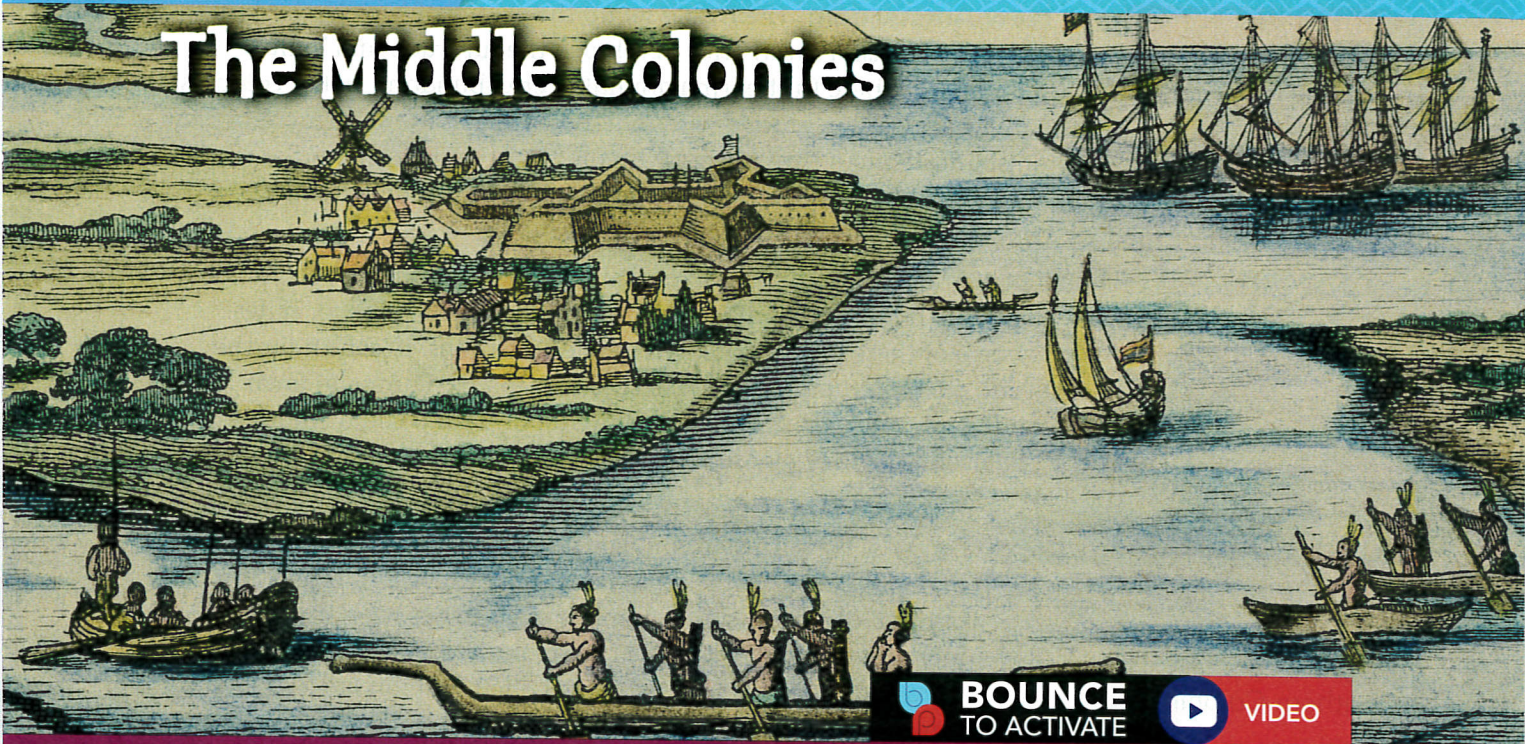


LESSON 4

The Middle Colonies



GET READY TO READ

START UP

This engraving shows New Amsterdam in the 1660s, which later became New York City. What would a picture of the same area look like today?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What were the reasons the colonies of New York and New Jersey were established?
- Why were the colonies of Pennsylvania and Delaware established?
- How would you describe the economy of the Middle Colonies, and what was the relationship between the economy and the physical environment?

TAKE NOTES

Literacy Skills: Analyze Text Structure

Use the graphic organizer in your Active Journal to take notes as you read the lesson.

