

Name _____

Date _____



Jamestown

Jamestown colonists sailed over to
The New World to get rich quick.
But at what cost?

In 1606, King James sent
100 men to catch up with Spain
On their exploration of the New World.
They would set sail to find true gold,
As well as a water passage
To the Pacific, if we're getting specific.
They landed in Virginia and it wasn't terrific.
Nah, it wasn't terrific.
Jamestown is what they would name it.
People already lived there, to the land they were Native.
The Powhatans didn't want the British men staying,
So they attacked, until they started trading.
You know, like goods and things
That helped settlers survive starvation and disease.
John Smith led them through this time of grief and
Built peaceful relations with the Powhatan chief.
But this life was hard and they wanted to leave
Until more settlers would arrive with supplies they'd need.
But a desire came along, yeah, came along
With these new colonists to Jamestown—
They didn't want to keep the peace.

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So a war broke out between the two sides:

The English colonists and The Powhatan tribe.

But there was a brief time when the fight did subside,

When Pocahontas became John Rolfe's wife.

She was the daughter of the chief,

And he boosted the economy in Jamestown

By growing a commodity: tobacco leaves,

Which sold in Europe as a luxury.

In 1619 business was on the rise,

Indentured servants were brought over on the tide

To work on the land, some of whom arrived

On the first of slave ships to America, besides African slaves.

Policies were made by the House of Burgesses.

And by the people they were named lawmakers,

Who handled local issues and laid groundwork for

The institution called representative democracy.

They made laws and they made policies.

Colonists moved into new spaces.

For capital, they built more plantations.

They settled further in violent formation.

They drove out and killed the Powhatan Nation.

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