

Florida Changes

Explore why Spain came and how settlement changed Florida.

SS.4.A.3 "Exploration and Settlement of Florida"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that tell why Spain explored or settled Florida. Circle details that tell how Spanish contact changed Native communities.

Spain Comes to Florida

- ① In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León traveled along Florida's Atlantic coast. He named the land La Florida, meaning "flowery land," and claimed it for Spain. Spain wanted new land, wealth, and a sea route that could help its empire. Ponce de León's voyage began a long period of European exploration in Florida for Spain.
- ② In 1565, Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine for Spain. It became a base where Spanish ships could protect sea routes and where Spain could defend its claim to Florida. Soldiers built a fort, and missionaries tried to convert Native people to Christianity. St. Augustine is the oldest continuously occupied European-established settlement in the United States.
- ③ Spanish settlers did not arrive in empty land. Timucua, Apalachee, Calusa, and other Native peoples already had towns, farms, trade networks, and governments. Contact brought some new trade goods, but it also brought fighting, forced labor, mission changes, and diseases. Many Native people died from illnesses they had not faced before, and their communities were deeply changed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What three goals did Spain have for exploring Florida?

2 How did St. Augustine help Spain keep its claim to Florida?

3 Name two Native groups that lived in Florida before Spanish settlers arrived.

4 How was founding St. Augustine different from Ponce de León's 1513 voyage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences. State whether exploration or settlement had the bigger effect on Florida, then use two details from the passage to support your idea.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that tell why Spain explored or settled Florida. Circle details that tell how Spanish contact changed Native communities. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three goals did Spain have for exploring Florida?	Spain wanted new land, wealth, and a sea route to help its empire.
2	How did St. Augustine help Spain keep its claim to Florida?	It was a base where Spanish ships could protect sea routes and Spain could defend its claim to Florida.
3	Name two Native groups that lived in Florida before Spanish settlers arrived.	Any two: Timucua, Apalachee, or Calusa.
4	How was founding St. Augustine different from Ponce de León's 1513 voyage?	Ponce de León explored the coast, named the land, and claimed it. Menéndez founded a lasting settlement with a fort and a base for Spain.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I think settlement had the bigger effect on Florida. Spanish settlers built St. Augustine as a base for Spain. Their contact also changed Native communities through fighting, forced labor, mission changes, and disease.

Accept either opinion if the student states a clear claim and supports it with two accurate passage details. For Question 4, accept a comparison between exploring and founding a permanent settlement.