PRACTICE VOCABULARY

Use the vocabulary activity in your Active Journal to practice the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

proprietary colony
royal colony

Quaker
Pennsylvania Dutch
cash crop

Academic Vocabulary

haven
commoner

By 1700, England had four colonies in the region just south of New England. These colonies became known as the Middle Colonies because they were located between New England and the Southern Colonies. The Middle Colonies had a greater mix of people than either New England or the Southern Colonies.

Why Did the Dutch Colony Become English?

Each of the colonies along the Atlantic coast had been established by different people for different purposes. Sometimes colonies were formed to escape political oppression or social tensions back home in Europe.

In the case of New Netherland, however, the conditions back home for the Dutch were stable and fairly prosperous. New Netherland was founded simply to take advantage of economic opportunities in North America.



INTERACTIVE

The Middle Colonies

New Amsterdam The Dutch set up the colony of New Netherland along the Hudson River. They developed the fur trade and built settlements where fur-bearing animals were abundant. In the colony's early years, settlers traded with Indians and built the settlement of New Amsterdam into a thriving port. Located near good farmland and with a safe harbor for ships, New Amsterdam quickly became a center for commerce and trading valuable beaver skins.

Dutch officials also promoted agriculture. They granted large parcels of land to a few rich families. A single grant could stretch for miles. Owners of these huge estates were called patroons. In return for the grant, each patroon promised to settle at least 50 European farm families on the land. Patroons had great power and could charge whatever rents they pleased.

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

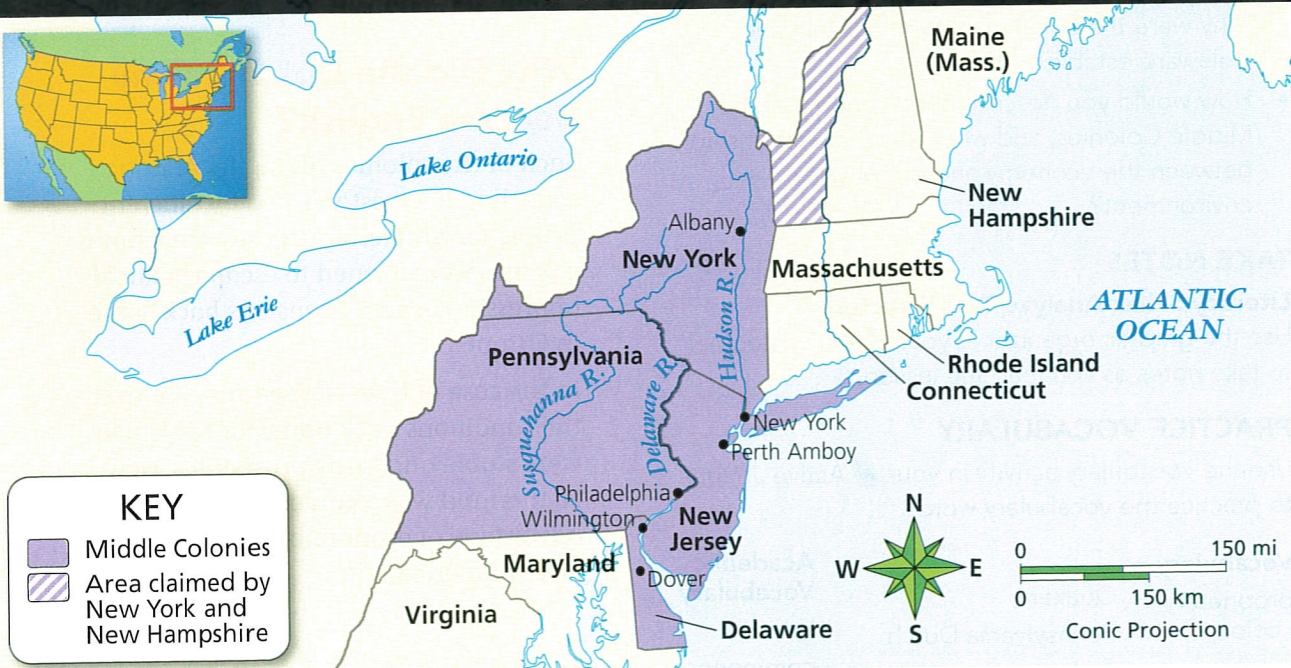
The Middle Colonies lay between the New England Colonies and the Southern Colonies.

