

Chapter 4

Building the First Colonies

LESSON 1

THE SPANISH COLONIES

NEW SPAIN

- By the 1500s, several European nations, including Spain, had sent explorers to claim land in the Americas.
- After claiming the lands, these explorers moved on.
- No one stayed behind to protect the claims.

COMPETING CLAIMS

- The European countries were competing with each other to win control of as much of the Americas as possible.
- Native Americans already lived in most places the explorers claimed.
- Spain learned that claiming land isn't the same as controlling.
- Spain formed colonies to protect its lands and to govern the people there.
- Colony-land ruled by other country.
- New Spain also included many islands in the Caribbean Sea and the Spanish lands north of what is now Panama.

COMPETING CLAIMS



Slavery in the Americas

- ▶ At first, very few Europeans settled in the Americas, but more came after gold and silver were found.
- ▶ Some came to start plantations: large farms
- ▶ By 1550, almost 100,000 Spanish colonists spread across the Americas

The Growth of Slavery

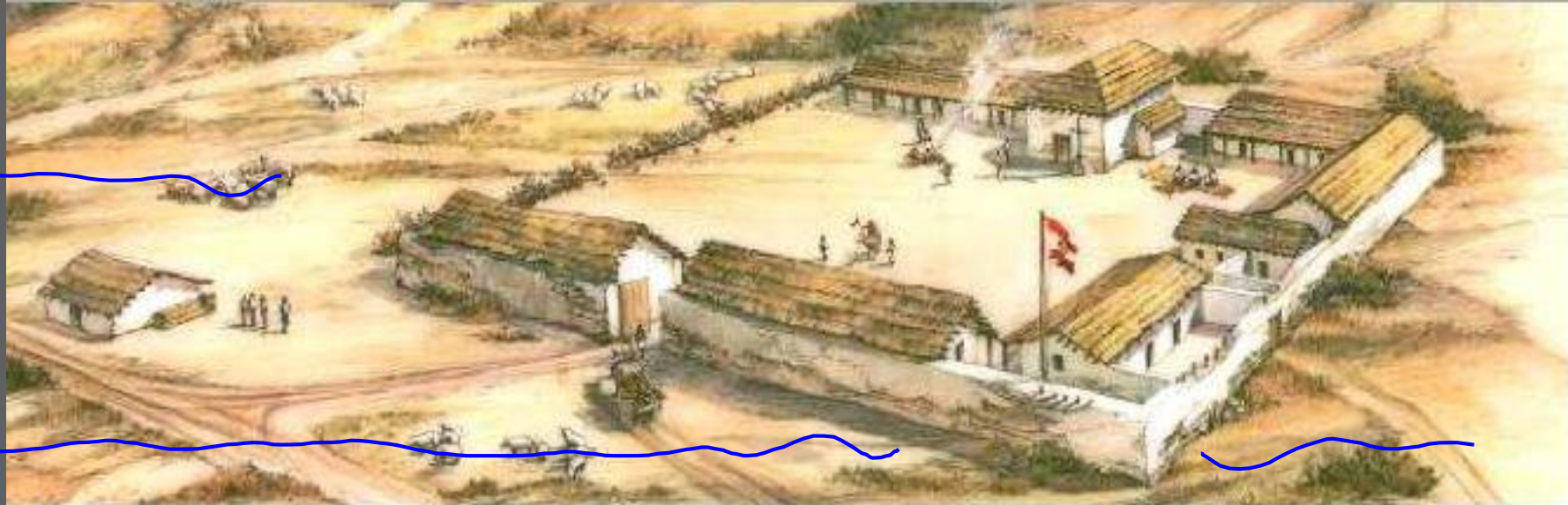
- ▶ Slavery: the practice of holding people against their will and making them work without pay.
- ▶ The Spanish and Portuguese forced the Native Americans they had conquered into slavery, because they needed workers to grow crops and mine gold and silver.
- ▶ Many of the Native Americans died from hunger and the hard labor they did, and even more died from diseases.
- ▶ Some colonists became concerned about how Native Americans were being treated.

Setting the Borderlands

- ▶ Spain wanted to also protect its lands north of Mexico City.
- ▶ Borderlands: the areas on the edge of Spain's claims
- ▶ The borderlands included parts of what are today northern Mexico and the southern United States.

