

# PENN'S WOODS

**W**illiam Penn, the son of a wealthy British admiral, became a Quaker. Quakers were members of a religious group that was open to new ideas. They accepted different religions and did not believe in war or violence.

Quakers who lived in England had serious problems because of their beliefs. Sometimes, they were put in jail or tortured. Penn wanted a place that would be safe for Quakers to live. He decided to start a colony. Charles II, the king of England, gave Penn some land in North America.



In the early 1600s, Penn started his colony and called it Pennsylvania. The name, which meant "Penn's Woods," honored his father. He named the capital Philadelphia, which means "City of Brotherly Love." Penn carefully planned the building of the colony and its capital.

Penn wanted his colony to be a model to the rest of the world. The Quakers who moved there would be able to have simple lives. Penn thought it was important for the settlers in Pennsylvania to have religious freedom. He also believed the colony should have a fair government. Penn set up the government himself. It was much like a democracy, where the people made decisions by voting.

Most North American colonies had trouble with the Native Americans who lived near them. The leaders of Pennsylvania tried to be fair to the Native Americans. Pennsylvania did not take land from them like most colonies did. When the settlers needed more land, Penn bought it from the Native Americans. For this reason, the colony was able to avoid problems with the Native Americans.

More settlers were invited to join the colony. People did not have to be Quakers to live in Pennsylvania. Penn advertised the good soil and climate, and colonists came from all over Europe. These settlers were from many different countries and religions. Many Germans moved to Pennsylvania. They brought good farming techniques and craft skills that helped the colony do well.

Penn's plan for a successful colony worked. The good farmland made it one of the richest colonies in North America. It was a peaceful place where many cultures and religious groups lived together. Pennsylvania's self-government lasted until the beginning of the American Revolution.

# PENN'S WOODS

## Multiple Choice

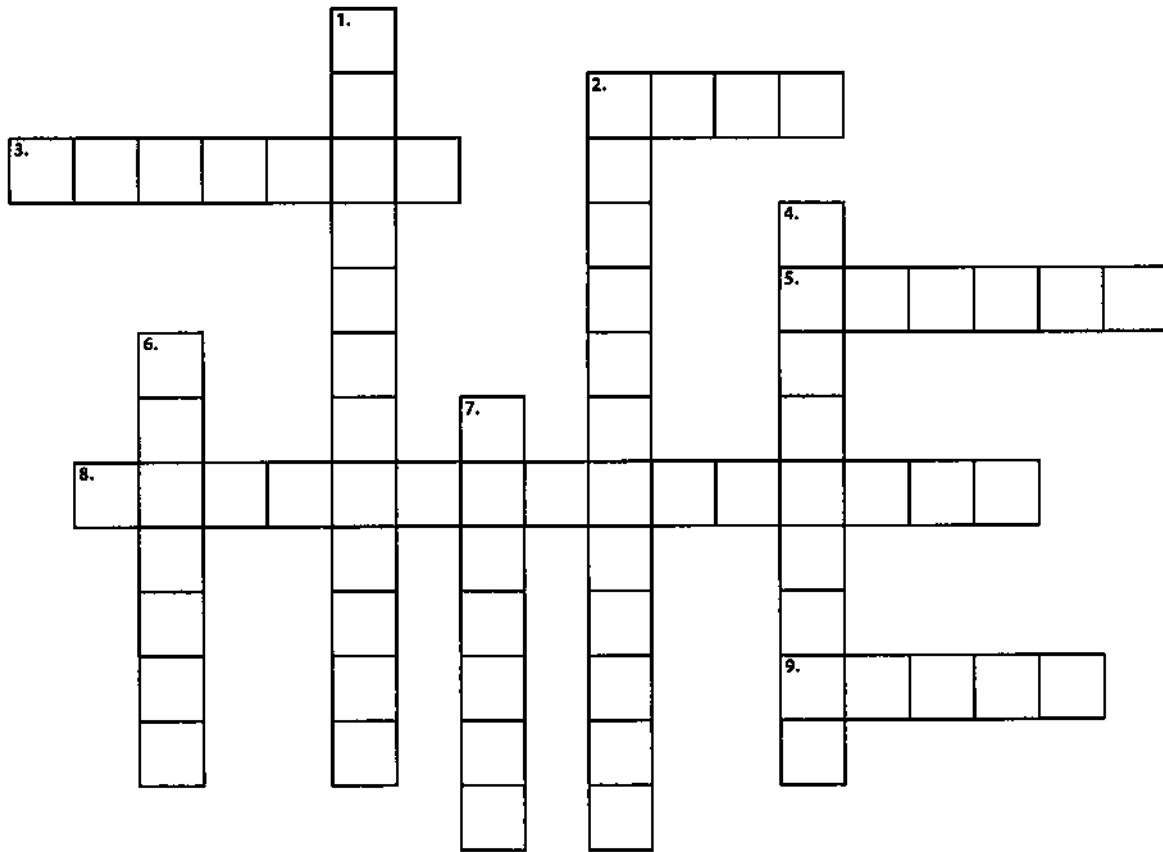
Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

1. William Penn was part of a religious group called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Pilgrims
  - B. Quakers
  - C. Mormons
  - D. Puritans
2. Penn started a colony called \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Pennsylvania
  - B. Philadelphia
  - C. Pittsburgh
  - D. Plymouth
3. \_\_\_\_\_ means "City of Brotherly Love."
- A. Pennsylvania
  - B. Philadelphia
  - C. Pittsburgh
  - D. Plymouth
4. Penn wanted the people in his colony to be able to have \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. simple lives
  - B. religious freedom
  - C. a fair government
  - D. all of the above
5. Pennsylvania's self-government lasted \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. ten years
  - B. until Penn died
  - C. until the beginning of the American Revolution
  - D. until the Civil War ended

# PENN'S WOODS

## Crossword Puzzle

Write the best answer in each blank, and complete the crossword puzzle.



