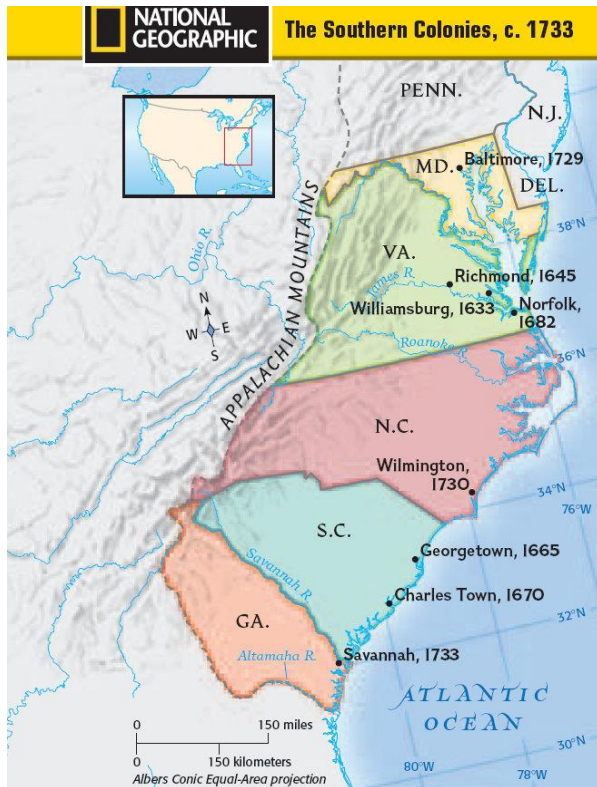


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Work: Making Predictions about the Southern Colonies (MYP VG)**

**Southern Colonies: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia**



**Geography and Climate of the New Southern Colonies:**

- Very rich soil
- warm, mild climate
- tidewater regions (flat, low-lying plains along the seacoast)
- backcountry regions (hills and forests climbing up toward the Appalachian Mountains)
- large expanses of forested land
- accessible to large navigable rivers.

### **Key Economic Activities in the Southern Colonies were:**

- widespread plantation agriculture:
  - Maryland and Virginia mostly grew tobacco
  - South Carolina and Georgia mostly grew rice
- Heavy reliance on cash crop farming meant that little commerce or industry developed
- Plantations formed mostly in the Tidewater regions on navigable rivers so crops could be shipped to market by boat
- The backcountry was mostly settled by newer and poorer settlers who grew corn and tobacco on small farms. Most worked alone or with their families; some had one or two slaves.

### **Social / Cultural Aspects of the Southern Colonies were:**

- Due to warm climate and easy spread of disease (especially malaria, dysentery, and typhoid), there was a high death rate in the early years.
  - Average life expectancy for European men was just over 40 years; slightly less for women
  - One in four English children died in infancy, and half died before the age of 20
  - Children who survived infancy often lost one or both parents before they grew up
- First settlers were largely men; gender imbalance meant only slow natural population increase for many years
- Tobacco and rice required a great deal of labor. At first planters used indentured servants to work in the fields. When they became scarce and expensive, planters used enslaved Africans instead. Their status was fluid at first. Some were able to purchase freedom. Some were indentured, but their contracts were longer than those of white indentured servants – more like 28 years. In legal documents, they were listed next to livestock and by first name only.
- Independent small farmers outnumbered the large plantation owners, but plantation owners had more wealth and influence. So Southern economic, and political life was dominated by a few wealthy planter families.
- Religion: mostly Church of England, but there was some religious toleration (more than the New England colonies), Maryland was a safe-place for Catholics

## Southern Colonies Notes (Part One: Virginia and Maryland, aka Chesapeake Colonies)

(Notes from Lombard and Middleton. *Colonial America: A History to 1763*. Malden, Massachusetts: John Wiley & Sons, 2007. Print.)

### Vocabulary:

1. **Charter colonies** – established by settlers who had been given a charter. The colonists elected their own governors and members of legislatures (law-making bodies).
2. **Proprietary colonies** – ruled by individuals (proprietors), who had been given land by the King. Proprietors appointed a governor and members of one house of the legislature; colonists elected members of the other house.
3. **Proprietor** – an individual who owns property or land
4. **Royal colonies** – ruled directly by Britain. The King appointed (selected) the governor or council; the colonists elected an assembly.

