



Colonial
America

A Wide, Wide Ocean to Cross.

Picture yourself on the dock of Plymouth, England, a green and pretty port town. It's the year 1620. You are waving goodbye to your friends and relatives. Most likely, you will never see them again...

Like many Europeans of your day, you are boarding a ship for the New World. Your ship is called the Mayflower, and you will travel on it for 2 long months.

Instead of sleeping on your soft bed, you are sleeping squeezed between other passengers on a hard wooden deck below the main deck. There is no hot water, so you wear the same dirty clothes day after day. You eat salted beef, pork, or fish. Your jaws ache from biting into hard dry biscuits. You cant stand the sight of another dried bean or pea. Worst of all, storms batter the ship, soaking you, your clothes, and the awful food.

What made you come on this dangerous voyage? **FREEDOM!** Freedom to practice the religion of **YOUR CHOICE**. Freedom to believe what **YOU** believe, and not what someone tells you to believe. It's time for you to do what you want, and be the person that you want to be!

Colonial America

Like children grabbing for cookies, the nations of Europe rushed to claim land in the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries. By doing this, colonial America was born, and would eventually become the United States of America.

Arrival to the New World

When the first people arrived from Europe, they had no houses. They had to build shelters from scratch using what was available. They had no crops or grocery stores. They ate wild berries, and hunted animals to avoid starvation. They also received gifts of food from Native Americans

Native Americans

Scattered groups of Native Americans were all over colonial America. Some were friendly and helpful, while others were hostile and curious.

Who claimed land?

Spain, Portugal, France, The Netherlands, Sweden, and England all set up colonies.

Jamestown, Virginia

This was the first English settlement in the new world. It was founded by 104 English citizens in 1607. It was named in honor of King James I.

Major Events in Colonial History

1607

1st permanent English settlement founded by 104 English citizens in Jamestown, Virginia

1692

Witchcraft hysteria in Salem, Massachusetts, results in death of 20 accused women

1733

13 English colonies exist along the Atlantic coast.

1763

Britain wins the French & Indian War, and takes over French colonies in Canada.

1763

Proclamation of 1763 temporarily prohibits colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mts which is reserved for Indians.

1765

Britain's stamp act raises questions of taxation without representation.

1770

In Boston Massacre, British soldiers fire on unruly mob.

1775

First military conflict between British & colonists at Lexington, Massachusetts.

1773

At Boston Tea Party, colonist dressed as Indians throw shipment of tea into harbor.

The Original 13 Colonies

The 13 colonies were not identical to the states that bear their names.

The colony of Massachusetts, for example, included parts of what is now Maine. What is now Vermont was then claimed by both New Hampshire and New York



The Pilgrims Live On!

Imagine walking down a street and seeing 2 girls your own age dressed in long skirts of homespun cloth, and wearing white Pilgrim caps on their heads. As you stroll past, you hear them talking about their poppets and planning a game of knickers. Are you in a time warp? No, you're in Plimoth Plantation

Planting for Medicine

The pilgrims planted herbs to use in medicines.

Wild daisy

This would be mixed with animal fat to be rubbed on a cut.

Sage

This would be mixed with fat and cornmeal to cure a headache.

Squanto & Samoset

They were Wampanoag Indians that visited the Pilgrims when they arrived. They taught the Pilgrims where to hunt and fish, and how to plant corn so that it would grow better. They also arranged a meeting between their leader & the Pilgrims. At the meeting a peace treaty was signed, and it lasted 55 years.

Pilgrims House - Inside

Fireplace

Houses included a fireplace which was used for cooking, light and heat

Table

Wooden boards were placed across two sawhorses.

The Rise & Fall & Rise of Colonial Williamsburg

Colonial Williamsburg was built in the early 1700's after a fire destroyed the first capital of Virginia, Jamestown. By the mid-1700's Williamsburg was a bustling seat of colonial government. However, when war broke out between England and her colonies, Virginia's capital was again moved. This time it went to Richmond. For the next 147 years, Williamsburg was just another sleepy small town. However, in the early years of the 20th century, Reverend

William Goodwin had a dream of restoring Williamsburg to its colonial glory. He enlisted the financial support of millionaire John D. Rockefeller Jr. In the following years, 720 modern buildings were knocked down; 88 original colonial buildings were restored; and over 400 lost houses and stores were reconstructed. By 1934 the restored town was ready to receive visitors.

