

Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



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Name some examples of primary research sources.

- architecture
- cornerstones
- court documents
- diaries
- letters
- monuments
- interviews
- photographs
- speeches

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Name some examples of secondary research sources.

- atlases
- biographies
- computer databases
- government publications
- encyclopedias
- newspapers
- telephone directories
- textbooks

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What are some ways that relative location can be described?

- Using terms that show connections between two places such as “next to”, “near”, and “bordering”

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Which two large bodies of water border Virginia?

- Atlantic Ocean
- Chesapeake Bay

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Name the five states bordering Virginia.

- North Carolina
- Tennessee
- Kentucky
- West Virginia
- Maryland

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What is the name of the natural border between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions, where waterfalls prevent further travel on the river?

- The Fall Line

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What are some of the geographic characteristics of the Valley and Ridge region of Virginia?

- Includes the Great Valley of Virginia and other valleys separated by ridges (The Blue Ridge Mountains and the Valley and Ridge regions are part of the Appalachian mountain system.)
- Located west of the Blue Ridge Mountains

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What are some of the geographic characteristics of the Blue Ridge Mountain region?

- Old, rounded mountains
- Source of many rivers
- Between the Piedmont and Valley and Ridge regions
- Part of the Appalachian mountain system

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What are some of the geographic characteristics of the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region?

- Flat land
- Location near Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay (includes Eastern Shore)
- East of the Fall Line

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What are some of the geographic characteristics of the Piedmont region?

- Rolling hills at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains
- West of the Fall Line
- *Located between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Blue Ridge Mountains*

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What best describes the land features of the Appalachian Plateau of Virginia?

- *Plateau (an area of elevated land that is flat on top)*
- *Coal deposits*
- Located in southwest Virginia
- Only a small part of the plateau is located in Virginia.

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What geographic term is used to describe the area of elevated land that is flat on top?

- *Plateau*

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Name the five geographic regions of Virginia.

- Coastal Plain (Tidewater)
- Piedmont
- Blue Ridge Mountain
- Valley and Ridge
- Appalachian Plateau

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Where is the Coastal Plain region located?

- East of the Fall Line
- Near the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean
- Includes the Eastern Shore

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What best describes the land of the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region?

- Flat land
- Located near the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Where is the Piedmont region located?

- West of the Fall Line
- *Between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region and Blue Ridge Mountain region*
- Rolling hills at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains

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The Fall Line is located between which two geographic regions of Virginia?

- Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions

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Why did cities in Virginia develop along the Fall Line?

- The waterfalls and rocks at the Fall Line stopped ships from traveling further up the rivers.
- *Ships unloaded their cargo at the Fall Line.*

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Which geographic region is located west of the Blue Ridge Mountains?

- Valley and Ridge region

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Where is the Eastern Shore located?

- It is a large peninsula bordered by the Chesapeake Bay to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east.
- *It is part of the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region.*

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Yorktown was established along which river?

- The York River

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In the early 1600s, cities along the east coast of North America began developing in areas that had access to the ocean. Name this ocean.

- Atlantic Ocean

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In the early 1600s, cities in Virginia began developing around the mouth of a bay because it provided a safe harbor and a source of food and transportation. Name this bay.

- Chesapeake Bay

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What is a peninsula?

- A piece of land bordered by water on three sides

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Richmond was established along which river?

- The James River

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Alexandria was established along which river?

- The Potomac River

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Describe the economic importance of the Atlantic Ocean during colonial times.

- Provided transportation links for trade between colonial Virginia and other places (e.g. Europe, Africa/Angola, and Caribbean)

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Describe the water features of the Chesapeake Bay.

- Good harbors for transportation links
- A source of food and transportation
- *Separates the Eastern Shore from the mainland of Virginia*

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Describe the James River and name two cities located along this river.

- Flows downhill into the Chesapeake Bay
- Richmond and Jamestown are located along the James River.

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Describe the York River and name a city located along this river.

- Flows downhill into the Chesapeake Bay
- Yorktown is located along the York River.

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Describe the Potomac River and name a city located along this river.

- Flows downhill into the Chesapeake Bay
- Alexandria is located along the Potomac River.

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Describe the Rappahannock River and name a city located along this river.

- Flows downhill into the Chesapeake Bay
- Fredericksburg is located along the Rappahannock River.

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The city of Fredericksburg was established on which river?

- The Rappahannock River

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Name seven large bodies of water in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) Region. (Hint: 1 bay, 4 rivers, 1 lake, 1 swamp)

- Chesapeake Bay
- James River
- York River
- Rappahannock River
- Potomac River
- Lake Drummond
- Dismal Swamp

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Name the large water feature located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region that was explored and surveyed by George Washington.