St. Augustine and Sante Fe

- ▶ As Spanish soldiers led the way, they built presidios in the borderlands.
- ▶ Presidios: forts
- ▶ In 1565, Pedro Menendez de Aviles and 1500 soldiers, sailors and settlers sailed from Spain.
- ▶ They built a permanent, or long lasting, European settlement in what is now St. Augustine, Florida. It was the first permanent European settlement is what is now the United States



Spanish soldiers built **forts** or **presidios** in the **borderlands**. When the Spaniards established a settlement, soldiers built a presidio or fort. The presidio began as a wooden or **stockade fence** where the settlers could have **protection** from attack. Later they built **stone walls** around the wooden fort.

- ▶ Spain's main goal was to protect its empire.
- ▶ The Spanish king chose leaders to govern each new settlement, the settlers did not have the right to elect their own leaders.
- ▶ The king also sent missionaries to convert Native Americans to Christianity.
- ▶ They built missions: religious settlements
- ▶ In 1610, Spanish missionaries helped settle Sante Fe.

Map Ave →



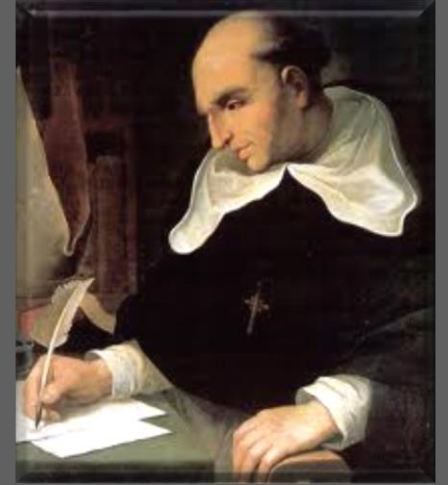
LIFE IN THE BORDERLANDS

- At first, some Native Americans chose to stay at the missions.
- Many Native Americans were forced to work on mission farms and ranches.
- Some fought back, tearing down churches and other mission buildings.
- Some built large homes or estates called haciendas, where they often raised cattle and sheep.
- The Spanish-and the animals they brought with- changed life for many Native Americans.
- Some Native American tribes learned to tame horses for use in hunting and in war.
- Some learned to raise sheep and to use their wool to make clothing

LIFE IN THE BORDERLANDS



- ▶ One such man was **Bartolome de Las Casas**.
- ▶ He was a landowner who later became a priest.
- ▶ He freed his slaves and spoke out in favor of better treatment Native Americans.
- ▶ As the Native Americans die, the colonists need new workers.
- ▶ They purchases Africans who had been taken from their families and sold into slavery.
- ▶ Many of these people were taken to Brazil of the Caribbean Islands



Lesson 2

The Virginia Colony

ENGLAND ATTEMPTS A COLONY

- England's rulers wanted colonies in the Americas.
- raw material – resource that can be used to make a product.

The Lost Colony

- John White led a group of settlers to the colonies. When he returned after getting supplies in England – the settlers had vanished.

The Virginia Company

- English merchants started a colony with King James I approval.
- For the money the merchants paid to start the company, each owner received stock in the company
- stock – part ownership in a business



■ Claimed by Virginia

■ Virginia Colony, 1607

Tobacco plantations in the Virginia Colony continued to grow. The plantations were **very profitable**. Large plantations required more and more workers.

JAMESTOWN

- Funded by the Virginia & founded in 1607

- England's First Permanent Colony
 - Jamestown had swampy land which was not good for farming
 - Most came to find gold and get rich
 - None bothered to plant or gather food
 - More than half died the first year
 - John Smith became the a leader
 - His rule was anyone who did not work, did not eat.
 - Soon colonists were planting crops and building forts.
- The Powhatan
 - Most Native Americans living in Virginia belonged to Powhatan Confederacy
 - Powhatans and colonists had trouble from the start.
 - Started out as colonists stealing crops from the tribe
 - Pocahontas brought peace between the groups.

