

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Studies 7-

## THE COLONIZATION OF NORTH AMERICA, 1587-1750

“If England possesses these places in America, Her Majesty will have good harbors, plenty of excellent trees for masts, good timber to build ships...all things needed for a royal navy, and all for no price... We shall stop the Spanish king from flowing over all the face...of America.” These words, written in 1584 by Richard Hakluyt, were an attempt to convince Queen Elizabeth I of England to set up colonies in North America in order to match the great empire that its rival, Spain, had already begun building. Beginning with Roanoke in 1587, Great Britain set out to dominate the North American continent just as the Spanish had done in South America. During this unit we will study the religious upheaval in Europe caused by the Protestant Reformation, how it changed the political landscape in Europe, and how this ultimately led to the creation of England’s 13 colonies in North America.

Together we will examine the issues of religious and political freedom, and how these issues were the driving force behind the colonization of North America. At the end of this unit you will be able to explain the reasons why people emigrated to North America, as well as how their experiences in their home countries help to shape their way of life on the “new” continent. A more detailed outline follows.

### **Building the Jamestown Colony**

What challenges did the first English colonies in North America face?  
How did Virginia begin a tradition of representative government?  
What groups of people made up the new arrivals in Virginia after 1619?

### **Seeking Religious Freedom**

How did European states control or regulate religion?  
Why did the colonists at Plymouth feel they needed the Mayflower Compact?  
How were the Pilgrims able to survive early hardships?

### **The New England Colonies**

Why did the Puritans decide to leave England?  
What problems in Massachusetts colony caused people to leave?  
Why were the Puritans and Native Americans at war?

### **The Middle Colonies**

Why did the colony of New Netherland become the colony of New York?  
How was Pennsylvania founded?  
What was life like in the Middle Colonies?  
What peoples settled in the Middle Colonies?

### **The Southern Colonies**

Why was Maryland important to Catholics?  
How were the Carolinas and Georgia founded?

### **Roots of Self Government**

Why did England want to regulate colonial trade?  
What were colonial governments like?  
How were the liberties of the colonists limited?

### **Life in the Colonies**

What class differences existed in colonial society?  
How did the Great Awakening affect the colonies?

