Florida’s Early History
By Howard Johnson, Union Academy

I. Lesson Summary

Summary
While most American history textbooks focus on the English colonies on the eastern seaboard of the present-day United States, almost none of them give more than passing mention to the colonial settlement of Florida. But Spanish explorers were seeking fame and riches in the wilderness of Florida many years before the first English settlers arrived at Roanoke. This lesson attempts to expose the student to Florida’s forgotten years.

Objectives
Students will:
1.) Read and answer discussion questions about Florida’s history, from early native Americans to the years as an American territory;
2.) Explore Florida’s role as Great Britain’s “forgotten” 14th and 15th American colonies;
3.) Participate in a “Florida History Jeopardy” demonstration of knowledge.

U.S. History Event or Era
Colonial Florida, beginning with the first Floridians in prehistoric times. The lesson also covers the 2½ centuries under Spanish rule, life under the British government, and Florida’s first years as an American territory and eventually a state.

Grade Level
This lesson has been designed for the middle-school student.

Materials
Each student will need one of the following: “Florida History” reading; “Florida History Review”; “15 Original Colonies”; map of 15 colonies; “15 Original colonies” spreadsheet; and colored pencils.

Lesson Time
Depending on how you want your students to learn the material in this lesson, it can all be given over a few class periods, or be taught as a part of each unit as you move through your American history curriculum.
Lesson Procedures

Procedures
1.) Pass out “Florida History” reading to students. Read the Introduction orally with the students.
2.) Pass out the “Florida History Review” questions. Instruct students to fill in the blanks with the correct information as they read. (Note: you may want to place students in mixed-ability pairs for this exercise).
3.) Pass out materials dealing with the “Original 15 Colonies” of Great Britain. Go over directions with students. Make sure they have colored pencils in order to fill in the different colonies.
4.) Before the test, make a “Florida History Jeopardy” game; using questions from the Review, place them in categories such as “Florida Natives,” “Early Exploration & Settlement,” “Life Under Spanish Rule,” “1763-1821: Britain and Spain Rule Florida,” “Florida Joins the U.S.,” and “The Seminole Wars.” Place students into teams of four or five and allow them to come up with team names that have to do with the history of Florida. After naming teams, keep track of the score on the board. Go in order and heed to the following rules:
   a. Teams are asked questions in order.
   b. The team being asked the question may pick the category and the point total of the question. If a member of the team answers the question correctly, then the team gets the points. If the team answers incorrectly, or does not provide an answer in a specified period of time (chosen by you), then that team loses the points from their total.
   c. If a question is answered incorrectly, then it bounces to the next team. If that team also answers incorrectly, the question goes to the third team. Only the team that originally chose the question can lose points, however!! If the third team also answers incorrectly, then provide the correct answer and move on. If the second or third team answers the question correctly, then they get the points AND get to choose their own question to answer.
   d. It is up to you, the teacher, to decide if you want teams to discuss possible answers among themselves if they have a chance of getting a “bounced” question. If you allow teams to discuss questions, then you may want to half the possible points for each question each time it bounces. For example, if Team #1 chooses a 100-point question and answers incorrectly, then make it a 50-point question for Team #2. If Team #2 also answers incorrectly, then half it again to 25 points.
   e. All other rules are up to you!!
4.) Give the “Florida History Test.”
II. Activities

FLORIDA HISTORY

Student’s Name ________________________

Period __________

Introduction - We will talk about Florida history before anything else in American history, because Florida has a lot of history that precedes the Pilgrims, Jamestown, and Plymouth Rock. The Spanish City of St. Augustine was over half a century old by the time the English landed at Plymouth Rock. Many textbooks don’t discuss much about Florida until the Seminole Wars or even Henry Flagler’s hotels and railroads in the early 1900s. Florida actually has the longest recorded history of any of the American states. It’s written record goes back to the time of men who, like its European discoverer Juan Ponce de León, had sailed with Christopher Columbus; to the time of Florida’s first discoverers, residents, farmers, craftsmen, and developers, who the Europeans called “Indians”; to the time of conquistadors and hidalgos who vainly hunted Florida for gold and silver; to the time of brave, resourceful women who created pioneer households in the subtropical wilderness; and to the time of gray-robed friars, who missions stretched across Florida like rosary beads two centuries before the better-known missions of California. Florida was the cradle of our country and the first name of European origin to be etched upon its maps.

Florida Natives - The first people of Florida were called Panzacola, Chatot, and Apalachicola in the Panhandle, Apalachee in the arch or bend, Timucua in the north half of the peninsula, Calusa in the south, and Matucumbe in the Keys. According to anthropologists and historians, these Florida natives were descendants of Eurasians who had crossed the ice bridge from Siberia to Alaska as long as 12,000 years ago. These indigenous people lived in harmony with the environment, lived off the land, and wore minimal clothing (deerskin breechcloth for men and Spanish moss skirts for the women). They lived with nearly 500 species of birds, 7,800 lakes, the vast river of grass (Everglades), pine flatwoods, mixed hardwoods, saw palmetto and wiregrass, salt marshes, cypress and custard apple swamps, scrub and dry prairies, dozens of rivers, and beautiful beaches. Aside from occasional fights between tribes, storms, or fires, life was pretty good (depending upon who you ask) until the big ships arrived with the European sailors. Some of the tribes welcomed the visitors and tried to learn their ways. Others wisely saw them as a threat to their land and way of life and fought the visitors. But with more sophisticated weapons (guns v. bows and arrows), they couldn’t win. And worse yet, the white visitors brought diseases which the indigenous people had no immunities for, killing the vast majority of them. Those few who survived ended up losing most of their culture and their way of life.