- Place** What colonies bordered New Jersey?
- Draw Conclusions** What geographic features of the Middle Colonies suggest that they were well placed for trade?

England Gains Control Many settlers lived in the trading center of New Amsterdam, which by 1664 had a population of about 1,500 people. They came from all over Europe. Most of them came for the economic opportunities, working as merchants or farmers, or in trades and crafts. Many were also attracted by the chance to practice their religion freely. African slaves were in demand as well. In the early years, they made up more than a quarter of the population of the town.

Dutch colonists were mainly Protestants who belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church. Still, they permitted members of other religions and ethnic groups—including Roman Catholics, French Protestants, and Jews—to buy land. "People do not seem concerned what religion their neighbor is" wrote a shocked visitor from Virginia. "Indeed, they do not seem to care if he has any religion at all."

Middle Colonies



In fact, Peter Stuyvesant (STY vuh sunt), the governor of New Netherland, had been ordered not to interfere with other religions as long as they did not disturb the peace or restrict commerce.

The relationship between the English and the Dutch was complicated by their common interest in creating new colonies and expanding trade. In North America, the Dutch wanted to continue benefiting from New Amsterdam's economic growth. However, the English wanted New Amsterdam for themselves.

By 1664, the rivalry between England and the Netherlands for trade and colonies was at its height. In August of that year, English warships entered New Amsterdam's harbor. Governor Stuyvesant swore to defend the city. However, he had few weapons and little gunpowder. Also, Stuyvesant had made himself so unpopular with his harsh rule and heavy taxes that the colonists refused to help him. In the end, he surrendered without firing a shot.

King Charles II of England then gave New Netherland to his brother, the Duke of York. He renamed the colony New York in the duke's honor.

 **READING CHECK** Identify Cause and Effect Why did many people come to New Amsterdam?

New Jersey Forms Out of New York

At the time of the English takeover, New York stretched as far south as the Delaware Bay. The Duke of York decided that the colony was too big to govern easily. He gave some of the land to friends, Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. They set up a proprietary (proh PRY uh tehr ee) colony, which they called New Jersey, in 1664.

A Proprietary Colony and a Market Economy In setting up a **proprietary colony**, the king gave land to one or more people in return for a yearly payment. These proprietors were free to divide the land and rent it to others. They made laws for the colony, but had to respect the rights of colonists under English law. This new system of colonization was different from most that had come before. Proprietary colonies placed vast lands and power in the hands of a few men loyal to the monarch. Earlier colonies had been financed by stock companies made up of a number of investors.

Like New York, New Jersey had fertile farmland and other resources that attracted people from many lands. Thousands of European settlers immigrated to New Jersey as a **haven** from war and poverty. Settlers came from Finland, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, and Sweden. English and Dutch settlers also moved there from New York.



Analyze Images This statue of Peter Stuyvesant stands in Stuyvesant Park in Manhattan. **Identify Implied Main Ideas** Why was Stuyvesant ordered to observe a policy of religious tolerance?

Academic Vocabulary
haven • *n.*, a place where people are protected from danger and trouble



Analyze Images New Jersey's fertile farmland attracted many colonists.

Compare and Contrast
How was farming in New Jersey different from farming in New England?

Academic Vocabulary

commoner • *n.*, a regular or average person

In addition, some New England colonists, hoping to find better farmland, chose to relocate to New Jersey.

The proprietors of New Jersey encouraged the free enterprise system, which meant that government played a limited role in the economy. The free enterprise system benefited colonists. They could farm or run businesses without much control by the local government. Facing financial losses themselves, however, the proprietors eventually returned the colony of New Jersey to the English crown.

A Royal Colony In 1702, New Jersey became a **royal colony**, which is a colony under the direct control of the English king or queen. The colony's royal charter protected religious freedom and the rights of an assembly that voted on local matters. This charter could be viewed as a legal agreement between the monarch and settlers, binding to both.

Despite these moves toward democracy, direct English rule tended to be harsh toward colonists. New Jersey's independent-minded settlers struggled to gain more influence over decisions that affected them.

READING CHECK **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think the system in which government stays out of the way to let people run business with little control is called the free enterprise system?

How Did Pennsylvania Become a Colony?

West of New Jersey, William Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania in 1681. Penn came from a wealthy English family and was a personal friend of King Charles II. At age 22, however, Penn shocked family and friends by joining the **Quakers**, one of the most despised religious groups in England.

