearby colonies. Others such as Thomas Hooker led people to Connecticut for better farmland.
- Roger Williams, who founded the colony of Rhode Island, was kicked out of the Massachusetts Bay Colony because people were not free to worship as they chose. Anne Hutchinson was also expelled because she questioned the authority of the Puritan leaders.
- Fishing, whaling, trading, and shipbuilding were industries that helped grow New England's economy.

### Middle Atlantic Colonies

- The Middle Atlantic Colonies were known as the "Breadbasket" Colonies because they produced large amounts of wheat, corn, and rye, which are used in making bread.
- The Dutch let England invade New Netherland because they resented the strong rule of Peter Stuyvesant and allowed James, the Duke of York, to take the colony.
- Farmers in the Middle Colonies could trade surplus farm produce for goods and services at Market Towns.
- William Penn named his colony Pennsylvania, which means "*Penn's woods.*" He wanted his colony to become a haven to settlers from many countries. His plan for the government guaranteed citizens the right to a trial by jury made up of fellow citizens, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of religion.
- Philadelphia will be the largest city in the colonies in 1710.
- Benjamin Franklin published the *Poor Richard's Almanack* annually filled with a calendar, weather forecasts, wise sayings, etc. He is also known for establishing the first public library and the first trained fire fighting company in the colonies, among many other accomplishments.
- The frontier region beyond the area settled by Europeans is the backcountry. To reach this land, settlers followed the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania.
- German immigrants introduced the custom of Barn Raisings to Pennsylvania (Middle Atlantic Region), where friends and neighbors would help build a barn and share a huge meal. They also introduced the Pennsylvania rifle and the Conestoga wagon.
- New Jersey was given as a gift to Berkeley and Carteret for supporting King Charles II to get the throne in England.

### Southern Colonies

- Virginia (1609) is the first English colony in North America and Georgia (1733) was the last one which was founded by James Oglethorpe for English in debtors' prisons.
- Charles II gave the Carolina Colony to the Lords Proprietors for helping him get on the throne.

- A plantation owner is also known as a planter. On plantations, they grew cash crops such as tobacco, rice, and indigo. Enslaved people worked on the plantation and it was illegal to teach them to read or write.
- The Calvert family founded Maryland as a refuge for Catholics, but gave religious freedom to everyone.
- Most southern colonists belonged to the Church of England.
- People in the Southern Colonies might not have visitors or outside news for a month at a time because they lived so far apart.
- Indentured servants are people who agreed to work for another person in exchange for passage to North America. In Maryland, they were better off than those in other colonies because when they were freed, they received 50 acres of land and other things.
- In Maryland, the Toleration Act was the first law to allow all people to worship as they pleased.

### Government & Economics

- A charter is an official paper in which a government gives certain rights to a person or business.
- An apprentice is a young person who learns a job by living and working with a skilled craftsman.
- People in Virginia used ferries to transport passengers, livestock, and goods across rivers.
- In Southern Colonies, plantations used brokers to sell their crops.
- Triangular trade routes connected the English colonies in America with England, and the west coast of Africa.
- Some factors that led New England to become an important shipbuilding center were the plentiful forests that provided raw materials for the ships, the population of skilled workers, the fishing and whaling industries, and trade with England and other English colonies.

### Other information

- Is there anything else you think you should know about? Make sure you pay attention to the review in class.