Early Exploration & Settlement - Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León, governor of Puerto Rico, was the first outsider who is known to have happened onto the peninsula of Florida while searching for an island with rejuvenating waters. Others probably came before him, especially Spanish slavers, but their accounts are not recorded. It is thought that Ponce de León sailed into Florida south of Cape Canaveral near Melbourne Beach around Easter time in 1513. He named the land La Florida - "the Flowery Land." The Spanish and French led several more expeditions after this and attempted to settle Florida. In 1565, Spanish Admiral Pedro Menendez de Aviles founded St. Augustine, the first permanent European settlement and oldest city in the continental United States. St. Augustine had a church, seminary, hospital, fish market, and about 120 shops and homes long before the Pilgrims came ashore at Plymouth, Massachusetts. La Florida was much bigger than our state is today and stretched from the Keys north to Newfoundland and west to Texas. St. Augustine was the capital of a major chunk of land that is now the United States. The English grabbed much of the territory over the next 200 years. But other than a period of twenty-one years under British rule, St. Augustine carried the Spanish flag for nearly two and a half centuries.

Many other explorers and expeditions searched Florida for gold and other precious resources. Hernando de Soto sailed into Tampa Bay in 1539 with priests and settlers. They soon found another Spaniard, Juan Ortiz, from an earlier expedition, who had been a captive of the natives for several years. Ortiz served as an interpreter for de
Soto as he passed through Florida (including Dade City, Gainesville, Lake City, Tallahassee, and other modern-day towns). De Soto was cruel to the natives and they resisted him with their primitive weapons - bows and arrows, knives, etc. But contagious diseases left behind by de Soto’s march through present-day Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas continued to kill tens of thousands of American natives for years to come.

Florida was a drain on the Spanish treasury and never provided much reward for their efforts like the lands of the Inca and Aztec had. They never found gold, gems, or minerals or anything else of much value in Florida. Florida soil never produced great crops. St. Augustine was of limited value as a fort in protecting the Bahama Channel through which Spain sent its treasure fleets. Ponce de León died at Charlotte Harbor, de Soto died on the banks of the Mississippi, Dominican friar Luis Cancer de Barbastro was slaughtered at Tampa Bay as he held up a crucifix. The only successes in Florida were probably the work of the Franciscan missionaries with the Apalachee Indians around present-day Tallahassee and their cultivation of maize, wheat, beans, pumpkins, tobacco, and cotton. The missions converted many natives to Christianity, but the cruelty of many Europeans often negated the missionaries’ work. A thriving cattle industry developed later around present-day Gainesville. But much of Florida remained a wild domain of buffalo, deer, wild cattle, and ungoverned human runaways - natives, black slaves, Englishmen, and others.

**Missions** - The first mission in Florida, Nombre de Dios (“Name of God”) was founded at St. Augustine by priests who accompanied Menéndez in 1565. Jesuit missionaries followed the next year, but they were not successful. The Franciscans arrived first in 1573 and succeeded in building an effective mission system. They had 36 missions in Florida within the next 50 years. They taught thousands of Indians who lived in or near the missions the Roman Catholic faith and European arts and crafts, as well as farming, cattle raising, carpentry, weaving, and reading and writing. One of the most important and successful missions was Mission San Luis near present day Tallahassee. This mission came about as a request from the Apalachee rulers to the Spanish to send friars to work with the natives around 1607. The Apalachee accepted religious conversion voluntarily through the work of two friars there. But the vast majority of Florida natives continued in their aboriginal customs and beliefs. And by 1702, most of the missions were in ruins. English governor James Moore of South Carolina and others led raiding parties that destroyed almost all the missions, killing thousands of natives and Spanish inhabitants. The English not only raided much of the Spanish hard-earned treasury at sea, but they also burned and destroyed much of what the Spanish had built throughout the area of Florida.