The Quakers Seek Religious Freedom Like Pilgrims and Puritans, Quakers were Protestant reformers. Their reforms went further than those of other groups, however.

Quakers believed that all people—men and women, nobles and **commoners**—were equal in God's sight. They allowed women to preach in public and refused to bow or remove their hats in the presence of nobles. Quakers spoke out against all war and refused to serve in the army.

To most English people, Quaker beliefs seemed wicked. In both England and New England, Quakers were arrested, fined, or even hanged for their ideas. Penn became convinced that the Quakers must leave England. He took steps to found a new colony. Together with others, Penn purchased parts of New Jersey from their proprietors. Then he turned to the king for help.

Charles II issued a royal charter naming Penn proprietor of a large tract of land in North America. The king named the new colony Pennsylvania, or Penn's woodlands. During his time as proprietor, Penn took steps that aided the development of self-government in Pennsylvania. He proposed a constitution and a General Assembly. Later, he agreed to changes in the constitution and greater powers for the colonial assembly.

Showing Fairness to All Penn thought of his colony as a "holy experiment." He wanted it to be a model of religious freedom, peace, and Christian living. Protestants, Catholics, and Jews went to Pennsylvania to escape persecution. Later, English officials forced Penn to turn away Catholic and Jewish settlers.

Penn's Quaker beliefs led him to speak out for fair treatment of American Indians. Penn believed that the land in North America belonged to the Indians. He insisted that settlers should pay for the land. American Indians respected him for this policy. As a result, Pennsylvania colonists enjoyed many years of peace with their Indian neighbors. One settler remarked that, as Penn "treated the Indians with extraordinary humanity, they became civil and loving to us."

Analyze Images Painter Benjamin West imagined this scene of Penn signing the treaty with the American Indians.

Use Visual Information How does the artist show peaceful relations among Penn, merchants, and Indians?



Quest CONNECTIONS

How was the environment of the Middle Colonies more favorable to workers than the New England colonies? Record your findings in your  Active Journal.

▼ A statue of William Penn stands atop Philadelphia's City Hall today.

Pennsylvania Expands Penn sent pamphlets describing his colony all over Europe. Soon, settlers from England, Scotland, Wales, the Netherlands, France, and Germany began to cross the Atlantic Ocean to Pennsylvania.

Among the new arrivals were large numbers of German-speaking Protestants. They became known as **Pennsylvania Dutch** because people could not pronounce the word Deutsch (doich), which means German. Many Pennsylvania Dutch had faced religious persecution in Europe, including the Amish and Mennonites. Because of their experiences in Europe, these German-speaking people were naturally attracted to the ideals of Penn's colony, in which people of different ethnicities and religions could live peaceably together. The ethnic diversity of Pennsylvania contributed to a developing American identity based on ethnic diversity.

Pennsylvania, like most other colonies, was created for a mix of political, economic, religious, and social reasons. Pennsylvania was like the New England colonies in the religious reasons for its creation.

Like New York, its political roots lay in a proprietor's ties to the king. Pennsylvania's social goals of harmony among different groups were similar to those of Rhode Island. Like most proprietors, Penn hoped to profit from his colony.

Enslaved Africans were also brought to the growing Pennsylvania colony. They made up about one third of all new arrivals between 1730 and 1750. Enslaved Africans were present in New York, New Jersey, and the New England Colonies as well, but in smaller numbers than in the Southern Colonies. Because of Philadelphia's location along the Delaware River, many worked as laborers in manufacturing and shipbuilding.

Delaware Is Born For a time, Pennsylvania included some lands along the lower Delaware River. The region was known as Pennsylvania's Lower Counties. Later, in 1704, the Lower Counties would break away to form the colony of Delaware.

 **READING CHECK Identify Main Ideas** Why did Quakers want to establish their own colony?



Daily Life in the Middle Colonies

The majority of colonists made their living by farming. Farmers found more favorable conditions in the Middle Colonies than in New England. The broad Hudson and Delaware river valleys were rich and fertile. Winters were milder than in New England, and the growing season lasted longer.

A Thriving Economy On such promising land, farmers in the eastern counties of the Middle Colonies cleared their fields. They mostly chose to raise wheat, barley, and rye as a way to earn money. Wheat, barley, and rye were **cash crops**, or crops that were sold for money on the market and not consumed by the farmer's family. In fact, the Middle Colonies exported so much grain that they became known as the Breadbasket Colonies.

