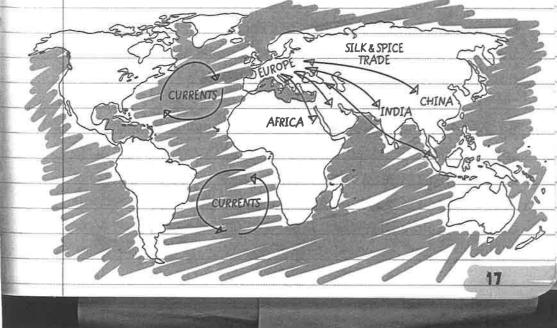
# Chapter 3 THEY CAME, THEY SAW, THEY The AGE of EXPLORATION Europeans paid high prices for goods like silk and spices. The only way to get them was from Arabs and Berbers, who trekked through Africa, or from other traders who could travel overland to India and China. Traders used caravan routes and the SILK ROAD, which united China and the West.



### EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGY

Luckily for the Europeans, better maps and new technology changed navigation. These inventions came out of the RENAISSANCE—a period characterized by growing knowledge and innovations in technology.

MAGNETIC COMPASSES improved the safety and efficiency of ocean travel. Invented in China, compasses made determining direction simpler.

ASTROLABES allowed sailors to figure out their location in the ocean by measuring the distance of the sun and stars, like an ancient GPS.

Sailors figured out that the NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENT moves clockwise between Europe and the Caribbean and that the SOUTH ATLANTIC CURRENT travels counterclockwise between Africa and South America. This saved them from being randomly swept out to sea (sometimes that's how they discovered new places; sometimes that's how they disappeared forever).

By the 1400s, the Portuguese began using small sailing ships called CARAVELS. Based on Arab boats, caravels were speedy and maneuverable, and could sail into the wind, so it was easier to explore coastlines.

TRADE in EUROPE THE CRUSADES in the eleventh through thirteenth centuries and MARCO

POLO's travels to China in the thirteenth

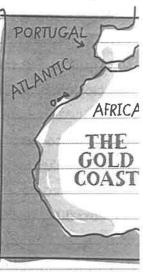
THE CRUSADES nine expeditions by Europeans to win bac control of their holy si from the Muslims

century introduced Europeans to the four S's (Spices, Silk, Scents, and precious Stones) from Asia and the Middle East. As prosperity grew in Europe, so did appetites for Stuff.

## HENRY the NAVIGATOR

The Portuguese became the leaders in world exploration. PRINCE HENRY THE NAVIGATOR built a school of navigation

in the 1400s (but he didn't do any exploring himself). The school developed the caravel and enabled Portuguese sailors to explore the coast of  $\xrightarrow{CALLED}_{THE}$ West Africa and trade for gold,  $\xrightarrow{COLD}_{COAST}$ ivory, and slaves. What they wanted most was a way around Africa so they could sail to India and trade directly with its merchants.



#### The WEST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE

West Africa in the 1400s was no longer ruled by the major kingdoms of its past. It was broken up into many small kingdoms warring over land and trade. Enslaving captured enemies was already an established practice—Arab Muslim traders added slaves to their shipments of salt and gold as early as the 600s CE. In the last half of the 1400s, two kingdoms, the KONGO (on the Zaire River) and the NDONGO (to its south), dominated their neighbors. By the time the Europeans arrived in the 1480s, the African slave trade was big (terrible) business.

### PORTUGUESE EXPEDITIONS

1453: CONSTANTINOPLE fell to the Muslims, who cut off overland routes to the east. The Portuguese were determined to find an all-water route.

1487: Explorer BARTOLOMEU DIAS set out. A storm and winds accidentally took his ship to his exact goal: the southern tip of Africa. Dias named the land the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. in the hope it would lead to a route to India.

1497: VASCO DA GAMA sailed around the Cape of Good Hope and, after nearly one hundred days out of sight of land, reached India in May of 1498. The Portuguese began making more trips and traded for spices, porcelain, silk, etc.