**Forts** - In 1564 a French expedition established a colony named Fort Caroline near the mouth of the St. Johns River. It was in the shape of a triangle and was a direct challenge to Spain’s claims over La Florida. Menéndez, who founded St. Augustine nearby in 1565, captured the fort that same year. Spain established a military fort at Pensacola (Carlos de Austria) to guard the western approaches to Florida against the French in 1559, and the Castillo de San Marcos (Castle of St. Mark) at St. Augustine. The famous fort at St. Augustine, built of coquina, a native shellrock, took 23 years to build and replaced nine wooden forts that had been built previously. This fort was successful in repelling massive attacks by the British twice (by Col. James Moore of Carolina in 1702 and by Governor James Oglethorpe of Georgia in 1740). The coquina walls seemed to absorb the cannon balls without breaking apart. This fortress still stands today and can be visited all year long. Fort Mose, the first free African-American fort and town in America, is also nearby. Settlers and natives often lived near the forts and went inside the compounds during attacks. The Spaniards typically treated the natives with respect and did not require tribute or taxes from them as they had in Mexico and Peru or force them to work. They did have to support the troops at St. Augustine with some goods or labor in return for protection. Overall, the Spaniards showed respect to the natives and allowed them autonomy. They protected the natives and the Franciscan missionaries who worked with them. The French and English were not so kind, however, and often slaughtered the natives without restraint. The English became the premier power in America and during the French and Indian War (1754-63) and when the Spanish took the side of the French, the English seized the rich Cuban port of Havana. In order for the Spanish to get Cuba back, Spain had to give up Florida. France lost even more, giving up all of its North American territory to the British - Canada and Louisiana.

**British Rule in Florida** - Because of the vast size of Florida, the British created two colonies: East Florida, with St. Augustine as capital, and West Florida, with Pensacola as capital. These 14th and 15th English colonies remained loyal to Britain during the American Revolution. James Grant, from Scotland, was the first civil governor
of East Florida (from 1764 to 1771). The British quickly expanded development and agriculture in Florida. Many British came from the other colonies, such as Daniel Boone who lived near Pensacola. A great many slaves also came to Florida and worked the fields, mills, and ships. Creek Indians also moved in from present-day Georgia and Alabama where the scattered Christian tribes lived. The British called them “Seminoles” after the Creek word for “wild ones” or “separatists.” In the towns one could see a wide variety of individuals - dignified officials and merchants, unruly soldiers and sailors, former slaves, and various natives. Many languages and dialects were spoken including English, Mandingo, Muskogee, Hitchiti, Cherokee, Catalan, Greek, French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Sicilian.

The Second Spanish Period - Thanks to the American Revolution and the fact that the patriots kept the British busy Spain was able to take Florida back. In 1781, Spain recaptured Pensacola and West Florida. The courageous twenty-seven-year-old Spanish governor of Louisiana, Bernardo de Gálvez distinguished himself in battles against the British. In the treaty which ended the Revolution two years later (1783), East Florida was also returned to Spain. But it became clear early on that the expanding United States of America would soon grab Florida for itself. Spain realized that it could not control Florida with a mission system as in the past, so it set out to use trade and immigration to help its territory become prosperous. The trading plan worked pretty well, but the generous immigration policies (giving land to those who came) caused thousands of Anglo-Americans to pour into Florida from the north and these populations had little in common with the Spanish and had no loyalties to Spain. Within a few years, Anglo-Americans in Baton Rouge established their own government and declared themselves the “Republic of West Florida.” Shortly thereafter, President James Madison annexed the lands of West Florida. In East Florida, several governments sprung up along the east coast. American agents took advantage of the instability and both American and British forces moved through Florida at will. Finally, in 1819 Secretary of State John Quincy Adams signed a treaty with Spain to assume $5 million in debt in exchange for Florida.

Florida Joins The U.S. - Andrew Jackson was sent to Florida in 1821 as the first military governor of the U.S. possession. “Old Hickory” wasted no time in preparing Florida for statehood - he only stayed for three months. (Jackson had been a U.S. Congressman and senator from Tennessee, superior court judge, military leader in the War of 1812 and First Seminole War of 1818.) Jackson divided the state into two counties, Escambia and St. Johns. The city of Jacksonville was named after Jackson. In 1822 William Duval was appointed as the first territorial governor and served four terms, until 1834. The first legislative council met at Pensacola. The members from St. Augustine traveled for 59 days to get there. They formed two new counties, Duval and Jackson. The next session met at St. Augustine. This time the western delegates almost died in a shipwreck sailing around the peninsula. So at this session the legislators picked a halfway location for a capital between Pensacola and St. Augustine. They selected the Indian fields of Tallahassee in the old Apalachee land which was then occupied by the Creeks. Florida’s population in 1821 was only 8,000. By the 1830s, the cotton lands of middle Florida (counties of Jackson, Gadsden, Leon, Jefferson, and Madison) had over 15,000 persons, the majority of them black slaves, and a majority of the wealth and culture. One of the most important plantations of the period was established by Scottish-born Zephaniah Kingsley and his African wife Anna Jai, a few miles northeast of Jacksonville.

More On Florida Natives: Indians - As previously stated, the earliest natives were the Panzacola, Chatot, and Apalachicola in the Panhandle, Apalachee in the arch or bend, Timucua in the north half of the peninsula, Calusa in the south, and Matecumbe in the Keys. The Spanish explorers brought European diseases that these natives had never been exposed to which killed tens of thousands of these natives as well as Creeks, Cherokees, and others. After many of the original Florida natives had died out or been killed by the British, some of the natives from Alabama and Georgia began to move in to take their places. Hundreds of runaway slaves joined these natives, living and fighting with them, and learned to speak their languages. The British used the name “Seminoles” for all the natives after the Creek word for “wild ones” or “separatists.”

