

TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

Grade 3-4

Unit Summary:

This unit will have students learn about two of the earliest English colonies in the New World. They will compare the history of the two colonies and come to conclusions about why one survived and the other did not.

Goal:

The students will compare the Jamestown and Popham colonies to see why and how one survived.

Objectives:

The student will:

1. locate both colonies and describe their locations
2. gain basic knowledge of the history of both colonies
3. understand the people involved and their roles in the community
4. learn about the relationship of the colonists to the native peoples
5. learn the factors important to the survival of these colonies
6. learn the reasons why they came

Learning Results:

Social Studies

History/Chronology

A2 Place in chronological order, significant events, groups, and people in the history of Maine.

History/Historical Knowledge

B2 Demonstrate an awareness of major events and people in United States and Maine history.

Geography/Skills and Tools

A2 Construct and compare maps of Maine...to interpret geographical features and draw conclusions about physical patterns.

Geography/Human Interaction

B2 Explain ways in which communities reflect the backgrounds of their inhabitants.

B3 Use a variety of materials and geographic tools to explain how the physical environment supports and constrains human activities.

Economics/Personal and Consumer

A1 Describe barter and money and how each is used in the exchange of resources, goods, and services.

Economics/Economic Systems.

B1 Identify the three basic economic questions all economic systems must answer: what to produce? how? and for whom?

Economics/International Trade

D1 Describe, with examples, how the exchange of goods and services helps to create economic interdependence between people in different places and countries

Activities:

Map activities

World map:

locate ME and VA

identify the hemisphere

locate equator and relative position and compare weather

State maps:

locate towns

why are they located where they were

Detail area maps:

compare and contrast the two locations in terms of geography

Research activities:

Students read "The Popham Colony" and an elementary level book on Jamestown for historical overviews

a. Jigsaw the information

b. Make timelines

Discussion:

Topic: Why do you think one succeeded and one failed

Topics for small group consideration:

location objectives

climate timing

resources native peoples

members of colony leadership

Use graphic organizer or poster to summarize students' ideas

Students (or teacher) follow-up with more detailed information using primary sources, e-mail (ask the experts), web sites, etc.

Culminating activities:

Take an elementary level book on Jamestown. Each student (or pair) create a companion page about Popham.

Design a booklet called "Tips for Colonizers" based on what they have learned

Assessment:

Student will create a poster that compares Jamestown and Popham

Rubric for poster:

Elements to consider: clear, accurate information
attention to mechanical details
creativity/presentation

Scoring:

Exceeds the standard: 8 or more of the topics addressed

Meets the standard: 6 or 7

Partially meets: 4 or 5

Does not meet: below 4