

Guided Reading CH. 4 – Lesson 1

Making a Living in the Colonies

1. Possible answers: Winters were long and the soil was poor. Farmers practiced subsistence farming. Farmers relied on their children for labor.
2. Possible answers: The climate was mild and the soil fertile. Farmers practiced large-scale farming. Farmers grew large quantities of cash crops.
3. Possible answers: The climate was warm and the soil rich. Farmers grew large quantities of cash crops on plantations. Farmers depended on enslaved people to work in the fields.
4. Answers will vary. Possible answers: New England industries included grain and lumber mills, shipbuilding, shipping, and fishing. Middle Colonies industries included home-based crafts like carpentry, or large businesses like lumber mills and small-scale manufacturing. In the Southern Colonies, little industry developed.
5. Answers will vary. Possible answers will include wheat, rice, tobacco
6. The Middle Colonies attracted many German, Dutch, Swedish, and other non-English settlers. They added variety, or diversity, to the population.

The Growth of Slavery

7. Answers will vary. Possible answer: Planters needed many people to work in the fields. Indentured servants became scarce and expensive, so Southern planters began using slave labor.

LIFE IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES

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Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States

Worksheet Answer Key

Hands-On Chapter Project

Life in the American Colonies

LESSON WORKSHEETS

Page 4

Guided Reading: Lesson 2 Colonial Government

8. England: Ships were loaded with trade goods. Then the ships traveled to the coast of West Africa.

West Africa: In West Africa, the goods were traded for enslaved Africans. The ships then left for America with the enslaved people.

The colonies in America: In America, the ships unloaded the enslaved people and took on goods from the colonies. Then they returned to Great Britain, completing the triangle.

9. On ships traveling the Middle Passage, enslaved people were chained together. They could hardly sit or stand. They got little food or water. If they refused to eat, they were whipped. Many did not survive the Middle Passage.

10. Slave codes included rules such as these: Enslaved people were not allowed to learn to read or write, they could not leave the plantation, they could not gather in groups, they were whipped for minor offenses and hanged or burned to death for serious crimes.