JAMESTOWN



Growth and Government

- Jamestown prospered by growing tobacco as a cash crop
 - Cash crop- a crop that people grow to sell
- The Virginia Company sold tobacco all over Europe and mad huge profits
 - Profit- the money left over after all costs have been paid.

Newcomers Arrive

- Growing tobacco required many workers
- The Virginia Company had indentured servants and enslaved Africans
 - Indentured servants were freed after 4-7 years
 - African slaves were rarely freed

The House of Burgesses

- By 1619, the Virginia Colony had more than 1,000 people
- Colonists chose to set up a legislature to keep order
 - Legislature- law making branch of the government
- The House of Burgesses met in 1619
- Only men who owned property could become members and vote.



THE POWHATAN WARS

- Colonists came to Virginia and took over Powhatan land which started war in 1622.
- Resulted in years of fighting leading King James to make Virginia a royal colony
- King James made Virginia a royal colony, which meant the king owned it.
- A governor ran the colony and shared power with the House of Burgesses.

POCAHONTAS

- Pocahontas means “Playful One” in Algonquian language.
- In 1607, the Powhatan tribe captured John Smith but Pocahontas kept him from being harmed.
- Pocahontas’s friendship with the settlers brought peace between her people and the English.
- This cooperation didn’t last and Pocahontas was kidnapped in hopes that her father would pay for her freedom.
- In 1614, she married John Rolfe and in 1616, Pocahontas, Rolfe, and their son Thomas, went to England.
- On the way home to Virginia, Pocahontas died at the age of 22.