Williamsburg

Barber Shop

Fashionable men were shaved and had their wigs made and groomed. A thick wig with lots of curls proclaimed the wealth of its wearer.

Blacksmith

He was kept busy making tools & utensils like hoes, boot scrapers, and cooking spits for fireplaces. He also supplied other craftspeople with the tools of their trades

Townspeople

On their daily rounds, they often socialized on Williamsburg's cobbled streets. They would join in the towns many taverns.

Animals

They were essential to every household. They were used for food, clothing, transportation, and labor. Oxen, sheep, horses, pigs, and fowl were among the most common

Water

They did not have running water like we do today. Instead, homes had outside wells that provided water for cooking and bathing



Colonial Kids

Children were valued members of the community in Colonial America. Their labor was important. Large families were common. Six or more children in a family was not unusual. However, almost half of all the children born died before the age of 6. Diphtheria, whooping cough, small pox, and other diseases were common killers. Those children who survived led lives far different from yours.

Toys

Colonial children had few toys, and most of them were homemade. A boy might carve toys with his trusty pocketknife, and girls made dolls from cornhusks. The child from a wealthy family may have an important doll or a set of toy soldiers.

Boy Clothing

Young boys wore loose-fitting dresses until they were five or six. Then they began to dress exactly like their fathers.

Girl Clothing

Young girls dressed just like their mothers. Wealthy young ladies began wearing stays at an early age.

These were undergarments stiffened with whalebone and laced tightly to give a fashionable figure.

For Fun

Children played charades or singing games, went for walks or horseback rides, played musical instruments, and read aloud.

Misbehaving

Children who misbehaved soon regretted it. Whipping and paddling were not uncommon at school and at home.

Hearth and Home

People of Colonial America were homebodies. There were few things to take them away from home, so the home was the center family activity. The center of the home was the kitchen, the busiest and warmest room in the house.

Kitchen

Centered around a large fireplace used for cooking & heat.

Homemade

Almost everything needed for the home was made in the home.

Heat & Sleeping

Colonial homes would get chilly very easily. So, in order to get warm when it was time to go to sleep, a few embers from the fire were placed in a brass pan with a pierced lid and long wooden handle. The pan was passed through the sheets several times before bedtime.

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Business of America

The first business of America's colonists was survival!!! Therefore, farming was there MAJOR occupation. However, when survival was no longer an issue, the colonists turned to business. By the 18th century, many of America's colonial merchants were quite successful.

Using Nature

At first, the colonist profited from the natural resources of the land and sea.

They fished, caught whales, and cut down trees for lumber and ship building.

Harvesting

They harvested such forest by-products as pitch, tar, resin, and turpentine.

All building and woodworking had to be done by hand.

Men and women alike were skilled in various crafts.

Paul Revere



Younger Years

As a boy he was an apprentice of his father who was a silversmith. When his father died, he was too young to take over the shop. His mother ran it until he was of age.

Engraver

He was an engraver who made copper plates for book illustrations, certificates, business cards, and currency for the colony of Massachusetts.

Famous Accomplishment

On the night of April 18, 1775 as a messenger for Massachusetts, Paul rode from Boston to Lexington to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock that the British were marching to arrest them

Famous Engraving

In 1770 he made his famous engraving of the Boston Massacre. The engraving is not historically accurate, because Revere was a patriot and he wanted to arouse anti-British feelings.

Review Questions

1. What the voyage on the Mayflower easy or difficult? Give some examples to support your answer.
2. What was the #1 reason why people went on the voyage on the Mayflower?
3. When the people first arrived in the New World, what did they have to do?
4. Which countries claimed land in the New World?
5. Where was the first English settlement in the New World?
6. In what year was the first English settlement founded?

Review Questions

7. Who was Squanto & Samoset?

8. What was the job of a Blacksmith?

9. In Williamsburg, what were all of the things that animals were used for?

10. What kind of toys did colonial children have?

11. Explain the type of clothing colonial boys wore.

12. Explain the type of clothing colonial girls wore.

13. What are some things colonial children did for fun?

Review Questions

14. What was Paul Revere's job?

15. What was Paul Revere's famous accomplishment?

13. What was Paul Revere's famous engraving?