



Benchmark Note Cards

DIRECTIONS: Use these note cards to help you prepare for the test.

SS.8.A.2.2 Compare the characteristics of the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies.

THE THIRTEEN COLONIES

New England Colonies	Middle Colonies	Southern Colonies
Massachusetts	New York	Maryland
New Hampshire	New Jersey	Virginia
Connecticut	Pennsylvania	North Carolina
Rhode Island	Delaware	South Carolina
		Georgia

SEEKING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Pilgrims or Separatists	→	settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts
Puritans	→	settled in Massachusetts
Quakers	→	founded colony in Pennsylvania
Catholics	→	started colony in Maryland

SS.8.A.2.3 Differentiate economic systems of New England, Middle and Southern colonies including indentured servants and slaves as labor sources.

SLAVERY IN THE COLONIES

The first enslaved Africans were brought to the English colonies in 1619. Raising tobacco required many workers, so landowners forced enslaved Africans to do this work. Some tobacco workers were slaves and others were indentured servants. These were people who agreed to work for a certain number of years for no pay. In exchange, their employers paid for their voyage to the colony.

Enslaved Africans were also forced to plant and harvest rice. Many English farmers were not used to growing rice. They relied on enslaved Africans who had been raised in West African rice-growing regions for their knowledge. As farmers grew more rice, the demand for slave labor increased. By 1708 more than half of the people in South Carolina were enslaved Africans.

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BENCHMARK NOTE CARDS, *continued*

SS.8.A.2.4 Identify the impact of key colonial figures on the economic, political, and social development of the colonies.

KEY COLONIAL FIGURES

Sir Walter Raleigh granted the right to claim land and set up colonies in North America

John Smith Jamestown leader who helped early settlers survive harsh conditions

Metacomet Wampanoag leader who was defeated in King Philip's War

William Penn Quaker who founded Pennsylvania and issued the Charter of Privileges

Nathaniel Bacon Virginia farmer who started Bacon's Rebellion to oppose the colonial government

James Oglethorpe founder of last English colony of Georgia

BACON'S REBELLION

Bacon's Rebellion challenged the colonial government of Virginia and its governor, William Berkeley. Nathaniel Bacon, a farmer from western Virginia, was angered when he thought the colonial government was not representing the interests of western farmers. He thought the government was dominated by easterners. He also resented the governor's pledge to stay out of Native American territory. Bacon was near success when he died. The rebellion demonstrated that government could not ignore the demands of the people.

BENCHMARK NOTE CARDS, *continued*

SS.8.A.2.5 Discuss the impact of colonial settlement on Native American populations.

KING PHILIP'S WAR

The competition for land resulted in this 14-month war, which pitted settlers against the Wampanoag leader Metacomet and several other Native American groups. The war would destroy the power of the Native Americans in New England and allow colonial settlement to expand.

SS.8.C.2.1 Evaluate and compare the central ideas and principles of American constitutional government expressed in primary sources from the colonial period to Reconstruction.

EARLY COLONIAL GOVERNMENT

	Date Established	Key Fact
House of Burgesses	1619	first legislature in North America elected by the people
Mayflower Compact	1620	key step in development of representative, democratic government in America
Fundamental Orders of Connecticut	1639	first written constitution in America
Charter of Privileges	1701	granted colonists the right to elect representatives to the legislature