Make it Yours!	Notes
	<p><b>1. Virginia (founded 1607 - JAMESTOWN)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fought _____ on and off with the _____ from the 1620s to 1640s. Result = final _____ of the Powhatan Confederacy</li> <li>• Became a _____ in 1624. King appointed a governor and royal council. The _____ was still allowed to meet</li> <li>• With Powhatans defeated, more _____ opened up and more and more settlers grew _____</li> <li>• John Rolfe with that _____ which led to plantations and an increase in the _____ trade.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Maryland (founded 1634)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founded as a _____ by the Roman Catholic Calvert family.</li> <li>• Reasons for founding:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To _____</li> <li>○ To make a safe place for _____ to live (they were persecuted in England)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mostly _____ wanted to move to Maryland, and they started _____ Catholics</li> <li>• Maryland's representative government created the <b>Act of Toleration (1649)</b>. It made it a _____ to mistreat someone because of _____, but it only applied to _____.</li> </ul> <p><b>Economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____, especially of tobacco</li> <li>• Also farmed wheat, fruit, vegetables, and raised cattle</li> <li>• Plantation style farming in the South led to an increase in _____.</li> </ul>

## **Class Work: Bacon's Rebellion; Interviewing a Rebel!! (1675 – 1676)**

**Directions:** Read the summary of Bacon's Rebellion below. Then use the directions on the separate handout to make at least one Handmade Thinking illustration for Bacon's Rebellion.

**Introduction:** Trouble was brewing amongst the lower classes in Virginia in the 1670s. Former indentured servants and newer poor settlers in the backcountry began to get frustrated by lack of land, the scarcity of single women to marry, and friction with Native Americans who bordered their settlements. These resentments bubbled over into rebellion under the leadership of Nathaniel Bacon.

**"Bacon's Rebellion," *Africans in America*.** WGBH Educational Foundation, 1999. Web. Accessed 9-25-13. (MODIFIED)

"[We must defend ourselves] against all Indians in generall, for that they were all Enemies."

This was the view of Nathaniel Bacon, a young, wealthy Englishman who had recently settled in the backcountry of Virginia. The opinion that all American Indians were enemies was also shared by many other Virginians, especially those who lived in the interior. It was not the view, however, of the governor of the colony, William Berkeley. Berkeley was not opposed to fighting Indians who were considered enemies, but attacking friendly Indians, he thought, could lead to what everyone wanted to avoid: a war with "all the Indians against us." Berkeley also didn't trust Bacon's intentions. He thought that Bacon's true goal was to stir up trouble among frontier settlers, who were already unhappy with the colony's government.

Bacon attracted a large following who, like him, wanted to kill or drive out every Indian in Virginia. In 1675, when Berkeley denied Bacon a commission (the authority to lead soldiers), Bacon decided to lead his followers in a crusade against the Native Americans. They marched to a fort held by a friendly tribe, the Occaneechees, and convinced them to capture warriors from an unfriendly tribe. The Occaneechees returned with captives. Bacon's men killed the captives. They then turned to their "allies" the Occaneechees and opened fire.

Berkeley declared Bacon a rebel and charged him with treason, so when Bacon returned to Jamestown, he brought along fifty armed men. Bacon was arrested, but Berkeley pardoned him instead of sentencing him to death. Bacon still wanted a commission, so he returned to Jamestown later the same month, but this time with five hundred men. Berkeley was forced to give Bacon the commission, but later he declared that it was void. Bacon, in the meantime, had continued his fight against Indians. When he learned of the Governor's declaration, he headed back to Jamestown. The governor fled, along with a few of his supporters, to Virginia's eastern shore.

Each leader tried to gain support from Virginia's colonists. Each promised freedom to slaves and servants who would join their cause. But Bacon's following was much greater than Berkeley's. In September of 1676, Bacon and his men set Jamestown on fire. The rebellion ended after British authorities sent a royal force to help put down the uprising, and they arrested many rebels, white and black. When Bacon suddenly died in October, probably of dysentery, Bacon's Rebellion fizzled out.

Bacon's Rebellion was important in part because it showed that poor whites and poor blacks could be united in a cause. This was a great fear of the upper class of Virginia -- what would prevent the poor (black AND white) from uniting to fight them? This fear led the upper classes to start turning away from using indentured servants and more and more to racial slavery.

Note: At about the same time as Bacon's Rebellion, wages began to rise in England. Fewer young men were willing to risk their lives to become indentured servants in Virginia. Black slaves would grow to outnumber white indentured servants in the Southern Colonies by the mid-1680s.