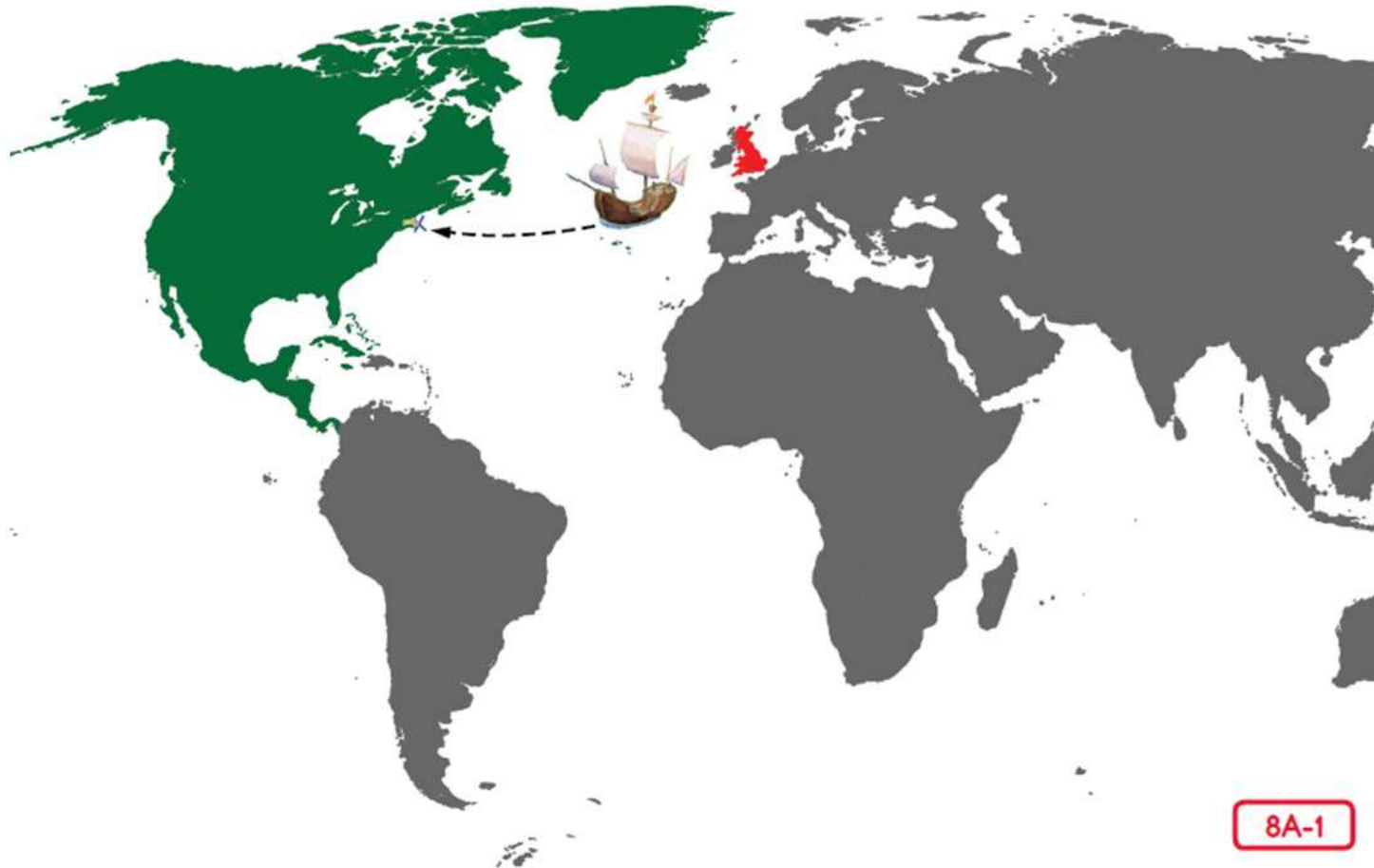


# LESSON 8 - THE WAMPANOAG

# THE WAMPANOAG

The Pilgrims anchored in a harbor off the coast of what we now call Massachusetts. According to legend, when they were looking for a good spot to land, they saw a huge rock sticking out of the water near the shore. *A legend is an often-told story that may or may not be true.*



8A-1

# THE WAMPANOAG

*They used a little boat to get people off the big ship. Do you remember what the Pilgrims' ship was called? (Mayflower)*

One of them exclaimed, "That rock is dry and level. It looks like the perfect place to go ashore without slipping." And so, one by one, the Pilgrims climbed out onto the rock. They named it Plymouth Rock.