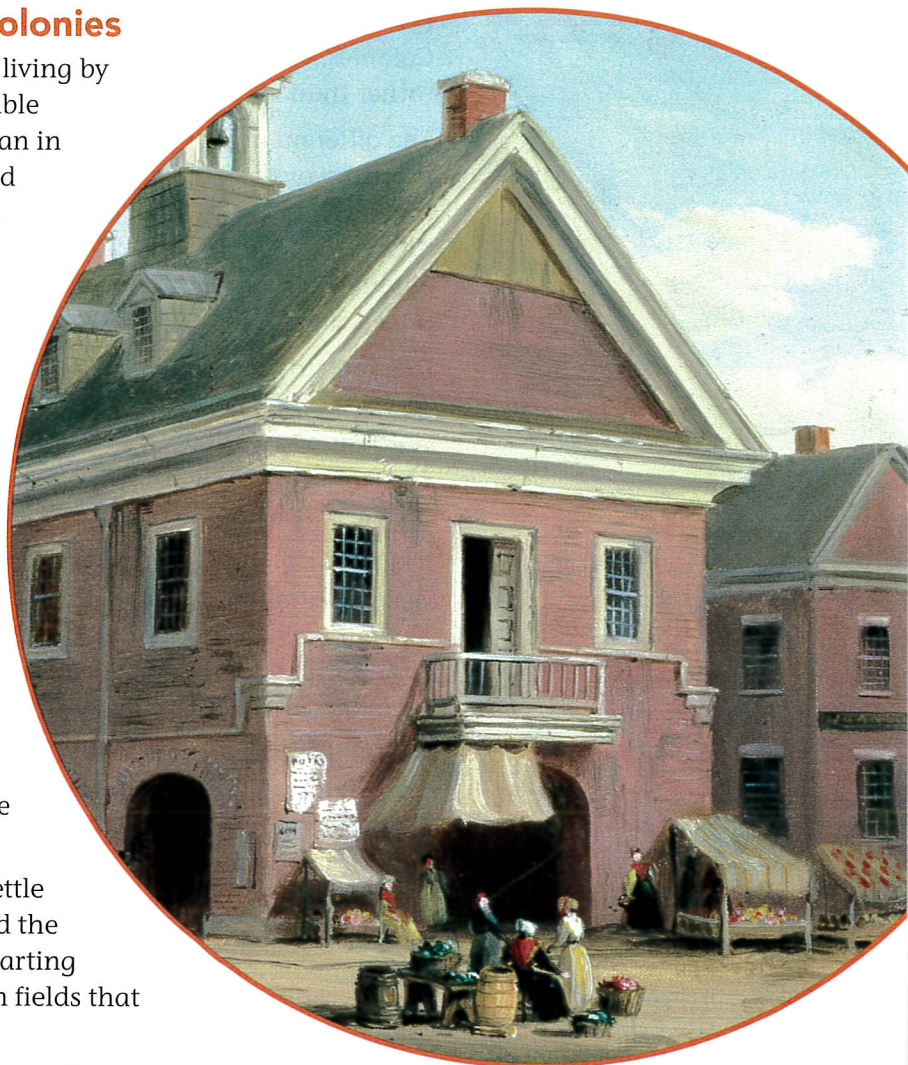
The Pennsylvania Dutch tended to settle the fertile interior lands. They altered the environment by clearing land and starting farms, turning these regions into rich fields that are still productive today.

Farmers of the Middle Colonies also raised herds of cattle and pigs. Every year, they sent tons of beef, pork, and butter to the ports of New York and Philadelphia. From there, the goods went by ship to New England and the South or to the West Indies, England, and other parts of Europe.

Farms in the Middle Colonies were generally larger than those in New England. Landowners hired workers to help with the planting, harvesting, and other tasks. Enslaved African Americans worked on a few large farms. However, most workers were farmhands who worked alongside the families that owned the land.

Aside from farmers, there were also skilled artisans in the Middle Colonies. Encouraged by William Penn, skilled German craftspersons set up shop in Pennsylvania. In time, the colony became a center of manufacturing and crafts. One visitor reported that workshops turned out "hardware, clocks, watches, locks, guns, flints, glass, stoneware, nails, [and] paper."

Settlers in the Delaware River valley profited from the region's rich deposits of iron ore. Heating the ore in furnaces, they purified it and then hammered it into nails, tools, and parts for guns.