- The Dismal Swamp

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Describe Lake Drummond.

- Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region
- Shallow natural lake surrounded by the Dismal Swamp
- *Bowl shaped with acid-stained water (looks like tea) from the surrounding Dismal Swamp*
- *Limited fish population*
- *Large natural lake in the heart of the Dismal Swamp*

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Describe the Dismal Swamp.

- *Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region*
- Explored and surveyed by George Washington
- Inhabited by a variety of wildlife
- *Underwater for millions of years*

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Name the American Indians who lived primarily in the Appalachian Plateau of Virginia and spoke the Iroquoian language.

- Cherokee Indians

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Why were the first native people of America called Indians?

- Christopher Columbus called the people in the lands he discovered “Indians” because he thought he was in the Indies (near China).

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The people who spoke the Algonquian language lived primarily in which geographic region of Virginia?

- Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region

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Which American Indians spoke the Algonquian language and lived primarily in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region of Virginia?

- Powhatan

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The people who spoke the Siouan language lived primarily in which geographic region of Virginia?

- Piedmont region

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Which American Indians lived primarily in the Piedmont region of Virginia and spoke the Siouan language.

- Monacan

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The people who spoke the Iroquoian language lived primarily in which geographic region of Virginia?

- Appalachian Plateau

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What type of clothing did the American Indians of Virginia wear?

- Animal skins (deerskins) were used for clothing.
- *For garments in winter, they used feathers and furs.*
- *They wore decorations made from natural objects, such as shells, animal claws, and pearls.*

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How did the American Indians adapt to Virginia's environment to meet their basic needs during the four seasons.

- Spring: hunted, fished, picked berries, *and planted seeds*
- Summer: cared for crops (beans, corn, and squash)
- Fall: harvested and prepared some of the crops for winter storage and hunted
- Winter: hunted birds and animals, *such as deer, squirrel, rabbit, and wild turkey* and ate the foods they had preserved

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What did the American Indians of Virginia use to provide shelter for their families?

- They made shelter from materials found around them.
- *They made one-room houses out of saplings tied together with cordage (rope) and covered them with reed mats or bark.*

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What are some of the characteristics of Virginia's climate?

- It is relatively mild.
- There are four seasons that result in a variety of plants or vegetation.

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Describe the largest vegetation of Virginia.

- Forests, which have a variety of trees, cover most of the land in Virginia.

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What were some ways the early American Indians adapted to the climate of Virginia and interacted with their environment to meet their basic needs?

- Food changed with the seasons.
- Clothing depended on the seasons.
- Shelter was made from materials found around them.

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How do the Virginia Indians live today in relation to the way they lived in the past?

- Each has its own language group.
- They live like most other Americans today.
- They were and still are referred to as Eastern Woodland Indians.

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Who would study material evidence from long ago (artifacts) to learn more about the past?

- Archaeologists

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Why is archaeology important?

- *It gives people of today clues about the interactions of the English, Africans, and Indians of early Virginia.*

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Name the large Indian town used by Indian leaders several hundred years before the English arrived.

- Werowocomoco (*weh-ro-wo-COM-o-co*)

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Where was the headquarters of the leader of the Powhatan in 1607?

- Werowocomoco (*weh-ro-wo-COM-o-co*), *located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region*

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What are the eight state-recognized tribes in Virginia today?

- Chickahominy
- Eastern Chickahominy
- Mattaponi
- Monacan
- Nansemond
- Pamunkey
- Rappahannock
- Upper Mattaponi

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Name the state-recognized Indian tribes located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region.

- Chickahominy
- Eastern Chickahominy
- Mattaponi
- Rappahannock
- Pamunkey
- Nansemond
- Upper Mattaponi

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Name the state recognized Indian tribe located in the Piedmont region.

- Monacan

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In what year did the three ships (the Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery) reach the Virginia coast near Cape Henry?

- 1607

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Who was the English explorer credited with the exploration of Jamestown?

- *Captain Christopher Newport*

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What were some of the reasons for English colonization in America?

- England wanted to establish an American colony to increase its wealth and power.
- England hoped to find silver and gold in America.
- An American settlement would furnish raw materials (*natural resources*) that could not be grown or obtained in England while opening new markets for trade.

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Name the first permanent English settlement in North America.

- Jamestown

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What is an economic venture?

- *Starting a company to make money*

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How did the Virginia Company of London contribute to the development of colonial life in Virginia?

- The Virginia Company of London settled colonists in North America as an economic venture. They established the Virginia colony to increase England's wealth and power.

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Why did the Virginia Company of London establish the Virginia colony?

- They hoped to find a source of gold, silver, and raw materials (*natural resources*) that England could not produce. They established it as an economic venture.

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Why did the settlers choose the site at Jamestown?