As a result, LISBON (capital of Portugal) became a major trade city, and Portugal became VERY RICH.

BONUS DISCOVERY:

A Portuguese fleet led by Pedro Álvares Cabral ended up over in FR present-day Brazil while on the way to Africa, so he claimed it for Portugal.



More European trade in Africa meant more slave trade, which destroyed man African communities.

#### WHAT ABOUT THE VIKINGS?

The Vikings, seafaring people from Scandinavia, were the first Europeans to explore North America. ERIK THE RED discovered Greenland, and his son, LEIF ERIKSSON, reached present-day Canada in the year 1000 CE. Eriksson named the land "Vinland," but since the Vikings didn't stay, future explorers were credited with being the first ones there.

#### Christopher Columbus HORER / HAT ENTRY IN 1492...

Born in Italy and trained in Portugal, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS thought he could reach India faster if he sailed west. Educated people knew that the world was round, but they didn't know how big it was If the world was bigger than Columbus

thought, he would certainly fail, so it was difficult to find someone to give him money to even try his plan. By appealing to their desire to spread Christianity and by promising incredible riches, Columbus convinced KING FERDINAND and QUEEN ISABELLA OF SPAIN to sponsor him.

> (SPOILER ALERT: COLUMBUS GROSSLY UNDERESTIMATED THE SIZE OF THE NEW WORLD.)

#### (IT RHYMES.)

... COLUMBUS SAILED THE OCEAN BLUE

On August 3, 1492, Columbus set out with three ships (the NIÑA and the PINTA—both caravels—and the flagship SANTA MARIA) and supplies for six months. His crew urged him to turn around after a few months. He kept two sets of logs, a secret one with the real distances traveled, and another with shorter distances (to convince the crew they were just . . . moving . . . very . . . slowly). Finally, in October, they saw land.

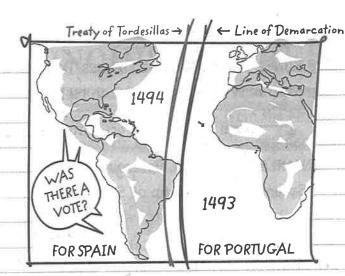
They went ashore in the Bahamas, on an island they named San Salvador, or "Holy Savior." Columbus made three more voyages in search of gold and tobacco, and explored Hispaniola (the island of present-day Haiti and the Dominican Republic), Cuba, Jamaica, and the coasts of Central and South America. Though many of the people who already lived in those areas were friendly to Columbus and his men when they arrived, the European settlers were more interested in gold and tobacco than in friendship. In general, they enslaved and cruelly treated the native people.

Columbus and his crew thought they were in the Indies in Asia, and this is why the Caribbean islands are called the WEST Indies, and why Native Americans were called Indians.



#### DRAWING the LINE

Spain and Portugal disagreed over who owned some of the newly found lands. In 1493, they asked Pope Alexander VI



to decide. On a map of the world, the Pope drew a LINE OF DEMARCATION from the top to the bottom, giving everything to the west of it to Spain, and everything to the east to Portugal. Portugal argued that most lands to the east had already been claimed. The next year the two countries agreed to move the line about 1,175 miles west in the TREATY OF TORDESILLAS. Everything left to be discovered was now pre-divided. Spain got almost all of it except Brazil (which is why Portuguese, not Spanish, is spoken in Brazil now) and some islands in the Atlantic.

# MORE EXPLORATION

**1502**: AMERIGO VESPUCCI sailed along the coast of South America. He was one of the first guys to realize he wasn't in Asia, and he recounted exotic and grand descriptions. A German mapmaker labeled the new land "America" in his honor.

23

**1513:** VASCO NÚÑEZ DE BALBOA hiked across Panama and was the first European to see the Pacific Ocean by heading west.

COINED THE NAME PACIFIC OCEAN FROM "PEACEFUL SEA"

1519: FERDINAND MAGELLAN, a Portuguese man sailing on behalf of Spain, reached the tip of South America.