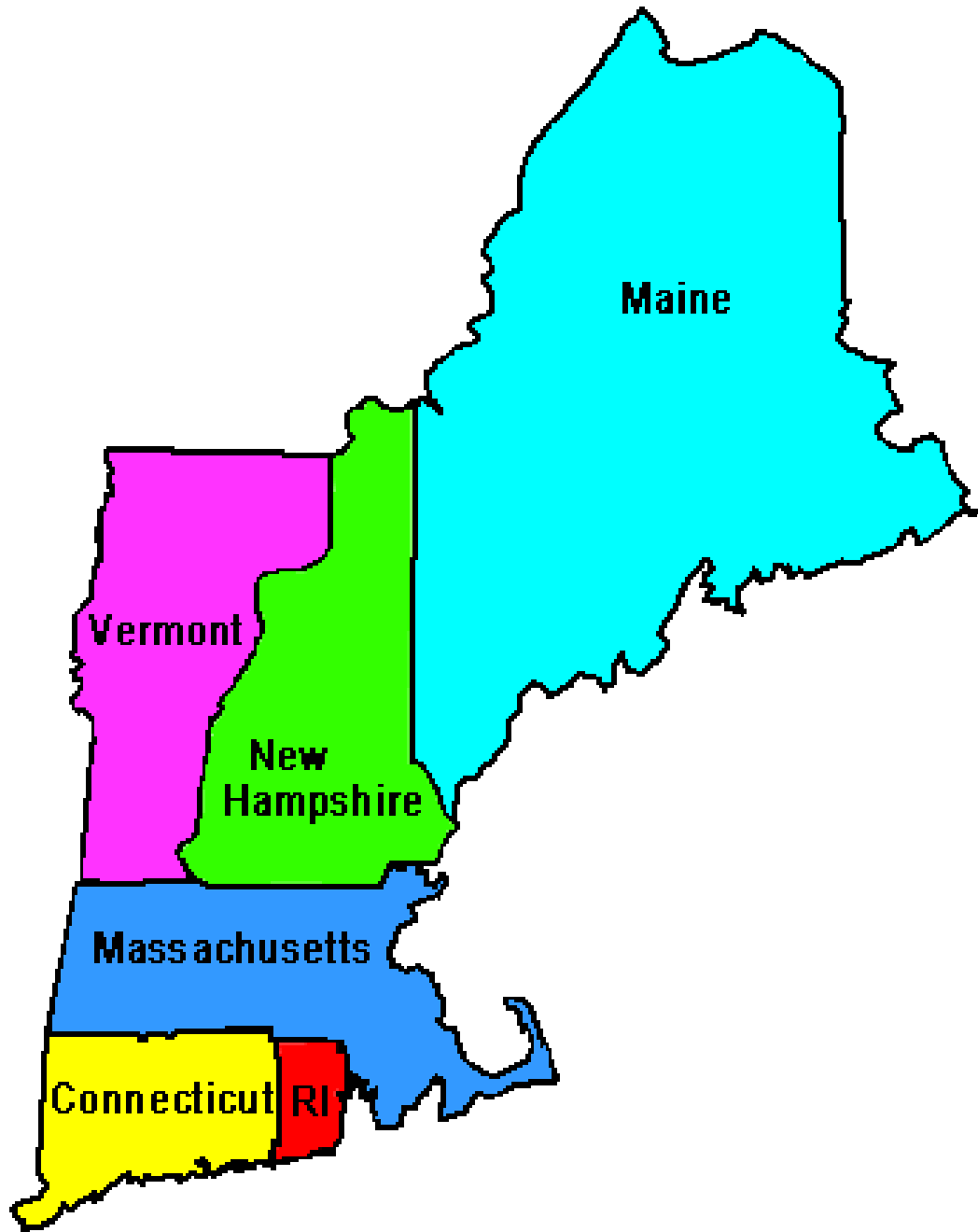


LESSON 3

THE PLYMOUTH COLONY

THE PILGRIMS' JOURNEY

- John Smith left Jamestown and in 1614 explored north along the Atlantic coast.
- He named the region New England and wrote a book called A Description of New England.
- Today the region includes six states—Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.



Captain John Smith

SEEKING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

- One group of English people had moved to the Netherlands, hoping to find their own religious beliefs.
- They became known as pilgrims- a person who makes a journey for religious reasons.
- Though the pilgrims now had religious freedom, they did not like the Dutch way of life.
- The Virginia Company agreed to pay the Pilgrims' passage to North America. They would repay them with lumber and furs from their new land.
- In September 1620, they left from England on a ship called the Mayflower.



SEEKING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT

SELF-GOVERNMENT

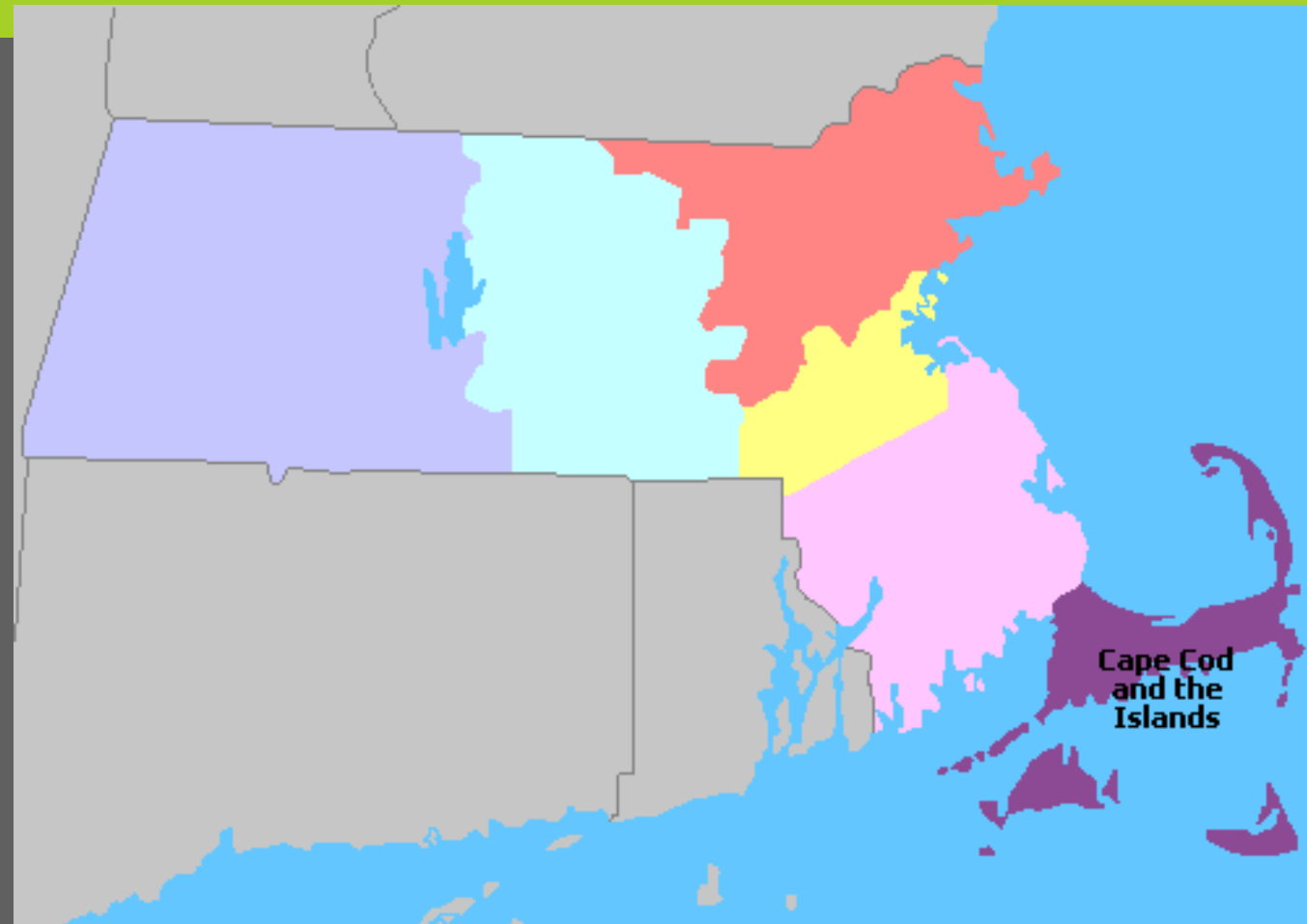
- The Mayflower was headed towards Virginia, but storms blew the ship off course. The Mayflower landed at Cape Cod, in what is now Massachusetts.
- To keep order on the ship, all the men aboard the Mayflower signed a compact, or agreement.
- It became known as the Mayflower Compact, and it was agreed that fair laws would be made for the good of the colony.
- At a time when monarchs ruled, self-government was a very new idea.
- The Mayflower Compact also included the idea of majority rule, making it if more than half the people agreed to a law or decision, everyone had to follow it.
- The settlers found a place to settle, and John Smith had named the place Plymouth.
- William Bradford was one of Plymouth's early governors.