ACROSS

2. \_\_\_\_\_ wanted his colony to be a model to the rest of the world.
3. Many \_\_\_\_\_ moved to Pennsylvania.
5. Penn advertised the good soil and climate, and colonists came from all over \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The colonists in Pennsylvania bought land from the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The Germans brought good farming techniques and \_\_\_\_\_ skills.

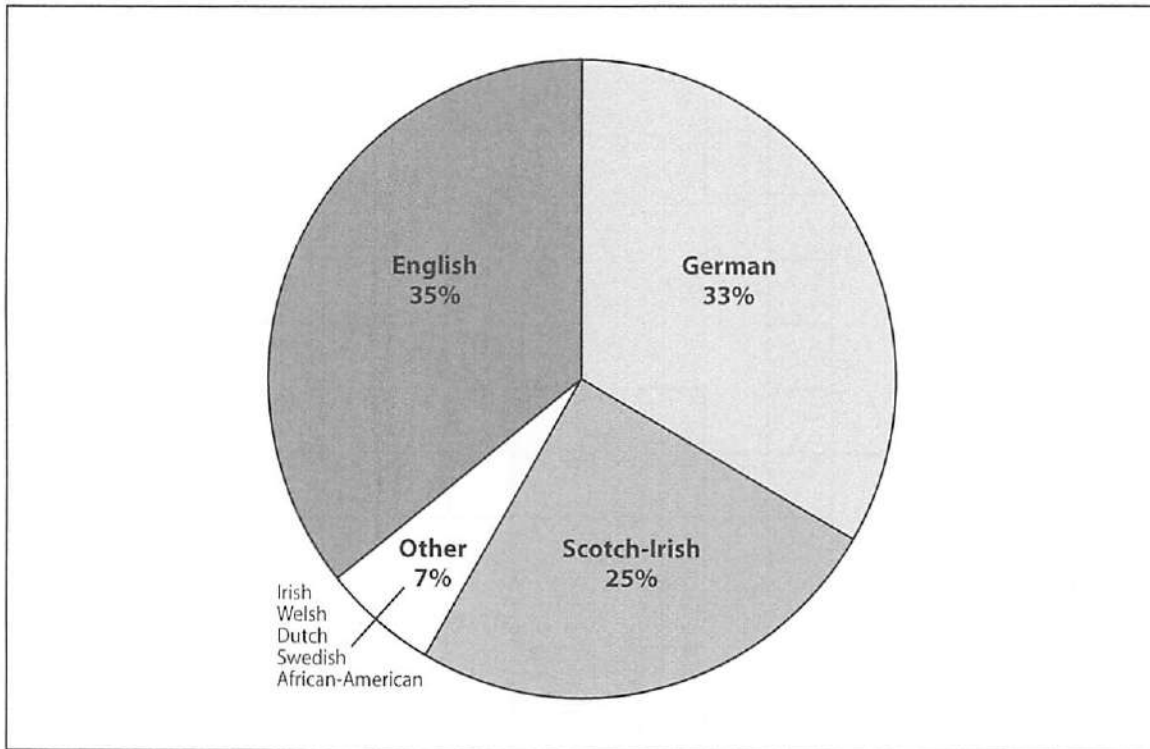
DOWN

1. In the early 1600s, Penn started his colony called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Penn named the capital of his colony \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The government of Pennsylvania was much like a \_\_\_\_\_, where people made decisions by voting.
6. Pennsylvania was started so the \_\_\_\_\_ would have a safe place to live.
7. Pennsylvania was a successful colony because the land was good for \_\_\_\_\_.

# PENN'S WOODS

## Pie Chart – Approximate Population of Pennsylvania in 1776

Use the pie chart to answer the following questions. Write the answers in complete sentences.



1. What percent of the people who lived in Pennsylvania were English?

---

---

2. What percent of the people who lived in Pennsylvania were German?

---

---

3. Out of every 100 people in Pennsylvania, how many were Scotch-Irish?

---

---

Name:

Date:

# PENN'S WOODS

## Extension Activities

Choose one of the following activities to complete. Write the answer in complete sentences.

1. What present-day state was originally a part of Pennsylvania? Look on the Internet or at the library to find out the name of this state.

---

---

---

---

---

2. Why did Charles II give Penn the land for his colony? Look on the Internet or at the library to find out.

---

---

---

---

---

3. Penn advertised the good farmland and climate of Pennsylvania to get more people to move there. How would you get people to move to your town? Write three good things about the place you live.

---

---

---

---

---

## QUIZ: PENN'S WOODS

### True/False

Decide if each statement is true or false, and write "true" or "false" in the blank.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. William Penn was part of a religious group called the Puritans.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Penn wanted his colony to be a model to the rest of the world.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The colonists in Pennsylvania treated the Native Americans unfairly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The capital was named Philadelphia, which means "Penn's Woods."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Pennsylvania was a safe place for Quakers to live.

### Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

6. The government of Pennsylvania was much like a \_\_\_\_\_, where people made decisions by voting.
- A. monarchy
  - B. democracy
  - C. republic
  - D. dictatorship
7. People moved to Pennsylvania because of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. good farmland
  - B. good climate
  - C. religious freedom
  - D. all of the above

### Short Answer

Answer the following question in complete sentences.

8. Who are two groups of people that moved to Pennsylvania?

---

---