- They believed the location could be easily defended against Spanish attack from the *Chesapeake Bay*.
- The water along the shore was deep enough for supply ships to dock.
- They believed they had a good supply of fresh water *from the James River*.

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In the 1600s, the English established their first settlement near the mouth of a river because it was rich in natural resources, had a good harbor, and was easy to defend. Name this river.

- The James River

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Name the three English ships that sailed to America to begin the first permanent settlement in the land they named Virginia.

- *The Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery*

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What did the *First Charter* of the Virginia Company of London accomplish?

- It allowed for the establishment of a settlement in North America/the New World.

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What did the *Second Charter* of the Virginia Company of London accomplish?

- *It allowed for a representative form of government in North America/New World.*

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What did the *Third Charter* of the Virginia Company of London accomplish?

- It extended the same English rights to the people living in Jamestown as those living in England.

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Who was included in the General Assembly of 1619?

- The General Assembly included two representatives elected by the settlers (called burgesses), the governor's council, and the governor.

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In 1619, what was the name of the first representative government in the Virginia colony giving settlers the opportunity to control their own government?

- The General Assembly

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What system of government in Virginia today dates from the establishment of the General Assembly in 1619?

- The Virginia General Assembly

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How did the Virginia House of Burgesses contribute to the development of colonial Virginia?

- It became a separate legislative body.
- They met separately from the governor's council as one of the two legislative bodies of the General Assembly.

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What was the House of Burgesses?

- A legislative body that met separately from the governor's council.
- One of two legislative bodies of the General Assembly.

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Who introduced a better tasting tobacco grown in Virginia and sold it to the people in England?

- *John Rolfe*

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How did the growing of tobacco contribute to the development of colonial Virginia?

- *The people of England liked John Rolfe's better tasting tobacco; therefore, the demand for Rolfe's tobacco gave Virginia its first and most important cash crop.*

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How did English women contribute to the development of colonial Virginia?

- *In 1620, a large group of unmarried English women arrived in Jamestown. Their presence enabled the settlers to marry and to begin families. The women also increased the quality of life for the men by cooking better meals, sewing clothes, and taking care of the sick.*

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How did the African people contribute to the development of colonial Virginia?

- *In 1619, a ship arrived in Virginia carrying 20 persons of African descent against their will. The status of these early African men and women as either servants or slaves in Virginia is unknown. The arrival of these Africans made it possible to expand the tobacco economy.*

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How did the American Indians help the early Jamestown settlers?

- *The Powhatan Indians helped the settlers survive by providing them with corn.*

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How did the English settlers use Virginia's raw materials (natural resources)?

- *Thanks to the Powhatan, the English settlers soon learned how to live off of Virginia's natural resources. By farming the rich soil, the settlers produced plenty of food.*

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What hardships did the Jamestown settlers face?

- The site they chose was marshy and lacked safe drinking water.
- The settlers lacked the skills necessary to provide for their basic needs.
- Many settlers died of starvation and disease.

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What changes took place to ensure the survival at Jamestown?

- The arrival of supply ships from England
- The forced work program to grow food crops
- The strong leadership of Captain John Smith

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Who initiated trading relationships with the Powhatan Indians?

- Captain John Smith

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Why did the relationship between the Jamestown settlers and the native peoples of Virginia eventually change?

- The native peoples saw the settlers as invaders because they took over their lands.

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The Powhatan Indians traded mainly food with the English settlers. What products did the English trade with the Powhatan Indians?

- Tools, cooking pots, and copper to make jewelry

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Why did the relationship between the Jamestown settlers and the native peoples change?

- They realized the Jamestown settlement would grow.
- They saw the settlers as invaders as they began to take their lands.

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Who did Chief Powhatan to meet the Jamestown settlers?

- Pocahontas, his daughter

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What major agricultural product of the Virginia colony depended on a reliable and inexpensive source of labor?

- Tobacco

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What term is used to describe a crop that is grown to sell for money rather than for use by the growers?

- Cash crop

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What is a cash crop?

- A crop that is grown to sell for money rather than for use by the growers

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Why were many African men, women, and children brought to Virginia against their will?

- To work on tobacco farms and large plantations

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In which geographic regions of Virginia did many African people live?

- Primarily in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions, where agriculture required a great deal of inexpensive labor

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

How did the English culture influence the colonists?

- Cultural and social influences from England included religion, language, architecture, fashion, and family structure.

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Why were so many people coming to North America from England?

- *Some people were seeking religious freedom. Others came in search of wealth, and in hope of a better life.* Migration and living in North America allowed people to adapt their customs to a new environment.

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(Italics - HCPS Content)

Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

How did the German and Scots-Irish settlers contribute to the development of colonial Virginia?