▲ Farmers took advantage of the fertile land of the Middle Colonies by growing crops to sell at market.



INTERACTIVE

The Economy of the Middle Colonies

Home Life Because houses tended to be far apart in the Middle Colonies, towns were less important than in New England. Counties, rather than villages, became centers of local government.

The different groups who settled the Middle Colonies had their own favorite ways of building. Swedish settlers introduced log cabins to the Americas. The Dutch used red bricks to build narrow, high-walled houses. German settlers developed a wood-burning stove that heated a home better than a fireplace, which sent heat up the chimney and pulled cold air in through cracks in the walls.

Everyone in a household had a job to do. Households were largely self-sufficient, which meant that most things needed for survival—food, clothing, soap, candles, and many other goods—were made at home. As one farmer said, “Nothing to wear, eat, or drink was purchased, as my farm provided all.”

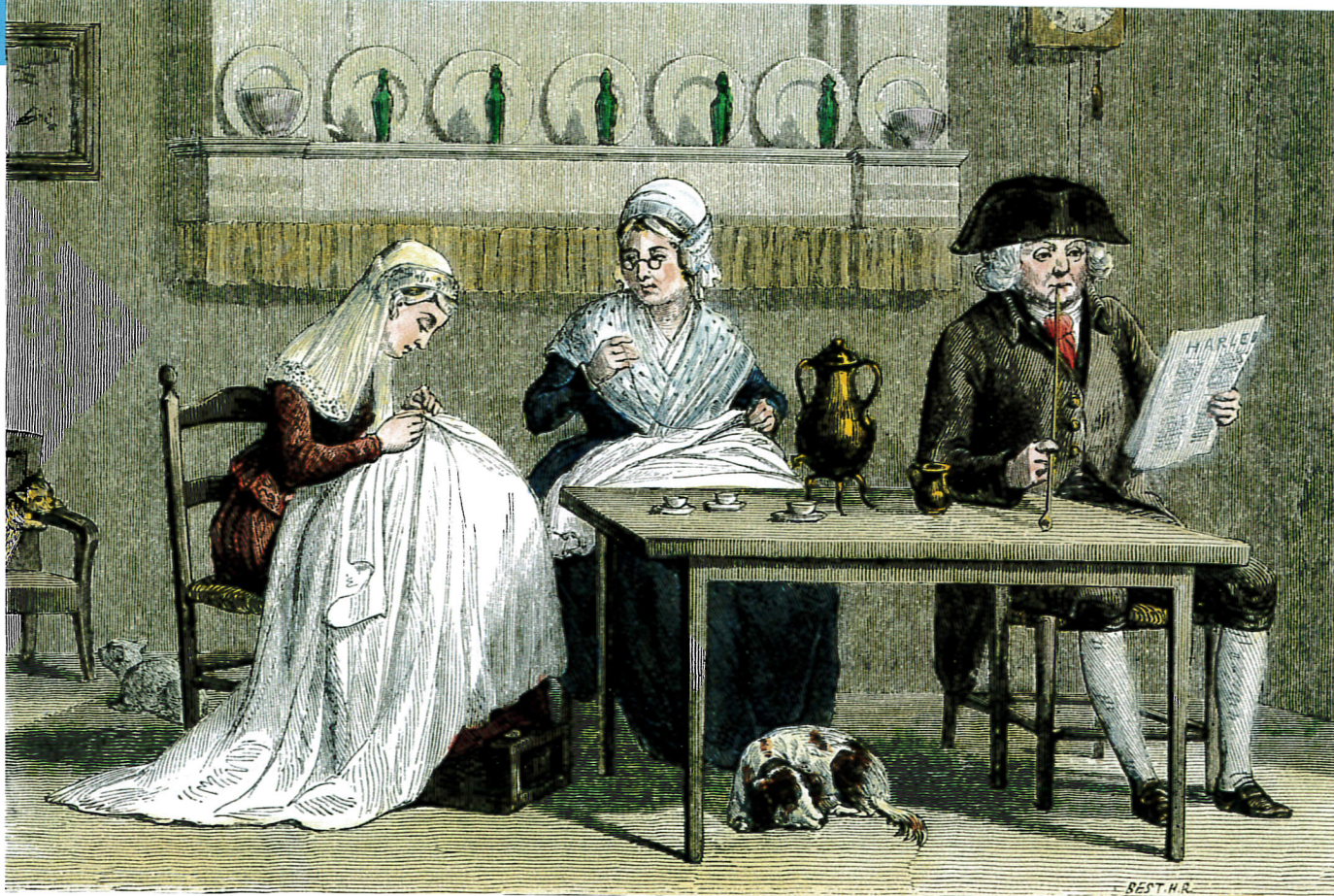
Expanding Beyond Philadelphia In the 1700s, thousands of German and Scotch-Irish settlers arrived in Philadelphia. From there, many traveled west into the back country, the area of land along the eastern slopes of the Appalachian Mountains. Settlers followed an old Indian trail that became known as the Great Wagon Road.