The First Seminole War (1817-1818) - Between 1805 and 1816 there was a lot of antagonism between white settlers, Florida Indians, and the Creek Confederation near the Georgia/Florida border. The Seminoles were harboring runaway slaves who escaped into Florida. In 1817, General Gaines sent 250 men from Fort Scott, in southwest Georgia, to arrest Chief Neamathla, who had threatened to annihilate any Americans who trespassed on Indian grounds. This began the First Seminole War. The Indians killed a party of soldiers coming
up the Appalachicola River with supplies. Then General Andrew Jackson took a force of 3,500 men, 2,000 of whom were Creek Indian mercenaries. He attacked the Spanish fort a St. Marks, which had been occupied by Indians and Blacks. The Indians found out they were coming however and fled the fort before they got there, leaving two Creek Indian chiefs and a Scottish trader. The chiefs were executed and then Jackson marched east and attacked the village of Chief Boleck on the Suwannee River. Again the Indians escaped. The American troops burned the village then returned to the Spanish fort and fought the Indians for three days, capturing the fort.

The Second Seminole War - Osceola, the famous Seminole Indian chief was not really a Seminole or a chief. His actual name was Billy Powell and he was born to an English father and Upper Creek Indian mother in Alabama about 1804. He had moved with his mother to Florida shortly before the Second Seminole War broke out. During the three years of conflict, he fought ruthlessly for the Seminole cause and became a war hero. He was captured during a truce (deceitfully under a white flag) by U.S. Major General Thomas Jesup and executed, becoming a martyr and legend. The Second Seminole War was the longest (nearly 7 years) and most expensive Indian war in the country’s history. The new government in Florida had given 4 million acres north of Charlotte Harbor and south of Ocala to the Indians in 1823 for a reservation. But the Indians were not happy with the land and the white settlers wanted the rich farmlands for themselves. So the federal government decided to relocated the Indians across the Mississippi River to Arkansas. Several of the Seminole chiefs approved the treaty, but a few rejected it. On December 28, 1835, Indians shot and killed a lieutenant and an Indian agent outside Fort King, near Ocala. Then they ambushed Major Francis Dade and two companies of soldiers near Bushnell. Only three soldiers survived (by either escaping or pretending to be dead). This started the Second Seminole War. The Indians fought bravely against overwhelming odds. Several heroic war leaders emerged from this war - Osceola, Micanopy, Jumper, Alligator, Tiger Tail, and Coacoochee.

The Third Seminole War - By 1834 almost 4,000 Indians had been shipped to the west. But an uncaptured remnant continued to fight against the white invaders through the 1850s in what was called the Third Seminole War. Less than one hundred Indians survived this war, but they never surrendered and fled into the Everglades.

References & Sources of Interest:

*Museum of Florida History & Bureau of Archaelogical Research*, Division of Historical Resources,
Florida Dept. of State


*Seminole Wars*, Historic Foundation, Inc. Clearwater, FL (813) 449-1817

*A Short History of Florida*, Fla. Dept. of State
FLORIDA HISTORY REVIEW

Name _________________________

Period _____  Date ______________

Directions - Use your Florida History handout to answer the following questions:

1. The oldest city in the United States is ____________________________.
2. The original Florida natives are thought to have come from _____________ about 12,000 years ago.
3. The three groups of natives that lived in the Panhandle of Florida were the ____________________, the ________, and the ________.
4. The natives that lived in the bend or arch (near present-day Tallahassee) were the ____________________.
5. The ______________ lived in the northern half of the peninsula.
6. The ______________ lived in the south, and the ______________ lived in the Florida Keys.
7. ______________ brought by the white settlers killed more of the natives than battles did.
8. Spanish explorer ____________________________ is credited with discovering Florida in 1513 while searching for a “fountain of youth” or island of “rejuvenating waters.”
9. This explorer called the land “La Florida” which means ____________________________.
10. Who founded (established) the first permanent European settlement of St. Augustine? ____________________________
11. St. Augustine and Florida were under Spanish rule for nearly ________ centuries.
12. In 1539, another Spanish explorer sailed into Tampa Bay with priests and settlers.
13. De Soto’s expedition found ________________ who had been captured by the Indians several years before. This man had learned the Indians’ language and was able to interpret for de Soto.
14. Although the Spanish overall were kind to the Indians and treated them well, de Soto himself was ________.
15. De Soto’s expedition took him over a long trek through present-day Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas and left thousands of Indians dead from ____________.
16. Was Florida beneficial to the Spanish empire? Explain ____________________________.
17. The only real success for the Spanish in Florida was probably the work of the ______________ missionaries with the ______________ Indians.
18. The first mission in Florida was the ______________, or “Name of God.”
19. A very successful and famous mission near present-day Tallahassee that you can still visit was Mission ______
20. The Catholic men who worked as missionaries were called ________________.
21. English governor ________________ of South Carolina and a group of mercenaries destroyed almost all the Spanish missions, along with Indians and Spanish settlers.
22. The French fort built in 1564 near the mouth of the St. Johns River was Fort ____________________________.
23. Pedro ________________ , who was the founder of St. Augustine, captured the French fort in 1565.
24. In 1559, Spain established a fort at Pensacola to guard the west area of Florida against the French. This fort was called ______________ de ________________.
25. They also built the Castillo de San Marcos (______________ of ________________) that same year in St. Augustine.
26. This magnificent fort at St. Augustine replaced nine wooden forts that had been built previously and it still stands today. It is built of ________________, a native shellrock, and took ______ years to build.
27. The ______________ walls seemed to absorb cannon balls without breaking apart and the fort survived massive attacks from the British at least twice.
28. Although the Spanish did not require that the natives living near the fort to pay tribute or taxes, they did expect them to support the troops with some ______________ or ______________ in return for protection.
29. The Spanish overall showed respect to the natives, but the French and _______________ were not so kind.
30. The _______________ government was the most cruel to the natives, killing thousands of them.
31. During the French and Indian War, the English seized the rich port of _________________, Cuba, and forced Spain to give up Florida in exchange for releasing Cuba back to Spain.
32. _______________ also lost all of its North American territory to the British after this war.
33. Britain made Florida the 14th and 15th British colonies, dividing Florida into ______________ Florida and ______________ Florida.
34. Pensacola was the capital of ______________ Florida and St. Augustine was capital of ______________ Florida.
35. The first civil governor of East Florida was ______________ ______________.