- *The German and Scots-Irish settlers farmed the area west of the Shenandoah Valley. They grew wheat and other grains as their main crops. They made the eastern foothills of Virginia an area of small farms.*

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

The English settlers lived primarily in which geographic regions of Virginia?

- The Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and the Piedmont regions

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

The original town named Richmond reflected the culture of which group of people?

- The English

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

The original town named Roanoke reflected the culture of which group of people?

- The American Indians

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What factors influenced the move of the capital city from Jamestown to Williamsburg?

- Unhealthy living conditions caused diseases.
- Drinking water was contaminated by seepage of salt water *from the Chesapeake Bay*.
- Fire destroyed wooden buildings at Jamestown.

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What factors influenced the move of the capital city from Williamsburg to Richmond?

- The population was moving westward.
- Richmond was centrally located.
- Moving to Richmond increased the distance of attack by sea from the British ships.

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What economic term describes the activities that satisfy people's needs and wants?

- *Services*

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SOL VS.4d



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What economic term describes touchable things (items) that people make or use to satisfy needs and wants?

- *Goods*

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is the meaning of barter?

- Trading or exchanging goods and services without the use of money

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is the meaning of credit?

- Buying a good or service now and paying for it later

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is the meaning of debt?

- A good or service owed to another

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is money?

- A medium of exchange (currency which includes coins and paper bills)

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

In colonial times, what was a highly valued barter item that was frequently used as money?

- Tobacco

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SOL VS 4d



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

In colonial times, when could consumers, who bought goods from merchants and shopkeepers on credit during the winter, pay their debts?

- When the crops were harvested in the spring, summer, or fall seasons.

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is the meaning of saving?

- Money put away to save or spend in the future

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SOL VS 4d



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What are natural resources?

- *Resources that come from nature, such as water, soil, wood, and coal*

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SOL VS.4e

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Describe the life of enslaved Africans in colonial Virginia during the early 1700s.

- They were property of their owners.
- They had no civil rights.
- They worked in the fields, grew crops, and raised livestock.

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SOL VS.4e



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

How did most white Virginians make a living during the early 1700s?

- Most made their living as small farmers.
- A few Virginians owned large farms (plantations).

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SOL VS.4e



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Describe everyday life for free Africans during the early 1700s.

- They owned their own business and property.
- They were denied most civil rights.

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SOL VS.4e



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Why did the colonists object to paying taxes to Great Britain?

- They considered this as having “taxation without representation.” They felt that they should be part of the decision-making process between Great Britain and the colonists.

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SOL VS.5a

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What problems caused conflict between Great Britain and the Virginia colony?

- Taxation
- Lack of representation in the British government.

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SOL VS.5a



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What ideas were stated in the Declaration of Independence?

It stated that:

- authority to govern belonged to the people rather than to kings;
- all people are created equal;
- all people have rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

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SOL VS.5a



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

- Thomas Jefferson

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SOL VS 5a



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is an assembly?

- *A lawmaking group of people gathered together for a meeting*

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Which document expressed reasons for colonial independence from England?

- The Declaration of Independence

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SOL VS.5b



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What contributions were made by African Americans, women, and American Indians during the American Revolution?

- Some enslaved African Americans fought for a chance for freedom.
- Women made clothes and cared for injured soldiers.
- Many American Indians fought alongside both the Virginia patriots and the British soldiers.

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SOL VS.5b



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Where did Patrick Henry give his famous “Give me liberty or give me death” speech?

- *At the Henrico Parish Church (named St. John’s Church fifty years later) in Richmond, Virginia*

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SOL VS.5b



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Who was James Lafayette?

- He was an enslaved African American from Virginia who served with the troops of the Continental Army. *He took important military information to other American spies. He was granted his freedom after the Revolutionary War.*

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Who was George Washington?

- He was a military leader who served as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolution.

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SOL VS.5b



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What is the definition of a patriot?

- *A person who is loyal or supports one's own country*

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Where were the first battles of the American Revolution fought?

- *Near Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts*

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Where was the final battle of the American Revolution fought?

- Yorktown, Virginia

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Social Studies Content Cards - Grade 4



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

What was the importance of the American victory at Yorktown?

- The American victory at the Battle of Yorktown resulted in the surrender of the British army, bringing an end to the American Revolution.

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SOL VS.5c



Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Name the first land battle of the American Revolution fought in Virginia.

- The Battle of Great Bridge located south of Norfolk

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Describe the Battle of Great Bridge.

- First land battle fought in Virginia
- Forced the British colonial governor to flee the city of Norfolk
- *Date of battle: December 1775*

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Social Studies Content Card - Grade 4

Who rode on horseback to Monticello to warn Thomas Jefferson that the British were coming to arrest him and other members of the General Assembly?

- Jack Jouett

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