



# Third Grade Social Studies



**3rd Grade Social Studies  
Activity 1**

\*There will be a short video lesson of a Knox County teacher to accompany this task available on the KCS YouTube Channel and KCS TV.

**Topic:** 13 Colonies (New England Colonies)

**Goal:** To identify the geography of the New England Colonies

**Standard:** 3.26 Examine how the regional (i.e. New England, Middle, and Southern) geographic features of the Thirteen Colonies influenced their development.

**Task for Students to Complete:**

- Watch the video that accompanies this task to learn about the New England Colonies.
- Read through all the clue cards to complete the scavenger hunt. Complete the hidden message at the end.

**Additional Links for More Information:**

- 13 American Colonies Video  
[https://www-gallopadeducurriculum-com.filesusr.com/html/399c74\\_900bf73b4413fdb77cd90eab94b4716a.html](https://www-gallopadeducurriculum-com.filesusr.com/html/399c74_900bf73b4413fdb77cd90eab94b4716a.html)
- History of Colonial America Flocabulary  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Do4Ryapg3eU&feature=youtu.be>

✓ 1. Turn on closed captions, if available.

⏮ 2. Adjust the playback speed to slow down the video.

⏸ 3. Consider watching short clips then pause, listen, and watch again.

🗣 4. Ask someone in your home to watch the video with you. Stop frequently and talk to your partner about what you heard and understood.

If this video is hard to understand:

# NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

## Scavenger Hunt

*\*There will be a short video lesson of a Knox County teacher to accompany this task available on the KCS YouTube Channel and KCS TV.*

## THREE COLONIAL REGIONS

The “13 original colonies” are commonly divided into three groups or regions. These groups are based on geographic location as well as economic and cultural characteristics.

- New England Colonies
- Mid-Atlantic Colonies
- Southern Colonies



## GEOGRAPHY HELPED COLONISTS MEET THEIR NEEDS

- Colonist first priority was survival.
- The land was strange and new to the colonists.
- They had limited supplies and no experience.
- Physical features of an area could make it easier, or harder for colonists to meet their basic needs, and as a result, easier or harder for the colony to survive, thrive and earn money.
- Access to water, climate, and natural resources were important to the colonies.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COLONIES

### Access to water

- Colonists needed enough rainfall to grow crops.
- They needed drinking water for themselves and their crops.
- Colonists needed access to a river leading to the Atlantic Ocean, or to the ocean itself, to trade with Europe for the goods they needed.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COLONIES

### Climate

- Climate impacted the colonists' ability to grow crops.
- Climate was influenced by how far north of the equator the colony was located.
  - Colonies farther north had colder weather and a shorter growing season.
  - Colonies farther south had warmer weather and a longer growing season.
  - However, colonies farther south also had a greater risk of drought.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COLONIES

### Natural Resources

- Colonists relied on nearby natural resources to help them meet their needs.
- Natural resources supplied materials for shelters, clothing, food, and more.



## SCAVENGER HUNT

11. The New England colonies were ruled by British laws, the towns also made many local laws for themselves. Most New England towns held a town meeting every year, where citizens voted on towns laws and for local leaders.

12. Puritans wanted everyone to be able to read the Bible. As a result, education was highly valued in the New England colonies. Parents often taught their children at home, but most New England towns also had schools. Massachusetts even required towns with more than 50 people to build a schoolhouse.

Hidden message letter: S

Hidden message letter: U

## SCAVENGER HUNT

13. Only three years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, the first settlers arrived near present-day Portsmouth in 1623. They were fisherman. Before long, the settlers built a fort and fish-processing buildings.

14. The Massachusetts colony was founded in 1620, when the Pilgrims arrived from England and formed the Plymouth Colony. The Pilgrims wrote the Mayflower Compact, a local government that established rules and regulations in order to ensure the colony's survival.

Hidden message letter: E

Hidden message letter: H

## HIDDEN MESSAGE ANSWER

What did the New England colonists use to make oil for lamps?

Whale's Blubber

## New England Colonial America Scavenger Hunt

Directions: Read each fact card and fill in the missing words. Be sure to fill in the hidden letters on the "Did you know?" page.

1. The New England colonies included \_\_\_\_\_ (1620), New Hampshire (1623), \_\_\_\_\_ (1635), and Rhode Island (1636).
2. Much of the land is \_\_\_\_\_, and much of what is not is still hilly and rocky. The summers are \_\_\_\_\_ and warm in the New England colonies. The temperature is colder than in the other regions, with winters lasting many months. Because the winter temperatures often fall below freezing, the growing season is \_\_\_\_\_. The regions' \_\_\_\_\_, rocky coastlines with many natural deep-water \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ soils and \_\_\_\_\_ climate made farming difficult. Many families grew only enough food to feed themselves. They had very little left over to see or trade.
4. Most early colonists in New England colonies lived on small family farms. There, they grew \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. They also raised sheep and goats.
5. Some of the famous founders of the New England colonies were \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Winthrop, and Roger \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Pilgrims and the Puritans were New England settlers that wanted \_\_\_\_\_ freedom.
7. People in the New England colonies survived by \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and raising livestock.
8. New England's natural resources were perfect for \_\_\_\_\_. The region's forests supplied the wood needed to build ships. The deep harbors provided plenty of places to safely launch ships into the seas.
9. The New England colonies depended on Southern colonies for \_\_\_\_\_, such as tobacco, rice, cotton, and indigo. They depended on \_\_\_\_\_ colonies for livestock and grains.

10. Village, church, and \_\_\_\_\_ served as the center of social life for the New England colonies. Every town had a \_\_\_\_\_, which was usually built in the center of town. The church served as the center of social life, too.
11. The New England colonies were ruled by \_\_\_\_\_ laws, the towns also made many local for themselves. Most New England towns held a town meeting every year, where \_\_\_\_\_ voted on towns laws and for local leaders.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ wanted everyone to be able to read the Bible. As a result, education was highly valued in the New England colonies. Parents often taught their children at home, but most New England towns also had schools. \_\_\_\_\_ even required towns with more than 50 people to build a schoolhouse.
13. Only \_\_\_\_\_ years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, the first settlers arrived near present-day Portsmouth in \_\_\_\_\_. They were fishermen. Before long, the settlers built a fort and fish-processing buildings.
14. The Massachusetts colony was founded in \_\_\_\_\_, when the Pilgrims arrived from England and formed the Plymouth Colony. The Pilgrims wrote the \_\_\_\_\_ Compact, a local government that established rules and regulations in order to ensure the colony's survival.

## Hidden Message

The fact cards in the scavenger hunt have the missing letters that belong below in the hidden words. Fill in the missing letters to discover the completed message!

# What did the New England colonists use to make oil for lamps?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 2      14      3      4      13      8      11

\_\_\_\_\_  
 1      5      12      7      9      10      6