Although settlers planned to follow farming methods they had used in Europe, they found the challenge of farming the back country more difficult than they had thought it would be. To farm the back country, settlers had to clear thick forests. From Indians, settlers learned how to use knots from pine trees as candles to light their homes. They made wooden dishes from logs, gathered honey from hollows in trees, and hunted wild animals for food. German gunsmiths developed a lightweight rifle for use in forests. Sharpshooters boasted that the “Pennsylvania rifle” could hit a rattlesnake between the eyes at 100 yards.

Analyze Charts Religious, economic, geographic, and ethnic differences distinguished the Middle Colonies from New England. **Use Evidence** Which colonial region would you rather live in? Why?

Comparing the New England and Middle Colonies

	NEW ENGLAND	MIDDLE COLONIES
MAIN REASON FOR SETTLEMENT	Avoid religious persecution	Economic gain
BUSINESS AND TRADE	Shipbuilding, shipping, fishing, forestry	Agriculture, skilled trades, shipping
AGRICULTURE	Mostly limited to the needs of the colonies	Fertile farmland produced export crops
ETHNIC DIVERSITY	Mainly English	English, Dutch, German, and Scotch-Irish
SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE	Close-knit towns	More scattered settlements
CULTURE AND SOCIETY	Religious uniformity; small family farms and businesses with few servants or slaves	Ethnic and religious diversity; larger farms and businesses need indentured servants



Many of the settlers who arrived in the back country moved onto Indian lands. “The Indians . . . are alarmed at the swarm of strangers,” one Pennsylvania official reported. “We are afraid of a [fight] between them for the [colonists] are very rough to them.” However, officials did not step in to protect Indian rights. On more than one occasion, disputes between settlers and Indians resulted in violence.

READING CHECK **Identify Main Ideas** Why was so much of the Middle Colonies’ economy based on farming?

Analyze Images Members of a Dutch colonial family sit around their tea table in New York in the 1700s. **Synthesize Visual Information** How does this image show differences in colonial men’s and women’s roles?

