

1. Grade 7 Social Studies Lesson Plan
2. Date and Time: Sunday, March 12, 2006
3. Name of Unit: The Colonization of Jamestown
4. Background: This 7th grade class consists of 21 students, 10 girls and 11 boys. We are seeking to challenge this group of extremely active students in a productive manner that allows them to explore previous knowledge and apply it a new situation. Prior to this, lesson students were given a copy of the charter for the Virginia colony. Students also studied various geographical sites capable for human adaptations, including possible modifications of the environment for living quarters, crop planting and encounters with indigenous people. Geography Lessons on the following five themes were previously held.
 - Location
 - Place:
 - Human-Environmental Physical Interactions
 - Movement
 - Regions
5. Goals of the Unit: Students will be able to explore different locations for settlement. During the lesson the students will explore the concerns the colonists would have depending on where they settled. Students will make decisions on:
 - How well you can provide it for your colonists?
 - Can you keep your colonists from dying due to disease, starvation, and attacks?
 - Can you make yourself and your sponsors at the London Company rich from the discovery of gold and silver?
 - Can you keep yourself in power by keeping everyone happy?

Lesson Process:

Introduction: In 1606, some 105 adventurers set off from England to try and establish the first permanent English colony in the New World. They settled in what is now the state of Virginia and called their colony first James Fort, and then James Towne, in honor of James I, the King of England. The early years of the colony were nearly a total disaster. Almost half of the settlers died due to poor choices in settlement location, management of resources, and quarrels with the indigenous Powhatan Indians. You are the Captain of the Jamestown Colony: Can you do any better than the real colonists? (2 minutes)

- **Maps will be handed out to each individual student. Students will work individually on deciding a location to land. (3 minutes)**
- **Students will then join whatever group of four or five they want to join. (5 minutes)**
- **The groups must reach consensus on one location, and a spokesperson from each group will come to the board, place an X on the map of their location of**

- choice and explain why. The students will list reasons why this location will be better than any if the others. (5 minutes each=20 minutes)**
- **The teacher will summarize the lesson and give an explanation of where Jamestown was actually settled. (Time 10 minutes)**
 - **Homework. They will have to write the rationale of why the settlement was there.**

Manipulatives

- Maps of the Virginia area (small individual ones and one large for the board)
- Ship cutouts
- Sticky pads