



# Third Grade Social Studies

**3rd Grade Social Studies  
Activity 2**

\*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 (Middle Colonies)

**Goal:** To identify the geography of the Middle 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 Middle 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-gallopadecurriculum-com.filesusr.com/html/399c74\\_900bf73b4413fdb77cd90eab94b4716a.html](https://www-gallopadecurriculum-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:

# MIDDLE 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. Poor laborers and enslaved African Americans lived in the Middle colonies. In cities, they did hard work on loading docks, in laundries, and as house servants. In rural areas, they worked on farms and plantations.

12. People from many countries settled in the Middle colonies. They brought different religions, traditions, and cultures. The colonists were diverse but came together to work for business and trade.

Hidden message letter: N

Hidden message letter: H

## SCAVENGER HUNT

13. Most Mid-Atlantic colonies were ruled by an English governor. That governor made the laws, but he also allowed the colonists to form representative assemblies. Colonists elected leaders to the assembly. The assembly helped make laws, although the governor made all final decisions.

Hidden message letter: L

14. Most children in the Middle colonies learned to read and write. However, there were fewer schools than in New England. Parents often taught their children at home. Instead of going to college, children were expected to learn useful work skills. Farmers taught their children to run the family farm. In towns, boys learned to run a business or to practice a trade such as carpentry or blacksmithing.

Hidden message letter: N

## HIDDEN MESSAGE ANSWER

What did the Dutch originally name New York?

New Netherlands



## Mid-Atlantic 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 Middle colonies included New York (1626), \_\_\_\_\_ (1638), New Jersey (1664), and \_\_\_\_\_ (1682).
2. The Middle colonies were known for having \_\_\_\_\_ summers and \_\_\_\_\_ winters. The rich soil meant more crops and plants that could grow and thrive. The growing season was also \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was one of the main crops in the Middle colonies, which is why this colony was known as the “\_\_\_\_\_”.
4. Gentle, rolling \_\_\_\_\_ cover much of the Mid-Atlantic region. The region has many deep rivers, such as the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, that are easy for large boats to travel along. Winters are usually snowy and cool. They are colder and longer than winters in the Southeast, but not as cold or long as in New England. Summers are \_\_\_\_\_ with plenty of rain.
5. Settlers of the Middle colonies traded many natural resources such as \_\_\_\_\_, furs, and \_\_\_\_\_. Factories were also built to produce other goods such as iron and power.
6. Some of the famous founders of the Middle colonies were \_\_\_\_\_ Penn, Peter Minuit, Lord \_\_\_\_\_, and The New Sweden Company.
7. Farmers in the Mid-Atlantic colonies raised \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and pigs. Farmers also harvested lumber from their land.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ and fruits grew well in the Middle colonies. Farmers also grew wheat, \_\_\_\_\_, barley, and other grains.
9. Farmers usually sold their crops, \_\_\_\_\_, and livestock at town and city markets. The largest of these markets were in \_\_\_\_\_ and New York. These port cities were centers of shipping and trade.
10. \_\_\_\_\_, carpenters, and other skilled artisans made many useful products. Cities attracted \_\_\_\_\_ from many different countries.
11. Poor \_\_\_\_\_ and enslaved African Americans lived in the Middle colonies. In cities, they did hard work on loading docks, in laundries, and as house servants. In rural areas, they worked on \_\_\_\_\_ and plantations.

12. People from many \_\_\_\_\_ settled in the Middle colonies. They brought different religions, \_\_\_\_\_, and cultures. The colonists were diverse but came together to work for business and trade.
13. Most Mid-Atlantic colonies were ruled by an \_\_\_\_\_ governor. That governor made the laws, but he also allowed the colonists to form representative assemblies. Colonists elected leaders to the \_\_\_\_\_. The assembly helped make laws, although the governor made all final decisions.
14. Most children in the Middle colonies learned to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. However, there were fewer schools than in New England. Parents often taught their children at home. Instead of going to college, children were expected to learn useful work skills. \_\_\_\_\_ taught their children to run the family farm. In towns, boys learned to run a business or to practice a \_\_\_\_\_ such as \_\_\_\_\_ or blacksmithing.

## 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 Dutch originally name New York?

14    5    2                    10    1    7    12    4    6    13    9    11    8    3