He was killed in battle in the Philippines, but his ships returned in 1522 as the first crew to **CIRCUMNAVIGATE** the earth.

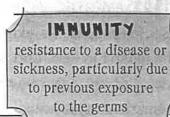
circumnavigate sail around; "circum-," like a circle

#### THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE

There had been no mixing of plants and animals between the Americas and the rest of the world for over ten thousand years. Things like corn, tobacco, cocoa, and potatoes didn't exist elsewhere until they were brought back from the Americas. In return, Europeans brought wheat, barley, grapes, and onions, as well as cattle, pigs, and horses, to the Americas. The plants changed the diets of people all over the world, and the animals changed the way land was used in the Americas.

The humans hadn't been exposed to any of each other's germs either. Diseases such as smallpox, measles, and the flu were common in Europe, but Native Americans didn't have IMMUNITY. About 20 million people died from disease in

a 100-year span in Central America alone. This mixing of plants, animals, viruses, and bacteria is known as the COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE or the GREAT BIOLOGICAL EXCHANGE.



# The CONQUISTADORES

The CONQUISTADORES, a new kind of Spanish explorer and conqueror, were given the thumbs-up from the king and queen to settle in the Americas in return for twenty percent of any treasure found. The conquistadores wanted to:

9

trade for goods

25

convert people to Christianity

In 1519, HERNÁN CORTÉS came to Mexico with about 500 soldiers, along with horses and cannons. With the help of a native woman called MALINTZIN, Cortés convinced the people whom the Aztecs had conquered to ally with him—they resented paying tribute to the emperor, MONTEZUMA, with human sacrifices. Seeing their shiny metal weapons and horses, Montezuma was worried that maybe Cortés was the god Quetzalcoatl or that the gods had sent Cortés and his

men. After welcoming them to Tenochtitlán, he offered them treasures and hoped they'd leave.

That backfired, since Cortés now realized that the Aztecs had a whole lot of gold. With the help of the Aztecs' angry subjects, Cortés and his crew captured Montezuma.

On June 30, 1520, LA NOCHE TRISTE ("the sad night"), the people of Tenochtitlán drove the Spanish and their allies from

the city: Montezuma was killed in the fighting, along with numerous Spanish soldiers. But, in May of 1521, Cortés returned with more Spanish troops, and this time, the Aztec Empire fell. Tenochtitlán was destroyed and the Spanish built Mexico City on top of the rubble.

In 1532, FRANCISCO PIZARRO sailed down the coast of South America. He had fewer than 200 men with him and was welcomed by ATAHUALPA, the Inca ruler. Pizarro took Atahualpa prisoner. Although Atahualpa offered the Spaniards gold in exchange for his freedom, they executed him. Pizarro and his troops marched into the capital at Cuzco. By 1534, they had conquered the entire 2,000-mile-long territory in what is now Peru.

How did Cortés and Pizarro conquer powerful empires?

Their weapons, armor, and horses made them seem godlike and gave them the advantage.

They took their enemies by surprise.

They got the support of oppressed locals.

BIGREASON: European diseases like smallpox wiped out a large percentage of the Aztec and Inca populations.

## OTHER FAMOUS EXPLORERS/CONQUISTADORES

JUAN PONCE DE LÉON landed in the place he named Florida in 1513. Although he was looking for the Fountain of Youth (he didn't find it), he explored Florida, which, in 1565, became the first Spanish settlement in what would be the U.S.

ÁLVAR NÚÑEZ CABEZA DE VACA led an expedition to Florida in 1528 and was stranded on an island off what is now Texas. He lived as a prisoner among the locals for six years and then escaped to Mexico. His experience led him to call for better treatment of Native Americans.

In 1540, FRANCISCO VÁSQUEZ DE CORONADO arrived in what is now New Mexico. He was in search of seven mythical cities of gold (he didn't find them).

