

Savannah's First Partnership

Analyze how three leaders' connected roles shaped a new settlement.

SS8H2.b "Analyze the relationship between James Oglethorpe, Tomochichi, and Mary Musgrove in establishing the city of Savannah at Yamacraw Bluff."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail showing each person's role, then circle words that show how one person's action depended on another person's action.

Establishing Savannah at Yamacraw Bluff

- ① In February 1733, James Oglethorpe led the first group of British colonists to the Savannah River. He needed a place where the newcomers could build homes, grow food, and defend themselves. The group chose Yamacraw Bluff, a high spot above the river. However, the bluff stood near land used by the Yamacraw people. Oglethorpe could not simply treat the site as empty. Establishing Savannah depended on building a workable relationship with the people already living in the area.
- ② Tomochichi, the Yamacraw leader, met with Oglethorpe after the colonists arrived. Through their discussions, Oglethorpe gained permission for the settlement at Yamacraw Bluff. Tomochichi's cooperation gave the newcomers a safer start and helped prevent immediate fighting. Oglethorpe, in turn, treated Tomochichi as an important ally and sought peaceful relations with neighboring Native communities. Their agreement was not just a personal friendship. It linked the colony's plans to Yamacraw decisions about land and peace in the region.
- ③ Mary Musgrove was a trader with English and Creek family connections. She knew both communities and served as an interpreter during talks between Oglethorpe and Tomochichi. Her translations helped each side understand requests, promises, and concerns. Musgrove also carried messages and traded goods, creating trust that a single meeting could not create. Oglethorpe brought colonists and plans, Tomochichi provided permission and local cooperation, and Musgrove made communication possible. Together, their connected roles helped establish Savannah at Yamacraw Bluff in 1733.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why did Oglethorpe need a workable relationship with the Yamacraw people before establishing Savannah?

2 How did Tomochichi's cooperation affect the British colonists' ability to begin Savannah?

3 What did Mary Musgrove do that helped Oglethorpe and Tomochichi work together?

4 How were Tomochichi's role and Mary Musgrove's role different, and how did both support Oglethorpe's plans?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining how Oglethorpe, Tomochichi, and Mary Musgrove depended on one another in establishing Savannah. Use all three names and include at least one word or phrase that shows a relationship, such as because, so, or helped.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail showing each person's role, then circle words that show how one person's action depended on another person's action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did Oglethorpe need a workable relationship with the Yamacraw people before establishing Savannah?	The Yamacraw used land near Yamacraw Bluff, so the settlement depended on a relationship with the people already living in the area.
2	How did Tomochichi's cooperation affect the British colonists' ability to begin Savannah?	He gave permission for the settlement at Yamacraw Bluff. His cooperation gave the colonists a safer start and helped prevent immediate fighting.
3	What did Mary Musgrove do that helped Oglethorpe and Tomochichi work together?	She served as an interpreter, helping both sides understand requests, promises, and concerns. She also carried messages and traded goods.
4	How were Tomochichi's role and Mary Musgrove's role different, and how did both support Oglethorpe's plans?	Tomochichi gave permission and local cooperation, while Musgrove made communication possible through interpreting and carrying messages. Both helped Oglethorpe establish the settlement peacefully.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Oglethorpe sought a secure site for a British settlement, but he needed agreement from local people. Tomochichi allowed the colonists to settle at Yamacraw Bluff, so Savannah could begin without immediate fighting. Mary Musgrove interpreted between the groups, which helped Oglethorpe and Tomochichi make and maintain their agreement.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect Oglethorpe's settlement plans, Tomochichi's permission and cooperation, and Musgrove's interpreting and communication. For the open response, require exactly three sentences, all three names, and a clear explanation of connected roles.