Massachusetts Bay Colony and Plymouth Colony 1630



THE MAYFLOW COMPACT

SELF-GOVERNMENT



BUILDING A COLONY

HELP FROM NATIVE AMERICANS

- The first winter were tough for the settlers, 50 of the 102 settlers had died.
- Samoset came to Plymouth, and later returned back with Tisquantum, or Squanto, as the English called him.
- Samoset being an Abenaki Native American, and Tisquantum being a member of the Wampanoag tribe.
- Tisquantum showed the Pilgrims where to fish and how to plant squash, corn, and pumpkins.
- Both groups were able to benefit from each other.
- The Native Americans were able to trade furs for items such as metal goods and cloth.

PLYMOUTH GROWS

- When the Plymouth colonists first arrived, there was hardly any food, so colony leaders divided the harvest equally among everyone.
- In 1623, the leaders divided the land among the colonists, which led to people working harder.
- The Plymouth colonists then began to prosper from their farming, fishing, and fur trading.
- In 1630, there were only about 300 colonists
- After 1630, some English colonists started to settle in different areas of New England.
- Many of the new colonists were not nice to the Native Americans and started to settle on their land and more fights started to break out between the two groups, which eventually led to the end of trading between them.
- William Bradford once helped make peace between the local tribes. He later helped a war to push many of the Native Americans out of New England.
- As the homelands grew smaller, tribes fought with each other for control of hunting grounds.

SUMMARY:

- The Pilgrims founded Plymouth Colony for religious freedom and governed themselves there.
- The colonists prospered with the help of Native American groups in the area, but later the two sides stopped cooperating.

LESSON 4

The French and the Dutch

NEW FRANCE

- While Spain and England were building colonies in North America, France was also claiming land in what are today Canada and the northeastern United States.
- French claims to this land, which became known as New France, began with Jacques Cartier, who explored the St Lawrence River in the early 1500s.
- The French king wanted to add to his country's power, so he pushed merchants to start colonies in North America.