36. During the American Revolution, Florida remained ______________ to Britain.

37. Creek Indians moved into Florida to replace the original Indians killed by the British and disease. Runaway black slaves also joined many of the Creek tribes and fought against the white settlers. The British called these Indians ______________ after the Creek word for “wild ones” or “separatists.”

38. Spain was able to take Florida back during the ______________ Revolution because the British were busy fighting the American patriots.

39. Spain recaptured ________________ in 1781 and won East Florida back in the treaty that ended the Revolution in 1783.

40. The Spanish used generous immigration policies and gave ________ to those who would come to Florida. As a result thousands of __________-Americans came and settled here.

41. These Americans who moved into Florida were very independent and gradually forced the Spanish to give up its claim to Florida. In 1819, the United States assumed $ __________ in debt in exchange for Florida.

42. ________________ _______________ was sent to Florida in 1821 as first military governor.

43. He (#42 above) divided the state into two counties, _________________ and St. ______________.

44. ________________ _______________ was appointed in 1822 as first territorial governor.

45. Because of the great distance between Pensacola and St. Augustine, the second session of state government chose a middle location (halfway between the two cities) at the new capital, ________________.

46. A famous plantation that you can still visit just a few miles northeast of Jacksonville is the ______________ Plantation, built by Zephania Kingsley, who married his African wife Anna Jai.

47. Between 1805 and 1816 there was a lot of antagonism between white settlers and the Indians because the white settlers wanted their land and some tribes, especially the ______________, were harboring slaves.

48. Chief ______________ threatened to kill any Americans who trespassed on Indian grounds.

49. In 1817, General _______________ sent 250 men from Fort Scott to arrest the chief, starting the First Seminole War.

50. Although the Indians outsmarted the American troops for awhile, General Andrew ______________ took a force of 3,500 men and killed or captured the Indians near the Suwannee River.

51. Billy Powell, son of an Englishman and a Creek woman from Alabama, became a hero during the Second Seminole War. They called him ________________.

52. He (#51 above) was captured and executed, becoming a ________________ and legend.

53. The new government in Florida gave 4 million acres of land in central Florida (near Ocala) to the Indians in 1823 for a ________________.

54. But the Indians didn’t like the land and the white settlers wanted the rich _______________ for themselves.

55. The federal government stepped in and decided to relocate the Indians across the ________________ River to ________________ (for their own protection and to please the settlers).

56. Some of the ________________ chiefs rejected the treaty and ambushed Major Francis _______________ and his two companies of soldiers, killing all but three. (You can still visit the Dade Battlefield located near Bushnell).

57. By 1834 almost 4,000 Indians had been shipped to the _______________. A small remnant stayed and continued to fight through the 1850s in what was called the Third Seminole War.

