



EARLY COLONIAL LEADERS

Student Objectives: The students will...

1. Understand the causes and effects of European colonization of the United States.
2. Describe the accomplishments of significant individuals during the colonial period.
3. Apply critical thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources.
4. Work productively with others in teams.
5. Organize and present their ideas and information.

TEKS: SS 5.1B, 5.25D

Materials Needed: Research materials (print or electronic), internet access, access to PowerPoint or other slide presentation software, Tombstone Template.

Teaching Strategies:

1. In reviewing the colonization of the United States and the Colonial Period, engage students in a discussion of important people during that time of our history.
2. Specifically point out William Bradford, Anne Hutchinson, William Penn, John Smith, Roger Williams, and John Wise.
3. Review what these people have in common and in what ways they were different.
 - a. Hutchinson, Penn, Williams, and Wise were religious leaders
 - b. Hutchinson, Bradford, Wise were from Massachusetts
 - c. All originally from England
 - d. All were leaders in 17th Century American colonies
4. Divide students into six groups. Each group will conduct research on one of these colonial leaders to discover:
 - a. Background information—born, family, location growing up, etc.
 - b. The significant role each played in the colonization of America.
 - c. Where they lived in the colonies.
 - d. Other important information.
5. Each group will create a PowerPoint presentation in order to teach the rest of the class about that person. Others will take notes about each person.
6. To demonstrate what they've learned, after all the presentations, students will choose one person (other than the one they researched) to create a tombstone for, complete with name, dates of birth and death, and epitaph.

Extension for Gifted/Talented:

Students may select one of the religious groups who fought for religious freedom for more in-depth research, including Puritans, Quakers, Protestants, and Catholics. Some were tolerant of one group or but not another. How did help shape "religious freedom" in America?