CHAMPLAIN FOUNDS QUEBEC

- In time, a group of merchants hired Samuel de Champlain to find a place to build a settlement.
- In 1608, Champlain founded Quebec along the St. Lawrence River.
 - Quebec was the first French settlement in North America.
- In the 1630s, French Catholic missionaries began arriving in France. The aim of these missionaries was to convert the Native Americans to the Catholic religion.
- Some French fur traders lived with Native Americans and learned their languages and ways of life.

CHAMPLAIN FOUNDS QUEBEC

- Unlike the Spanish and English colonies, New France grew slowly.
- Most French people were not interested in moving to North America.
- In the 1600s, the French built two main settlements—Quebec and Montreal.
- By 1625, the population had grown to only about 60 people

NEW NETHERLANDS

- Not long after English started colonies in North America, the Dutch began to settle their own colony. This was called New Netherland.
- They built settlements along the Hudson River, and what are now New Jersey, and New York.

THE DUTCH FUR TRADE

- Demand, or desire
- Supply- the amount of a good that is offered for sale.
- Dutch set up a colony in order to make profits from fur.
- Peter Minuit- governor of New Netherlands, 1626
- New Amsterdam- settlement built in 1626.
- New Amsterdam was good for trade since it was built on a river.

NEW SWEDEN AND MORE CONFLICTS

- New Sweden- settlers founded in 1638.
- South of New Netherland
- Dutch colonist and the Algonquian who lived nearby had strong fur-trading relationships.
- Conflict grows in late 1630's
- Farmers and Native Americans attacked each other because farmers cleared land.
- Colonists sent Army to destroy Native Tribes.
- In 1645, after many Native Americans and Colonists died, the two sides signed a peace treaty.
- By then the Algonquian of New Netherland had been nearly wiped out.

EXPLORING NEW FRANCE

- When English and Dutch began to move into parts of New France they began fighting over the fur trade
- Native Americans also fought with each other
- Both the Huron and the Iroquois tribes wanted to control the land
- The Huron's were allies- or partners with the French, while the Iroquois were partners with the Dutch and English
- The fighting between the groups nearly destroyed the Huron population and the French fur trade

MARQUETTE AND JOLIET

- When the new king, Louis XIV, did not want to lose France's North American lands he made New France a royal colony to protect it.
- Then he sent out more explorers to find a river that was west of Quebec called the "Mississippi", meaning "Father of the Waters"
- King Louis hoped that the Mississippi would prove to be the Northwest Passage.
- In 1763, a small group led by catholic missionary, James Marquette and fur trader Louis Joliet, set out to find the Mississippi.
- With help from the Native Americans they found the Mississippi.
- However because the river kept taking them South, they knew it was not the Northwest Passage.
- They floated down the river to present day-state of Mississippi where they met some Native Americans who told them that the Europeans had lived farther South.

FOUNDING LOUISIANA

- French explorer Rene-Robert Cavelier, also known as Sieur de la Salle, set out to find the mouth of the Mississippi River.
- In 1682, La Salle led an expedition that traveled south from the Illinois River.
- During the difficult trip, a member of the expedition wrote that after running out of food, they were “living only on potatoes and alligator”
- After two months the explorers reached the mouth of the Mississippi, at the Gulf of Mexico.
- La Salle claimed all of the Mississippi River valley for France.
- He named the region Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV
- In 1684, La Salle tried to start a settlement near the mouth of the Mississippi River.

LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS

- In 1712, Louisiana was made a Proprietary colony by the French king.
- This meant that he gave the whole colony to one person, who would own it.
- In 1722, a Scottish baker, John Law became the owner of Louisiana and started a company to build plantations and towns.
- New Orleans was one of the colony's first towns and later became Louisiana's capital.
- Many plantation owners bought in enslaved Africans to do the work.
- Like the rest of New France, Louisiana failed to attract many people. By 1763, there were only 80,000 French colonists living in North America.

SUMMARY

- By the 1600's in North America, French and Dutch settlements both began to arrive.
- There was disagreement over the control of fur trade.
- Both the French and the Dutch had trouble bringing settlers to North America, so the population of their colonies remained low