HERNANDO DE SOTO crossed the Mississippi River in 1541. In 1598, Juan de Oñate established the Province of New

Mexico. He brought cows and horses.

#### SPANISH SOCIETY in the AMERICAS Through the COUNCIL OF THE INDIES

VICEROY person appointed by a king or queen to rule an area on his or her behalf

(formed in 1524), the Spanish monarchs appointed two VICEROYS Each was in charge of a VICEROYALTY, one in "New Spain" (Central America and its surroundings) and one in Peru. **ENCOMIENDAS** gave settlers the ENCOMIENDA a royal grant of land, including all the people on it

go-ahead to tax local natives or force them to work.

The social hierarchy depended on race and birthplace:

Land and positions of influence belonged to the PENINSULARES from the peninsula of Spain. Although they were the smallest population, they held almost all the power.

CREOLES (the first generation born to Spanish parents) ranked below the peninsulares.

MESTIZOS (of mixed European and American race) were next.

Native Ameriçans.

African slaves, at the bottom.

There were three main kinds of settlements:



El Camino Real, the royal road from Mexico City to Santa Fe, connected many of these settlements. In and around the towns, **HACIENDAS** (large estates) and **PLANTATIONS** (large farms raising **CASH CROPS**) grew coffee, cotton,

tobacco, and sugar. These huge operations needed a lot of workers. The labor was so intense that many died.

cash crop a plant that farmers grow to make money

MOUNT

FUJI

#### BARTOLONÉ DE LAS CASAS AND THE NEW LAWS

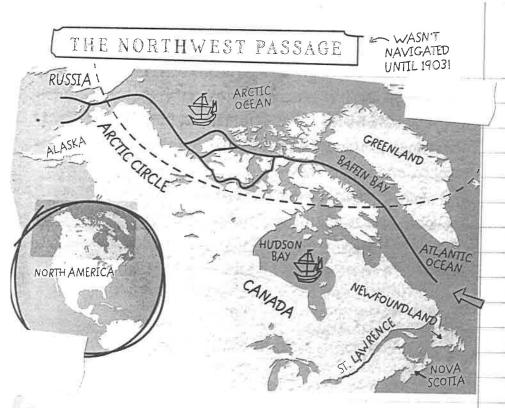
BARTOLOMÉ DE LAS CASAS was a priest who spoke and wrote about the mistreatment of the Native American population. He came to the Caribbean in 1502. His work contributed to the government of Spain passing the NEW LAWS of 1542, making it illegal to enslave Native Americans. But that didn't end slavery: Because the Spanish could no longer enslave Native Americans, they instead enslaved more Africans.

#### The NORTHWEST PASSAGE and EXPLORATION of NORTH AMERICA

Explorers searched for the NORTHWEST PASSAGE, a water route through North America, so ships could sail from the

Atlantic to the Pacific for trade.

In 1497 and 1498, JOHN CABOT (an Italian sailing on behalf of England) landed in Newfoundland, Canada. Cabot thought he was in Asia, so he set sail for Japan and was never heard from again. THAT'S A

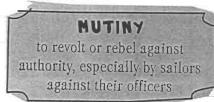


In 1524, GIOVANNI DA VERRAZZANO (an Italian sent by the French) explored Nova Scotia, Canada.

In 1535, JACQUES CARTIER (a Frenchman) explored the St. Lawrence River and claimed what is now Canada for France.

In 1609, HENRY HUDSON (an Englishman sent by the Dutch) explored a river (now the Hudson River) in present-day New York. The next year, he returned on behalf of the British and

discovered a bay (Hudson Bay). He planned to go on, but his crew **NUTINIED**, and he was either lost at sea or, more likely, killed.



# The SPANISH ARMADA

There were lots of reasons for European countries to be competitive around that time:

The TREATY OF TORDESILLAS between Spain and Portugal split the world so Spain owned the western half and Portugal owned the eastern half. Other European countries didn't recognize the treaty because they saw how much profit they could make from exploration.