58. Less than 100 Indians survived this was, but they never surrendered and they fled into the ________________.
1. The oldest city in the United States is  **St. Augustine**.
2. The original Florida natives are thought to have come from **Eurasia** about 12,000 years ago.
3. The three groups of natives that lived in the Panhandle of Florida were the **Panzacola**, **Chatot**, and the **Apalachicola**.
4. The natives that lived in the bend or arch (near present-day Tallahassee) were the **Apalachee**.
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7. Diseases brought by the white settlers killed more of the natives than battles did.
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10. Who founded (established) the first permanent European settlement of St. Augustine? **Pedro Menendez de Aviles**
11. St. Augustine and Florida were under Spanish rule for nearly 2 ½ centuries.
12. In 1539, another Spanish explorer sailed into Tampa Bay with priests and settlers, **Hernando de Soto**.
13. De Soto’s expedition found **Juan Ortiz**, who had been captured by the Indians several years before. This man had learned the Indians’ language and was able to interpret for de Soto.
14. Although the Spanish overall were kind to the Indians and treated them well, de Soto himself was cruel.
15. De Soto’s expedition took him over a long trek through present-day Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas and left thousands of Indians dead from diseases.
16. Was Florida beneficial to the Spanish empire? Explain **No, they never found precious metals, the land was not suitable for farming, ...**
17. The only real success for the Spanish in Florida was probably the work of the **Franciscans** missionar ies with the **Apalachee** Indians.
18. The first mission in Florida was the **Nombre de Dios**, or “Name of God.”
19. A very successful and famous mission near present-day Tallahassee that you can still visit was Mission **San Luis**.
20. The Catholic men who worked as missionaries were called **friars**.
21. English governor **James Moore** of South Carolina and a group of mercenaries destroyed almost all the Spanish missions, along with Indians and Spanish settlers.
22. The French fort built in 1564 near the mouth of the St. Johns River was Fort **Caroline**.
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24. In 1559, Spain established a fort at Pensacola to guard the west area of Florida against the French. This fort was called **Carlos de Austria**.
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26. This magnificent fort at St. Augustine replaced nine wooden forts that had been built previously and it still stands today. It is built of **coquina**, a native shellrock, and took 23 years to build.
27. The **coquina** walls seemed to absorb cannon balls without breaking apart and the fort survived massive attacks from the British at least twice.
28. Although the Spanish did not require that the natives living near the fort to pay tribute or taxes, they did expect them to support the troops with some **goods** or **labor** in return for protection.
29. The Spanish overall showed respect to the natives, but the French and **English** were not so kind.
30. The **British** government was the most cruel to the natives, killing thousands of them.
31. During the French and Indian War, the English seized the rich port of **Havana**, Cuba, and forced Spain to give up Florida in exchange for releasing Cuba back to Spain.
32. **France** also lost all of its North American territory to the British after this war.
33. Britain made Florida the 14th and 15th British colonies, dividing Florida into **East** Florida and **West** Florida.
34. Pensacola was the capital of **West** Florida and St. Augustine was capital of **East** Florida.
35. The first civil governor of East Florida was **James Grant**.
36. During the American Revolution, Florida remained **loyal** to Britain.
37. Creek Indians moved into Florida to replace the original Indians killed by the British and disease. Runaway black slaves also joined many of the Creek tribes and fought against the white settlers. The British called these Indians “Seminoles” after the Creek word for “wild ones” or “separatists.”

38. Spain was able to take Florida back during the American Revolution because the British were busy fighting the American patriots.

39. Spain recaptured Pensacola in 1781 and won East Florida back in the treaty that ended the Revolution in 1783.

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43. He divided the state into two counties, Escambia and St. Johns.

44. William Duval was appointed in 1822 as first territorial governor.

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48. Chief Neamathla threatened to kill any Americans who trespassed on Indian grounds.

49. In 1817, General Gaines sent 250 men from Fort Scott to arrest the chief, starting the First Seminole War.

50. Although the Indians outsmarted the American troops for a while, General Andrew Jackson took a force of 3,500 men and killed or captured the Indians near the Suwannee River.

51. Billy Powell, son of an Englishman and a Creek woman from Alabama, became a hero during the Second Seminole War. They called him Osceola.

52. He was captured and executed, becoming a martyr and legend.

53. The new government in Florida gave 4 million acres of land in central Florida (near Ocala) to the Indians in 1823 for a reservation.

54. But the Indians didn’t like the land and the white settlers wanted the rich farmlands for themselves.

55. The federal government stepped in and decided to relocate the Indians across the Mississippi River to Arkansas (for their own protection and to please the settlers).

56. Some of the Seminole chiefs rejected the treaty and ambushed Major Francis Dade and his two companies of soldiers, killing all but three. (You can still visit the Dade Battlefield located near Bushnell).

57. By 1834 almost 4,000 Indians had been shipped to the West. A small remnant stayed and continued to fight through the 1850s in what was called the Third Seminole War.

58. Less than 100 Indians survived this was, but they never surrendered and they fled into the Everglades.
15 ORIGINAL COLONIES

Using the map and chart, answer the following questions:

1. With colored pencils, lightly color in the colonies. The dotted lines are the boundaries between colonies. Use maps on pages 127 and 134 in your book if you need help.
   a. Color West Florida YELLOW.
   b. Color East Florida ORANGE.
   c. Color Georgia GREEN.
   d. Color South Carolina BLUE.
   e. Color North Carolina BROWN.
   f. Color Virginia YELLOW.
   g. Color Maryland ORANGE.
   h. Color Delaware GREEN.
   i. Color Pennsylvania BLUE.
   j. Color New Jersey BROWN.
   k. Color New York YELLOW.
   l. Color Connecticut ORANGE.
   m. Color Rhode Island GREEN.
   n. Color Massachusetts BLUE (include what later became Maine).
   o. Color New Hampshire BROWN.