*Where have you heard the name Plymouth before? (It was the name of the town in England where the Pilgrims started their voyage.)*





# THE WAMPANOAG

If you visit Massachusetts today, you can still see Plymouth Rock—or at least a rock that could have been Plymouth Rock. No one really knows.

What we do know is that when the Pilgrims first landed in America, they slept aboard the Mayflower until they could decide on the best place to start their colony. After exploring for days, they found an acceptable site. Once they were all ashore, the first thing they did was to get down on their knees. “Let us raise a prayer to thank God for arriving safely in our new home,” they said.



# THE WAMPANOAG

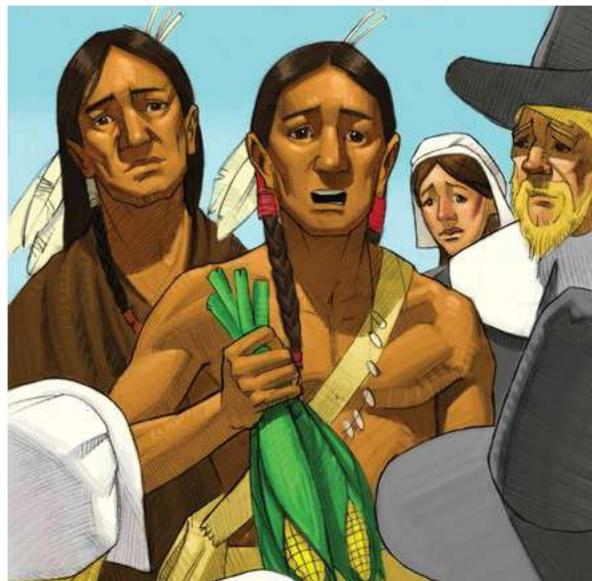
Of course, it was not really a home yet. Much difficult work lay ahead. They gathered supplies from the Mayflower and, braving cold November winds, they set about clearing the land. They rushed to build log homes before the snows of winter came, and they decided upon a name for their new settlement. *The word log means something made from trees.* They named it Plymouth Colony. *[Discuss why they might have chosen the name Plymouth.]*





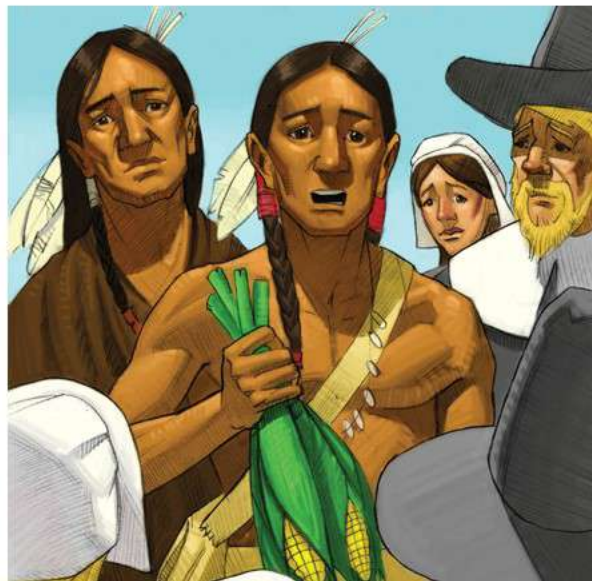
# THE WAMPANOAG

One day, as the Pilgrims were working in their new colony, two natives stepped out from the forest. They stopped what they were doing and stared, fascinated by what they saw. *Fascinated means very interested in something.* The men did not look at all like them, and at first the Pilgrims were alarmed by their appearance. The settlers stood quietly as the men came closer and closer. They must be Native Americans, they thought to themselves. Were they friends or enemies? They weren't too sure.



