

Creating an English *Colony* Activity

Names of group members: _____

Period: _____ **EVERYONE IN THE GROUP FILLS OUT THESE PAGES**

Activity Overview

With this project you will be using your knowledge of Europeans establishing early *New World colonies* to create your own English *colony*. In this scenario, you are one of the leading members of a *joint-stock company* that plans to finance a *colony* in the *New World*. You will be placing print advertisements around London about your venture and hope to have about 30 people reserve a spot on the voyage. However, you have some important decisions to make before starting your venture...

You will attempt to plan for every problem that might arise and prioritize the supplies you might need to build a *colony* in a strange, new and potentially dangerous land. This project is difficult because the actual planning of these *colonies* was difficult. Most *colonies* failed within a few years.

As a group, complete the following steps:

Step 1: EXPLAIN WHY YOU ARE STARTING A *COLONY* IN THE *NEW WORLD*. Describe the focus of your *colony* (religion, agriculture, searching for gold, etc.)? How will the *colony* make money and attract more *colonists* in the future? Explain your plan in some detail because specific information is the only way you will attract possible *colonists* to join you in this endeavor.

Step 2: WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO BUILD YOUR *COLONY*? Looking at a map of the English *empire* in the *New World* (the eastern coast of North America is the *empire* that England has claimed) select an area in this region where you think your *colony* would be most successful. Use an atlas to find detailed maps of this area.

DESCRIBE the location you have selected ('at the mouth of the Waltonish River or along the southern shore of Altonax Bay, etc.'). Provide TWO REASONS you specifically selected this location

1.

2.

LIST at least two (2) ways that the geography and / or climate of the region you have selected might impact your *colony*. **REMEMBER:** WHERE in the New World you live affects HOW you live!

1.

2.

LIST some of the *natural resources* that are available in the area you selected according to your map and your assumptions of what might be near this location.

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Step 3: WHAT'S IN A NAME? Come up with a school appropriate name for your *colony*.

Name of your colony _____

EXPLAIN why you named the *colony* what you did:

Step 4: WHO IS IN CHARGE AROUND HERE? Your group has received a *charter* from the King to settle this specific part of the English *empire* in the *New World*. You are indebted to his majesty for allowing you this opportunity – you owe him, big time! The King, to whom you are loyal and indebted, is thousands of miles away across an ocean, and even though he technically controls the colony, he can't make the daily decisions. With this in mind, describe type of government your *colony* will have. Who will be in charge? Who will make the daily decisions for the good of the group? The fate of your *colony* might hang in the balance based on this decision...

- The following person / people will make the decisions for our colony:
- This person / people gets their power and authority from...
- The consequences for not following the leader(s) will be...

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE five (5) laws your *colony* will have. **Don't make them silly rules.** Maintaining law and order in a distant land is serious stuff!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

EXPLAIN WHY these five laws were the most important for you to create when starting a *colony* far away from the authority of the king and your *mother country*.

Step 5: Create a brief print advertisement to recruit other people to join your expedition to start a *colony* in the *New World*. This should be LESS than 50 words long and fit in the space below.

Consider the following questions as you decide what to put in your advertisement: What types of *colonists* are you trying to attract and why? How do you plan on making money? What is great about your *colony* – what does it have to offer someone who is currently enjoying the safety and comfort of 'old' England?

RECRUITING SLOGAN / INFORMATION POSTED HERE



A large, empty, rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to write their recruiting slogan or information.