2. Using the chart, what are the five oldest colonies (list oldest first)? ____________________, ____________________, ____________________, ____________________, and ____________________.

3. Which nationality was the majority in most of the colonies? ____________________

4. Germans were the majority in which colony? ____________________

5. Dutch were the majority in which colony? ____________________

6. Which six colonies were founded for religious freedom? ____________________, ____________________, ____________________, ____________________, ____________________, and ____________________.

7. Which colony was founded as a safe home for debtors? ____________________

8. Which group of colonies (New England, Middle, or Southern) had rice plantations? ____________________

9. Which group of colonies (New England, Middle, or Southern) hunted whales? ____________________

10. Who was the founder of Connecticut? ____________________
# The 15* Original Colonies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORDER</th>
<th>COLONY</th>
<th>DATE OF CHARTER</th>
<th>REASONS FOUNDED</th>
<th>FOUNDERS OR LEADERS</th>
<th>MAIN PRODUCTS</th>
<th>NATIONAL ORIGINS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1620</td>
<td>Religious freedom</td>
<td>John Carver, William Bradford, John Winthrop</td>
<td>Grain, Fish, Ships, Cattle</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>1630</td>
<td>Religious freedom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1622</td>
<td>Profit from trade and fishing</td>
<td>Ferdinando Gorges, John Mason</td>
<td>Lumber, Whales, Furs, Iron, Rum</td>
<td>English; Scotch-Irish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>1636</td>
<td>Religious freedom</td>
<td>Roger Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1636</td>
<td>Fur trade, farming; religious and political freedom</td>
<td>Thomas Hooker</td>
<td></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## New England Colonies
(thin, rocky soil; harsh winters; short growing season, cold coastal waters; good harbors)

## Middle Colonies
(fertile soil; moderate winters; rolling hills; rich mineral deposits)

| 4     | New York      | 1624             | Expand trade | Dutch settlers | Grain, Fish, Rum, Cattle | Dutch; English; German; Scotch-Irish |
| 8     | Delaware      | 1638             | Expand trade | Swedish settlers |               | English |
| 11    | New Jersey    | 1664             | Profit from selling land | John Berkeley, George Carteret | Lumber, Iron | English; Dutch |
| 12    | Pennsylvania  | 1681             | Profit from selling land; religious freedom | William Penn |               | German; Scotch-Irish; English |

## Southern Colonies
(rich soil; mild winters; long growing season; abundant rainfall)

| 1     | Virginia      | 1607             | Expand trade | John Smith | English; African; Scotch-Irish |
| 5     | Maryland      | 1632             | Profit from selling land; religious freedom | Cecil Calvert | English; German; African |
| 9     | North Carolina| 1663             | Profit from trade and selling land | Group of 8 aristocrats | Rice, Grain, Lumber, Iron, Tobacco | English; Scottish; Scotch-Irish; German; African |
| 10    | South Carolina| 1663             | Profit from trade and selling land | Group of 8 aristocrats |               | English; African; Scotch-Irish; German |
| 13    | Georgia       | 1732             | Religious freedom; protection against Spanish Florida; safe home for debtors | James Oglethorpe | Indigo, Cattle, Fish, Rum | English; African; Scotch-Irish; German |
| 14    | West Florida  | 1763             | Extorted from Spain | George Johnstone |               | Natives; Spanish; English; Runaway slaves |
| 15    | East Florida  | 1763             | Extorted from Spain | James Grant |               | English; Runaway slaves |

* Textbooks normally ignore the 2 Florida colonies because they remained loyal to England during the Revolutionary War.
III. Assessment

TEST - EARLY FLORAlda HISTORY

Name ______________________________

Period _____  Date ____________________

Directions - Print the correct letter (capital, uppercase letter) in the blank at left:

1. The oldest city in the United States is:
   A. Pensacola  B. Apalachicola  C. Tallahassee  D. St. Augustine

2. Florida was under Spanish rule for _____ centuries.
   A. 2  B. 2 ½  C. 3  D. 5

3. The original Florida natives are thought to have come from _______ about 12,000 years ago.
   A. Africa  B. Europe  C. Asia  D. Eurasia

4. Spanish explorer ____________________ is credited with discovering Florida in 1513.
   A. Juan Ortiz     B. Ponce de León    C. Pedro Menéndez   D. Hernando de Soto

5. Who founded the first permanent European settlement of St. Augustine?
   A. Juan Ortiz  B. Ponce de León  C. Pedro Menéndez  D. Hernando de Soto

6. Which explorer came into Tampa Bay in 1539 and led a long expedition through Florida and the
   southeast and was especially cruel to the natives?
   A. Juan Ortiz  B. Ponce de León  C. Pedro Menéndez  D. Hernando de Soto

7. This expedition (#6 above) found ________________ who had been captured by the Indians several
   years earlier. This man had learned the Indians’ language and served as an interpreter.
   A. Juan Ortiz  B. Ponce de León  C. Pedro Menéndez  D. Hernando de Soto

