

Why Colonies Began

Read for the reasons people started different colonies.

2.8.a "identifying reasons for the settlement of the thirteen colonies;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the four sentences that directly tell why a colony was settled, and number each whole sentence 1 to 4 from top to bottom, even if two reasons are alike.

Reasons to Settle

- ① English investors started Virginia because they wanted tobacco to sell. Tobacco grew well in the warm climate. The crop was sent across the Atlantic Ocean to England. The money from tobacco helped the colony grow.
- ② Puritans settled Massachusetts Bay because they wanted to follow their own religious beliefs. They built towns, meetinghouses, and farms. Other people, including Catholics, settled Maryland so they could worship more freely. Maryland became a place where different Christians could live.
- ③ William Penn started Pennsylvania as a peaceful place for people with different beliefs. Its towns welcomed people from several Christian groups. The colony had rich land, rivers, and forests. Families built homes and towns there.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did English investors start Virginia?

2 What religious reason did Puritans have for settling Massachusetts Bay?

3 Why did William Penn start Pennsylvania?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine a group wants to build and sell wooden ships. Write two sentences explaining why the group might start a colony near a forest and what it hopes to gain.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the four sentences that directly tell why a colony was settled, and number each whole sentence 1 to 4 from top to bottom, even if two reasons are alike. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did English investors start Virginia?	They wanted tobacco to sell.
2	What religious reason did Puritans have for settling Massachusetts Bay?	They wanted to follow their own religious beliefs.
3	Why did William Penn start Pennsylvania?	He wanted it to be a peaceful place for people with different beliefs.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A group might start a colony near forests because it wants wood to build and sell ships. The group hopes to earn money by selling its ships.

Accept answers that name the stated settlement reason or clearly paraphrase it. In the open response, accept two sentences that give a sensible reason for settling near forests and a related hoped-for result.