The New Colony: The “what” and the “who”

Directions: Your *joint stock company* has raised money to start a *colony*. You need supplies to make your *colony* successful. You have a limited amount to spend and must purchase enough supplies to last 30 people a full year, (two months at sea and 10 months in the new world). Your spending limit is **\$700** dollars.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost per item \$</u>	<u># Of item wanted</u>	<u>Total \$\$ spent</u>
Firearms (1)	10		
Ax (1)	3		
Horses (1)	25		
Pots (1)	2		
Pans (1)	2		
Cloth (4 bolts)	5		
Shovels (1)	3		
Fishing gear	6		
Plow (1)	10		
Seeds (wheat) 1 large bag	8		
Rope (50 yards)	2		
Stove (1)	15		
Saws/tools for building	12		
Bed (1)	8		
Dried food for 15 (three months)	12		
Nails – 1000 count	5		
Candles (25)	2		
Blanket (1)	3		
Cattle (1)	20		
Chicken (1)	10		
Fresh Water (2 months supply)	5		
Medicine (enough for 5 people)	20		

IMPORTANT QUESTION: Which month do you plan on leaving Europe for the *New World* and **EXPLAIN WHY** you choose that specific departure time. (2-3 months travel time)

You must also select people to join your expedition. Choose wisely and remember you can only pick 29 people from the list below (29 + you = 30). You can spend no more than **100** points on selecting your desired group.

<u>People</u>	<u>Point Value</u>	<u># Of people wanted</u>	<u>Total # Spent</u>
Doctor	15		
Soldier	10		
Farmer	5		
Blacksmith	8		
Translator	10		
Experienced leader	15		
Young (teenage) boy	2		
Church official	8		
“Gentleman” (wealthy man)	3		
Indentured servant	4		

BIG QUESTION: Do you notice a specific group of people that is missing from your pool of prospective *colonists*? Why might this group be excluded from consideration?

Pick a Site

Directions: After a long and difficult *transatlantic* crossing, you have arrived! Now you must pick a site to begin building your *colony*. There is no time to rest! Hopefully everyone survived and is relatively healthy...

<p>Site #1</p> <p>The first site is beautiful and well protected from enemies. Unfortunately it is also full of trees and very rocky, a hard place to farm.</p>	<p>Site #2</p> <p>The second site is also well protected from enemies. It is right next to a swampy river—a possible source of water, but can you stand the bugs?</p>
<p>Site #3</p> <p>This site is well placed with plenty of fresh water and wide open lands for farming. There is also a tribe of hostile Native Americans that live in the area.</p>	<p>Site #4</p> <p>The last site is on a small island just off the coast. It is protected from the natives, but not enemies like the Spanish. It is also very exposed during times of extreme weather.</p>

EXPLAIN which site you selected and why you selected the site that you did to build your *colony*.

Prioritize Your Tasks

Directions: How you spend your time is important. It could be the difference between life and death! Now that you know where you will settle, it's time to decide how to spend your time building up your *colony*. Below you will see a list of 10 tasks. Place these tasks in order of importance by labeling them 1-10. (**1** is the most important – top priority/has to happen, **10** is the least important – not a big deal is it doesn't get done right away)

- _____ Gather *natural resources* and supplies to build a fort
- _____ Start gathering *natural resources* to make money (for example, mine for gold)
- _____ Prepare for winter by storing fuel and food by hunting and gathering
- _____ Choose a leader to be in charge of your *colony*
- _____ Gather *natural resources* and supplies to build a church
- _____ Plant and raise *cash crops* (plants that are valuable) for trading
- _____ Explore the land to see what or who is around you
- _____ Write and enforce laws to govern your *colony*
- _____ Clear land, plow up the land and plant seeds to (hopefully) have food in a few months
- _____ Gather *natural resources* and supplies to build houses

EXPLAIN the reasons you choose to place #1, #2, and #3 at the top of your priority list.

FINAL TASK: EACH PERSON will create ONE of the following visuals to represent your North American *colony*: You will get specific directions for completing each from Mr. Kyle after you have made your choice.

- Create a colorful official **seal** that depicts important ideas/dates/symbols/slogans of your colony.
- Create an **advertisement** to convince others to join your colony. This will include various sized text (caption, body, details) as well as at least one image that captures the viewers' attention.
- Create a **map** of your colonial settlement detailing the location of the various buildings, defenses, farms, businesses, etc. found in your colony. This map should include a scale for relative accuracy.