Lesson Check

Practice Vocabulary

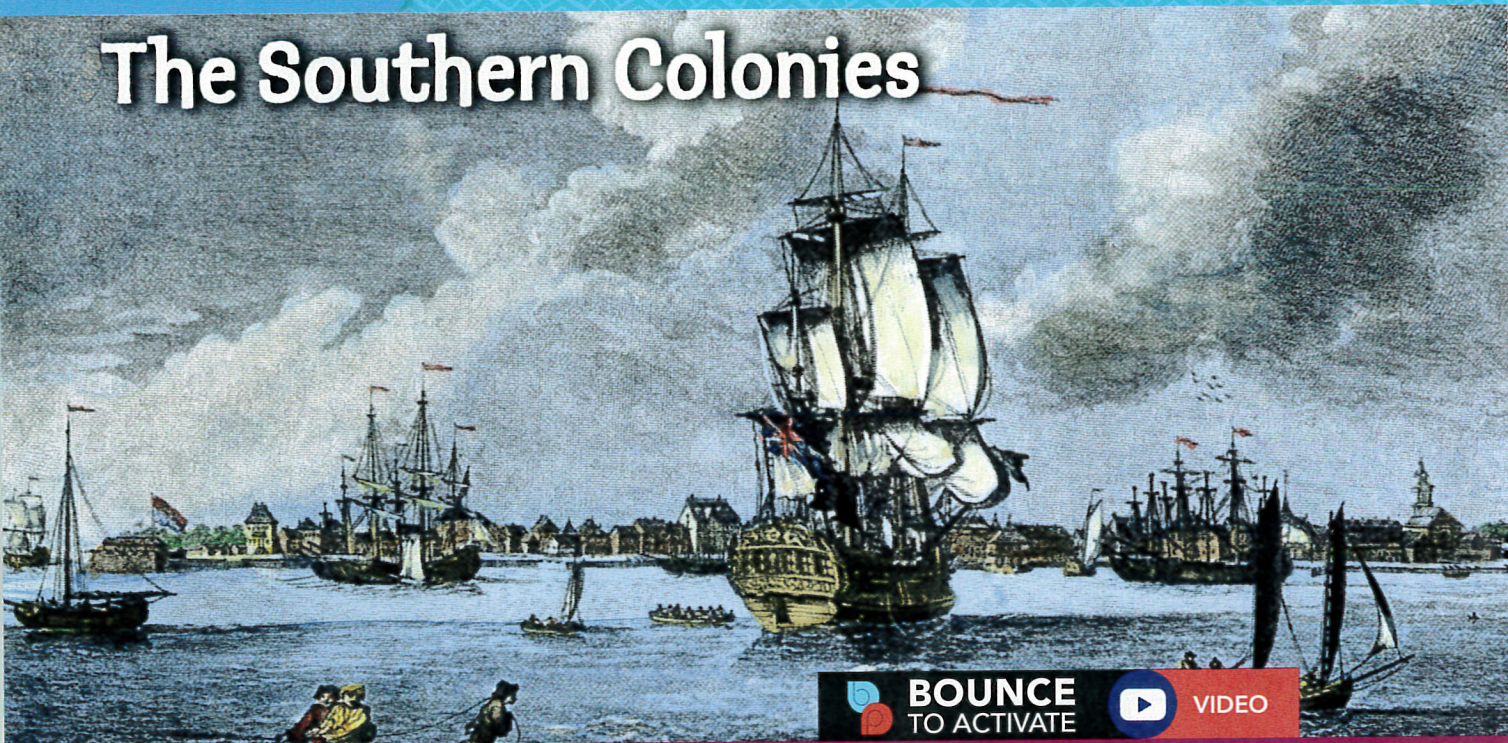
1. What were the differences between a **proprietary colony** and a **royal colony**?
2. What were the **Quakers’** beliefs regarding equality?

Critical Thinking and Writing

3. **Identify Supporting Details** What did the term “free enterprise system” mean in New Jersey while it was a proprietary colony?
4. **Summarize** What did William Penn do to reflect the values of the Quaker religion in his colony?
5. **Draw Conclusions** How did the free enterprise system encourage the cultivation of cash crops in the Middle Colonies?
6. **Writing Workshop: Organize Sequence of Events** Make an ordered list of events in your Active Journal to show what happens to your character in your narrative essay. You will use this sequence of events when you write your narrative essay at the end of this topic.

LESSON 5

The Southern Colonies



 **BOUNCE**
TO ACTIVATE

 **VIDEO**

GET READY TO READ

START UP


Examine the image of the ships sailing in Charleston Harbor. What do the number of ships tell you about the city during the colonial era?

GUIDING QUESTIONS


- Why was Maryland established?
- What were the reasons the Carolinas and Georgia were established?
- How would you describe the relationship between environments, settlement patterns, and economic systems in the Southern Colonies?
- How did slavery spread in the Southern Colonies?

TAKE NOTES

Literacy Skills: Classify and Categorize

Use the graphic organizer in your  Active Journal to take notes as you read the lesson.

PRACTICE VOCABULARY

Use the vocabulary activity in your  Active Journal to practice the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

Act of Toleration slave code
indigo racism
debtor

Academic Vocabulary

deprive
quarters

In 1632, Sir George Calvert persuaded King Charles I to grant him land for a colony in the Americas. Calvert had ruined his career in Protestant England by becoming a Roman Catholic. Now, he planned to build a colony where Catholics could practice their religion freely.

Why Did Lord Baltimore Start a Colony?

Calvert named his colony Maryland in honor of Queen Henrietta Maria, the king's wife. Calvert died before the colony could get underway. His son Cecil, Lord Baltimore, pushed on with the project.

Settlers Come to Maryland In the spring of 1634, about 200 colonists landed along the upper Chesapeake Bay, across the Potomac River from England's first southern colony, Virginia. Maryland was truly a land of plenty. Chesapeake Bay was full of fish, oysters, and crabs. Across the bay, Virginians were already growing tobacco for profit. Maryland's new settlers hoped to do the same.