

Life in Colonial America

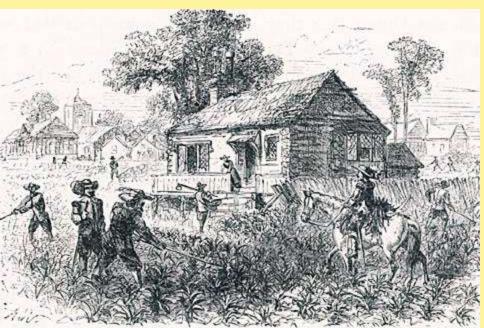
U.S. History Standard 8.1





The Colonies Grow

Agriculture, commerce, and trade grow
As the population of the colonies
increased







Commercial New England

- Large-scale farming was difficult due to the long winters and thin, rocky soil.
 Farmers grew just enough to meet their needs. This is called subsistence farming.
- Lumber from New England's forests provided timber for the booming shipbuilding industry
- Whaling and fishing gave resources to export



Colonial Trade

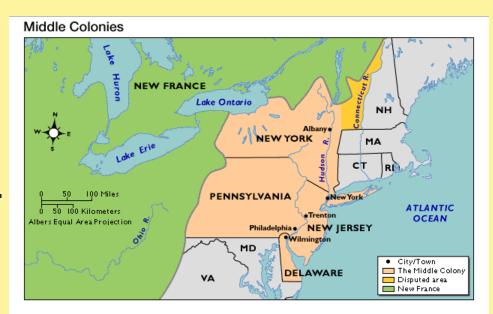
- The colonies became part of the triangular trade, the trade route that exchanged goods between the Colonies, Africa, and Europe.
- Sugar and molasses from the W. Indies
- Rum/raw materials from the colonies
- Manufactured goods from England
- Slaves from W. Africa





Growth of Middle Colonies

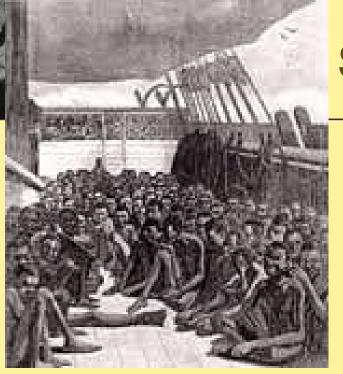
- Mild climate and fertile soil allowed for better farming conditions.
 Cash crops, such as wheat were sold in the colonies and overseas.
- Craft industries, lumbering, mining, and manufacturing develop.
- Middle colonies become more culturally diverse – German, Dutch, and Swedish settlers





Plantation Life in the South

- Rich soil and warm climate best suit the farming of cash crops – tobacco, rice, and indigo
- Indentured Servants (laborers who agreed to work for a period of time in exchange for passage to America) Were used to work the fields at first, then enslaved Africans
- Plantation owners, called Planters, though outnumbered by independent small farmers, controlled the economic and political life in the south.



Slavery in the South

- Between 1450 and 1850, over 12 million enslaved Africans were shipped along the Middle Passage, the middle leg of the three part voyage of the Triangular Trade
- Most slaves lived on plantations and worked under cruel and harsh conditions. Overseers, or bosses, were hired to keep slaves working hard



Controversy of Slavery

- Slavery existed on the basis of racial superiority. Many thought slavery was a "necessary evil;" that in order to prosper, slaves had to be used.
- There were opponents of slavery, for example, the Puritans and Quakers.
 Abolitionists would lead the fight against slavery in the years that followed.



The Great Awakening

- 1730's/1740's this religious revival breathed new life into Protestantism. Preachers like Jonathan Edwards focused on the power of personal religious experience
- Challenged the established authority
- Brought Christianity to the slaves

Led to greater religious and political freedom and

greatly united colonists





Education

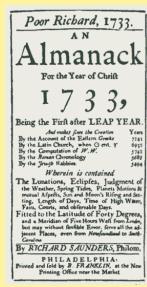
- 1647, Massachusetts, Puritans create public education
- Education was more widespread in the north than the south
- Education was tied to religion, colleges were created by churches
- Benjamin Franklin, a well-known scientist, spread the ideas of the Enlightenment, the idea that knowledge, reason, and science could improve society



The Press- the colonists read!

- Books, newspapers, and almanacs spread knowledge, increases literacy
- Almanacs contained information about times of sunset/sunrise, dates, calendars, farming, and other practical information

» Benjamin Franklin writesPoor Richard's Almanac





Colonial Government

British rule was still in effect, but the colonists were quickly developing ideals of self-government



In ye name of God Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyall subjects of our dread soveraigne Lord King James, by ye grace of God, of Great Britaine, firanc, & Irdand Hing, defender of ye faith, &c.

Baveing undertakten for ye glorie of God and advancemente of ye Christian faith and honour of our ting & countrie, a voyage to plant ye first colonie in ye Portherne parts of Virginia, doe by these presents solemnly & multiply in ye presence of God, and one of another, covenant, & combine ourselves together into a Civill body politickt; for our better ordering, & preservation & furtherance of ye ends aforesaid; and by vertue hereof to enacte, constitute and frame such just & equal Lawes, ordinances, Acts, constitutions & offices from time to time, as shall be thought most meete & convenient for ye generall good of ye colonie: unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witnes whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cap=Codd ye -11 - of Movember, in ye year of ye reigne of our soveraigne Lord King James of England, france & Ireland ye eighteenth, and of Scotland ye fiftie fourth. And Dom. 1620.

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Self-Government in America

- Colonies began as charter or proprietary colonies
 - Charter colonies had a grant of rights and privileges given by the English monarchs to stockholders
 - Proprietary colonies were owned by an individual (like the Duke of York) or small groups
 - Royal colonies were formed by the monarchs to directly control them. Rule was split between the colonists and the crown.
 - Governments were made up of a Governor, council, and assembly, selected by colonists.
 - Only white men who owned land had the right to vote



British Colonial Policies

- By the 1750's Great Britain was the most powerful trading empire in the world
- Britain allowed the colonies to run their own affairs, but controlled trade.
- 1650s, Britain passed the Navigation Acts
 - Colonies had to sell raw materials only to Britain. Goods bought by the colonies had to go to Britain first and be taxed. They also had to be carried on British ships and crews.



Colonial Resistance

- Colonists had come to resent British restrictions on trade.
- Colonists wanted to manufacture their own goods and wanted to sell them elsewhere.
- Colonists started to smuggle goods, which is to ship goods in and out of the country illegally.



French and Indian War

- Tension between colonists and Native Americans.
- 1675 King Philips War wiped out Native American life in New England colonies
- Native American groups ally with French and English sides.

- By mid 1700's France and Britain competing for land.
- Land in the backcountry disputed over- Ohio River Valley.
- 1753 War breaks out
- 1763- War ends-Britain defeats France.
- War costs Britain large amount of \$



Effects of French and Indian War

- Britain gained lands from the coast to Mississippi River and lands in Canada
- France retained New Orleans
- Changed the Balance of Power in North America
- Britain gained Florida from Spain

- Native American fight over the land led by Pontiac
- Britain doesn't want to fight another war
- King declares
 colonists can't settle
 in land west of
 Proclamation Line
- Taxes and proclamation anger colonists.



North America 1763