8. Several sects of the Catholic church came to work with the Florida natives as missionaries. Which of
   the following was not one of these missionary sects?
   A. Franciscans B. Jesuits  C. Buddhists  D. Dominicans

9. Which missionary group was the only one to have much success in Florida?
   A. Franciscans B. Jesuits  C. Buddhists  D. Dominicans

10. Which native group requested that the Spanish send friars to build a mission and work with them?
    A. Apalachee  B. Apalachicola  C. Calusa  D. Timucua

11. Which native group lived in the panhandle portion (west area) of Florida?
    A. Apalachee  B. Apalachicola  C. Calusa  D. Timucua

12. Which group lived in the arch or bend near present-day Tallahassee?
    A. Apalachee  B. Apalachicola  C. Calusa  D. Timucua

13. What group lived in the upper portion of the peninsula, including the St. Augustine area?
    A. Apalachee  B. Apalachicola  C. Calusa  D. Timucua

14. Most governments were unkind in one way or another to the Indians, but which was the worst?
    A. Spanish  B. French  C. American  D. British or English

15. With a few exceptions, which government was the most kind to the Indians?
    A. Spanish  B. French  C. American  D. British or English

16. What was the first mission in Florida (which means “Name of God”)?
    A. Mission San Luis    B. La Florida  C. Nombre de Dios  D. Nema ova Gada

17. The most famous and successful mission in Florida can still be visited near Tallahassee. It is:
    A. Mission San Luis    B. La Florida  C. Nombre de Dios  D. Nema ova Gada

18. The famous fort at St. Augustine that was built in 1559 and still stands today is the:
    A. Carlos de Austria  B. Castillo de San Marcos  C. Fort Coquina  D. Fort Caroline

19. When Spain lost Florida to the British, ________________ became the capital of West Florida.
    A. Apalachee B. Tallahassee C. Pensacola  D. St. Augustine

20. In the First Seminole War, General ________________ took 3,500 men and captured the Indians.
    A. Gaines  B. Andrew Jackson  C. William Duval  D. James Grant
Matching - Write the correct letter in the blank at left.

21. La Florida  A. the fort that Spain built in Pensacola in 1559 to guard against French
22. James Moore  B. British seized this port forcing Spain to give up Florida to get it back
23. coquina  C. The Flowery Land
24. Havana  D. land set aside for the Indians in central Florida
25. Carlos de Austria  E. natives of Florida that lived in the Keys
26. Chatot  F. natives of Florida that lived in the panhandle (west)
27. Matecumbe  G. a native shellrock material used to build the fort at St. Augustine
28. Kingsley  H. when a person dies for a special cause - religion, politics, race, etc.
29. martyr  I. the last of the Seminoles never surrendered and fled here
30. reservation  J. Seminoles were sent here after the Seminole Wars
31. Neamathla  K. British gave them this name which means “wild ones” or “separatists”
32. Seminoles  L. first civil governor of East Florida
33. James Grant  M. ruthless English governor of South Carolina that killed many Indians
34. Arkansas  N. Seminole chief who threatened to kill any Americans on his land
35. Everglades  O. famous plantation near Jacksonville that you can still visit today

True or False - Write a T for True or F for False.

36. Most of the Florida natives (Indians) were killed by disease that the explorers brought with them.
37. Coquina was not a very good building material because the cannon balls broke it apart easily.
38. The natives supported the Spanish troops with goods and labor in exchange for their protection.
39. Under Britain, Florida was divided into two states and became the 14th and 15th colonies.
40. Spain was able to take Florida back from the British during the American Revolution.
41. During the American Revolution, Florida remained loyal to the British.
42. The Spanish ended up losing Florida because they gave away land to the Anglo-Americans and these Americans had no loyalty to the Spanish.
43. Spain gave Florida to the United States in 1819 in exchange for $1 million of debt to be assumed.
44. Andrew Jackson was the first civil governor of East Florida.
45. William Duval was the first civil governor of East Florida.
46. James Grant was the first civil governor of East Florida.
47. Osceola, the famous Seminole, became a martyr and legend after being killed by Andrew Jackson.
48. Although there were others, the Calusa was the main group of natives in our part of the state.
49. Juan Ponce de León discovered Florida while searching for the Fountain of Youth.
50. Most of the Seminoles refused to go West and fought to the death.

Extra Credit: Was Florida very beneficial to the Spanish empire? Explain.
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Extra Credit: Was Florida very beneficial to the Spanish empire? Explain.

No, they never found gold, silver, gems, minerals, etc… The soil wasn’t very good for farming. They had few successes. One success, however, was the Franciscans’ work with the Apalachee Indians in northern Florida. Otherwise, Florida was a drain on the Spanish treasury.
V. Resources

*Museum of Florida History & Bureau of Archaelogical Research*, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Dept. of State


*Seminole Wars*, Historic Foundation, Inc. Clearwater, FL (813) 449-1817

*A Short History of Florida*, Fla. Dept. of State