



LESSON 2.1.3 | WATCH | Crash Course US History #2 Colonizing America

PURPOSE

In this video, you learn about early English colonies in the New World by examining the hardships faced and the colonists' relationships with native peoples. The video will also discuss the reasons for settling in these areas and why colonists felt called (or brought) to do so.

LINK

- [Crash Course US History #2 Colonizing America](#)

Watch the video on your own time, either at home, on your phone, or in the library.

PREVIEW

In which John Green teaches you about the (English) colonies in what is now the United States. He covers the first permanent English colony at Jamestown, Virginia, the various theocracies in Massachusetts, the feudal kingdom in Maryland, and even a bit about the spooky lost colony at Roanoke Island. What were the English doing in America, anyway? Lots of stuff. In Virginia, the colonists were largely there to make money. In Maryland, the idea was to create a colony for Catholics who wanted to be serfs of the Lords Baltimore. In Massachusetts, the Pilgrims and Puritans came to America to find a place where they could freely persecute those who didn't share their beliefs. Profits were thin at first, and so were the colonists. Trouble growing food and trouble with the natives kept the early colonies from

success. Before long though, the colonists started cultivating tobacco, which was a win for everyone involved (if you ignore the lung cancer angle).

PROCESS

As with all of the videos in the course, watch the video before class. Remember that of John speaks quickly, so we'll play the video with captions, and it can be paused and rewinded when necessary. As you watch the video, begin to consider the hardships faced of those who struck out for economic opportunity in the New World and to also consider the perpetuated myth of why America was founded. What early inequalities are present at the time of colonizing the continent that might carry over to present day inequalities?



NAME _____

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LESSON 2.1.3 | WATCH | Key Ideas – Factual

Think about the following questions as you watch the video.

1. Where and when was the first successful English colony in North America?
2. Why did early settlement projects by the Virginia Company struggle to establish and flourish?
3. What was the Virginia Company's solution to dwindling populations in early settlements?
4. Who were indentured servants?
5. What product(s) helped Jamestown succeed as a colony?
6. How was 17th Century Virginia much like England?



7. What are two other examples of early colonies in North America?

8. How did Massachusetts Bay colony differ from Virginia?

9. How is the “City Upon a Hill” metaphor a basis of American exceptionalism?

10. Why is the story of America being founded by pioneers of religious freedom who sought liberty from the oppressive English a myth?

LESSON 2.1.3 | WATCH | Conceptual Thinking

Answer the following question to make connections across different concepts and think more critically about the information presented in the video.

1. At the end of the video, John discusses inequality in the colonies and quotes two passages, stating:

As John Winthrop declared, “Some must be rich and some poor, some high and eminent in power and dignity, others mean and in subjection.” Or as historian Eric Foner put it, “Inequality was considered an expression of God’s will and while some liberties applied to all inhabitants, there were separate lists of rights for freeman, women, children, and servants.”

Examine these quotes with regard to life in America as you know it today.