

COLLECTION



EUROPEAN COLONIZATION OF NORTH AMERICA

European colonization of North America expanded through Spanish colonists establishing themselves in present-day Florida in the 1500s and English colonists doing so farther up the East Coast in the 1600s. North America's Indigenous peoples preserved their cultures and dignity through this period, despite facing violent dispossession by the colonists; enslaved Africans did as well, amid the horrors of their forced transportation to North America and inhumane treatment by their enslavers.

GRADES

All

SUBJECTS

Social Studies, U.S. History, Geography, Human Geography

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HISTORIC ARTICLE

Treaty of Tordesillas

Geography, Social Studies, World History

On June 7, 1494, the governments of Spain and Portugal agreed to the Treaty of Tordesillas, which divided their spheres of influence in the "New World" of the Americas.

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ARTICLE

North America: Human Geography

Geography, Human Geography, Social Studies, Economics, World History

North America's human landscape closely mirrors that of its physical environment: varied, rich, and constantly changing.

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MAP

John Smith's Exploration Routes in the Chesapeake Bay

Geography, Human Geography

This map was created by National Geographic, for the book *Voices from Colonial America: Maryland, 1643-1776*, to demonstrate what this area was like before John Smith's voyages as well as the routes of his voyage. Until John Smith's exploratory voyages of the Chesapeake Bay in 1608 and 1609...

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MAP

John Smith Map of 1612

Geography, Human Geography, Physical Geography

Starting in 1607, Captain John Smith set about exploring and describing the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. This map, published in 1612, would become the primary cartographic resource on the region for nearly seven decades.

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MAP

North America in 1800

Geography

European colonial powers in North America

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MAP

Colonies in Connecticut in the 1640s

Geography, Social Studies

Map of Connecticut and the New England Colonies

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MAP

Growth of Colonial Settlement

Geography, Social Studies

Map of early settlement on the eastern coast of the U.S.

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MAP

Delaware as Part of New Sweden

Geography, Social Studies

Map of the Middle Colonies in 1638

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LEVELED

Motivations for Colonization

Geography, Human Geography, Physical Geography, Religion, Social Studies, Economics, U.S. History, World History

Britain, France, Spain, and the Netherlands established colonies in North America. Each country had different motivations for colonization and expectations about the potential benefits.

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ENCYCLOPEDIC ENTRY

New England Native American Groups

People lived in the area called New England long before the first Europeans arrived. The lives of these Native Americans—part of the Algonquian language group—would be forever changed by the arrival of English colonists.

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ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY

Southeast Native American Groups

Native Americans called the land of the southeast their home for thousands of years before European colonization. The settlement of the Carolinas brought about a drastic change to their lives.

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