Original 13 Colonies
Motivations

The reason settlers founded each of the 13 Colonies was because they were in search of freedom.

However, they were in search of different types of freedom.
Each colony was unique in its characteristics, but they can be grouped into regions based on their **climate** and **geography**. These factors had a direct impact on each region’s **economy**, **government**, and **way of life**.

**New England Colonies**
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire

**Middle Colonies**
- Delaware
- Pennsylvania
- New York
- New Jersey

**Southern Colonies**
- Maryland
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia
The Middle Colonies

Those who settled in the Middle Colonies were also looking to practice their own religion, however, unlike many of those who settled in the New England Colonies, they were also looking to make money and many left their families in Europe.

Delaware

*Disputed between by the Dutch & Swedes from the 1630’s until 1664 when the English seized it*

New Jersey

*Founded in 1664 for agriculture and trade*
The 13 Original Colonies

The Middle Colonies

**Pennsylvania**
*Founded by William Penn in 1682 for Quakers and those seeking religious freedom*

**New York**
*Founded by the Dutch for the fur trade and became an English Colony in 1664*
The settlements here were owned by English proprietors, or people who own and control all the land.

The proprietors sent governors to watch over the Middle Colonies.

They also allowed the colonists to elect representatives, which was an important step toward self-government.
The economy was based mainly on agriculture.

Many people earned a living by farming.

Fertile soil and long growing season allowed people to grow many cash crops, or crops they could sell for money.

Sometimes called the “The Bread Basket” colonies because they grew so many crops for making bread like wheat, rye, and barley.
Mills and small factories were also prevalent throughout the Middle Colonies.

Mills would grind the grains into flour.

Factories were able to produce goods like paper and textiles (cloth) because of the abundant farms and woodland.
Although other religions were welcomed, the Society of Friends or Quakers were the dominant group in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

They believed that all Christians should be free to worship their own way.
Most schools were private.

Students also learned other subjects so they could get into college.

Girls weren't allowed to attend (unless they were Quakers).
The Middle Colonies enjoyed religious tolerance. But, children went to church schools rather than public schools, so they were also taught religion based on the church school they attended. If you couldn't afford to pay for your child's education, then you couldn't. Children were not treated any differently whether their parents paid for their education or not. The Middle Colonies were known as the bread basket. They grew a great deal of wheat and corn. Kids were often needed to help with the crops. So school was out during planting and harvest cycles.
The Life of a Kid in the Middle Colonies

- Kids were kept very busy.
- Kids had many chores to do in the New World. Kids collected stones from the fields to make stone fences. They collected berries. They helped with the farm animals and the harvest. They helped their mother make candles. They helped to make clothes. Everyone had to pitch in.
- Kids in the New England and Middle Colonies especially spent a great deal of time in church or in prayer. Sermons were long. Sometimes kids fell asleep. If they did, in some churches they were poked with a long pole with a brass knob on it, to wake them up.
- Kids went to school. They often had homework, sometimes lots of it.
- Yet, they still found time to play. In winter, in the Middle Colonies, kids had fun skating. In all the colonies, kids played with balls and bats and marbles and dolls. They played tag. In the south they played lawn bowling. In the north, they played shuffleboard. There were dances and parties. For some, it was a big deal to go into town. For others, it was fun to visit a country fairs and eat candies and watch puppet shows. Kids did not have a lot of free time, but with the free time they had, they had fun!
Two of the most influential people of the Colonial period were William Penn and Benjamin Franklin.

Penn established the colony of Pennsylvania as a place where all Christians could live together in peace.

Franklin lived in Philadelphia and made many contributions to society.

He published newspapers and books. He started Philly’s first library, fire company, and hospital. He was also a talented scientist and inventor.

Both men were Quakers, a Christian religious group...
The 13 Original Colonies

**Important Figures of the Middle Colonies**

**William Penn**
- A Quaker, he founded Pennsylvania in 1682
- He supported religious freedom and founded Pennsylvania as a refuge for Quakers and those who had been persecuted elsewhere

**Benjamin Franklin**
- An author, inventor, politician, publisher, scientist, and statesman who called Philadelphia, Pennsylvania home
- His many scientific advances, writings, & publishing’s, and political influence would impact how many colonists lived and later, help lead the colonies towards their independence from England
Poor Richard’s Almanak

• First published in 1732, it was a yearly (annual) publication up until 1758 which Franklin wrote and published under the pseudonym, “Richard Saunders”, or “Poor Richard”

• It was one of the most popular publications in the colonies

• It included weather forecasts, puzzles, quotes, and reflected colonial lifestyle
Benjamin Franklin’s Contributions

Inventions & Discoveries

- Proved that lightning is a form of electricity
- **The lightning rod**
  - Protects structures from fire due to lightning strikes
- **Bifocals**
  - Special glasses which help people to see and read
- **The Franklin stove**
  - Uses less wood than fireplaces and provides more heat while producing less smoke
The Duke of York gave William Penn more land that was once part of Pennsylvania. This land later became the colony of Delaware.

**Delaware**

- **Founded:** 1638 by Peter Minuit and others
- **Major Industry:** Agriculture (fishing), Manufacturing (lumbering)
- **Major Cities:** Wilmington
- **Colony Named for:** named for the Delaware tribe and for an early governor of colonial Virginia, Lord de la Warr
- **Became a State:** December 7, 1787
William Penn founded Pennsylvania as a place where people could worship freely. Penn made fair treaties with the Lenni Lanape Indians which allowed them to live together peacefully for years.
John Berkeley and George Carteret named the land given to them by James, the Duke of York, New Jersey.

- **Founded**: 1664 by English colonists
- **Major Industry**: Manufacturing (ironworking, lumbering)
- **Major Cities**: Trenton, Princeton
- **Colony Named for**: Isle of Jersey in England
- **Became a State**: December 18, 1787
The King of England gave the colony to his brother James, the Duke of York. He changed the name to New York and gave part of it to two of his friends.

New York

- **Founded:** 1626 by Peter Minuit and others, on Manhattan Island
- **Major Industry:** Manufacturing (shipbuilding, iron works), Agriculture (cattle, grain, rice, indigo, wheat)
- **Major Cities:** New York City, Albany
- **Colony Named for:** Duke of York
- **Became a State:** July 26, 1788
Middle Colonies Quiz

Go back to Class Dojo and answer the following questions in your portfolio.

1. What crops grew in the Middle Colonies? Name three.

2. What was the soil like?

3. Name the four Colonies in the Middle?
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