

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Settling America - Roanoke and Jamestown

By Cathy Pearl

America was a dangerous place when England first sent men to live there. There were animals that the men had never seen. Native Americans were already living on the land. The settlements did not succeed at first. One disappeared. That didn't stop England. Many years later, Jamestown was a success.



England sent men across the Atlantic in 1585. They landed on an island. It was off the coast of North Carolina. This island was called Roanoke. These men were not successful. They fought with the Native Americans and didn't have enough food. One day, they gave up and went home to England.

In 1587, a new group of people decided to try again. This time women and children went with the men. They went to Roanoke and built houses. One woman had a baby. She named the little girl Virginia Dare. Virginia was the first English baby born in this new land. Three years later, a ship came with supplies for the people. Unfortunately, everyone had disappeared! No one knows what happened to the people that lived at Roanoke.

It was nearly twenty years before England decided to try again. This group of people had a charter. The charter was a piece of paper that said they could live on a piece of land. They called the land Virginia. In 1607, over 100 people sailed across the ocean. They named their settlement Jamestown after the king of England.

At first, the settlement didn't do well. People fought all the time, and they didn't have enough food. Everyone spent his or her time looking for gold. John Smith finally set up rules for everyone. He made them work and grow food. John also got help from Native Americans. This helped keep people alive. Jamestown became a successful colony. England had succeeded!

Starting colonies in the new world was hard. One settlement disappeared. People ran out of food because they looked for gold instead of working. It was hard, but some people didn't give up. They helped make sure Jamestown did not fail.

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### Questions

1. What year did settlers start Jamestown?
  - A. 1587
  - B. 1585
  - C. 1607
2. What happened to the *first* settlement at Roanoke?
  - A. The settlement disappeared.
  - B. The settlement was successful.
  - C. The men at the settlement gave up and went back to England.
3. Who was Virginia Dare?
  - A. She was a Native American.
  - B. The woman who helped Jamestown succeed.
  - C. The first baby born in the new land.
4. Why did the settlement of Jamestown almost fail?
  - A. Everyone was looking for gold.
  - B. People fought all the time.
  - C. Both A and B
5. What was the name of the person who helped Jamestown succeed?

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