# THE WAMPANOAG

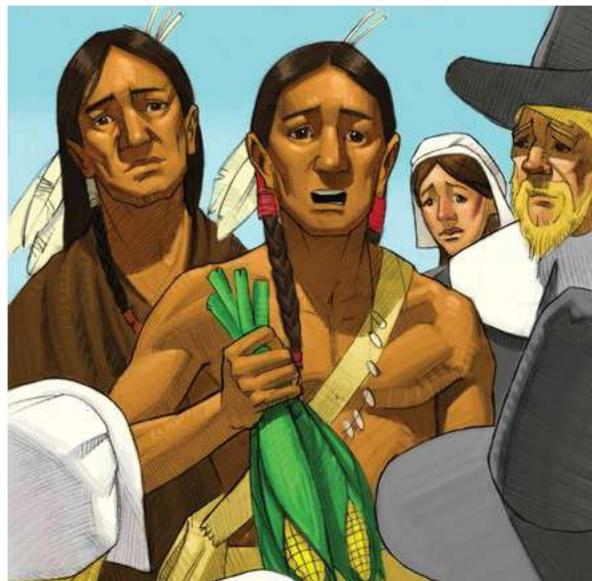
Then . . . one of the strangers smiled! Suddenly the sense of danger was gone. One of the men introduced himself as Samoset and told the colonists *the English people who lived in Plymouth Colony* that he was a member of the Wampanoag [/wom\*pə\*noe\*ag/] tribe of Native Americans.





# THE WAMPANOAG

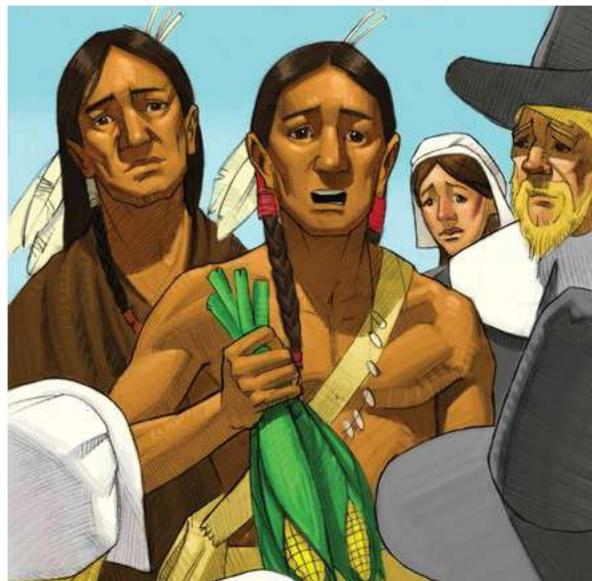
A few days later, Samoset reappeared with the man who would turn out to be the Pilgrims' greatest friend. "I am Tisquantum [tis\*kwon\*təm/]," he told them. "I am of the Wampanoag people, and I have come to help you." He held out his hand in friendship to them and, one by one, the colonists stepped forward to shake his hand. Tisquantum, or Squanto as he was called, was able to talk to the Pilgrims because he spoke English. When he was younger, he was forced by Spanish explorers to go to Spain with them. He was able to get free and travel to England, where he learned to speak English. He was then able to get back to his home country.





# THE WAMPANOAG

The Pilgrims did not yet know it at this point, but life was about to get much, much easier. Their lives would get easier, in part, because Squanto was not the only Wampanoag who helped them.



# THE WAMPANOAG

The Wampanoag sachem [/sae\*chƏm/], or chief, became a great and important friend to the colonists. The chief's name was

Massasoit [/mas\*Ə\*soit/]. *[Point to the Native American man in the picture.]*

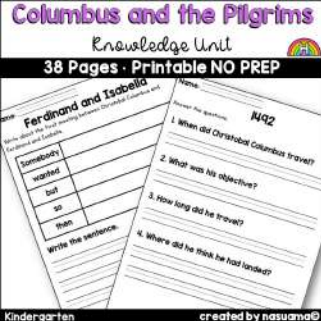
Massasoit gave the colonists his word that the Wampanoag tribe would gladly share their land as long as the colonists took care of it.

"We will teach you how to live in harmony with nature," he told them.

Being on friendly terms with the Wampanoag was very important to the Pilgrims' survival.

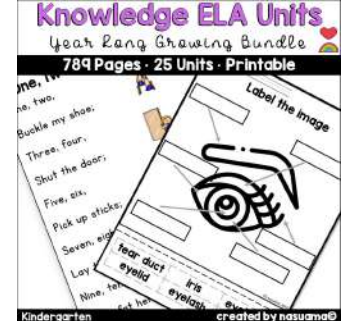
*Why do you think the Pilgrims' survival was dependent upon the Wampanoag tribe? In other words, why did the Pilgrims need the help of the Wampanoag Native Americans?*





# COLUMBUS AND THE PILGRIMS

BUNDLE



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Plymouth Rock

Draw a picture that represents something about the Pilgrims arriving at Plymouth Rock. Write a sentence about it.

\_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU NEED EXTRA ACTIVITIES?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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