The economic theory of MERCANTILISM said that a nation's power was in its wealth. European countries competed more than ever to establish colonies to get raw materials and gain new markets for exports.

The PROTESTANT REFORMATION also created rivalry. When ELIZABETH I, a Protestant, became Queen of England in 1558, she ordered sailors to attack Spanish ships (Spain was a Catholic nation) as they transported gold and silver back from America. She wanted to gain the wealth from the New World without incurring the expense of

having colonies. One of the most successful and daring of these English sailors was SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

TO THE ENGLISH, HE WAS AN ADVENTURER. TO THE SPANISH, HE WAS A PIRATE.

In response, in 1588, King Philip sent the mighty SPANISH ARMADA, a fleet of 130 ships, to conquer the English. The two navies met in the English Channel, and England was the winner. Spain never regained its previous power, and other nations saw they could challenge Spanish claims in the New World.

# MORE **EUROPEAN COLONIES**

# The FIRST BRITISH COLONIES

In the late 1500s, explorer SIR WALTER RALEIGH received a CHARTER. He sent an expedition in 1584 to settle a land they'd call "Virginia." The next year, the expedition ~ founded a colony on ROANOKE ISLAND

in present-day North Carolina. Lack of

CHARTER permission from the monarch to start a colony

food forced the settlers to sail back to England after a year.



In 1587, a group of about 150 English settlers tried again in the same place. One of the leaders, JOHN WHITE, returned to England for supplies but

couldn't come back for three years. (War between England and Spain made travel difficult.) When he returned to Roanoke, the people had vanished.

The first person born in the Americas to British parents, VIRGINIA DARE, was John White's granddaughter. What happened to her and the other settlers is still a mystery. Her colony is now called the LOST COLONY.

VIRGINIA ATLANTIC NORTH CAROLINA

ROANOKE -

# IN THE AMERICAS

# FRENCH COLONIES

In 1608, French explorer SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN founded a trading post in Quebec, where an active fur and metal trade developed. (The local Native Americans did much of the

work trapping beavers and other animals.) A number of Catholic priests also lived in NEW FRANCE, as the colony was named, on a mission to convert the locals.

In 1682, RENÉ-ROBERT CAVELIER, STEUR DE LA SALLE sailed the length of the Mississippi River and claimed the area of what is now Louisiana for the French when he reached the southern end. The French later founded a trading post there in what is now New Orleans. In the 1700s, the French established trading posts in



present-day Detroit, Michigan, and St. Louis, Missouri.

Because of these French explorers, French culture in North America is still concentrated in the province of Quebec and the Southern state of Louisiana.

# DUTCH COLONIES

The Dutch staked their claim in the Hudson River Valley. In 1614, they set up Fort Nassau (near modern-day Albany). THE DUTCH WEST INDIA COMPANY established the colony of New Netherland in 1621 along the river. In 1626, Peter Minuit purchased the island of Manhattan from the local people (the MANHATES) for what has been described as \$24 worth of goods but is a bit more than that in modern dollars—though still not very much. The city of New Amsterdam (today's New

York City) became a prosperous

center of the fur trade.

FORT NASSAU NORTH RIVER NEW AMSTERDAM ATLANTIC OCEAN

The Manhates probably considered the "sale" to be more of a lease for hunting and use rights.

The Dutch West India Company was a CHARTERED COMPANY. In that kind of business, investors joined to explore and trade together, with the support of the government of their home country. The government also gave permission to negotiate with foreign leaders and own colonial land. THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY (which did business in India and Asia) was another chartered company.



1. Why did the Portuguese want to sail directly to India?

- 2. Why did Christopher Columbus have trouble getting funding?
- 3. Why is Portuguese spoken in Brazil?
- 4. What does it mean to "circumnavigate" something?
- 5. What was the Columbian Exchange?
- 6. How did the conquistadores conquer entire empires with only a few hundred soldiers?
- 7. Although the Northwest Passage wasn't found by early explorers, what were two resulting explorations?

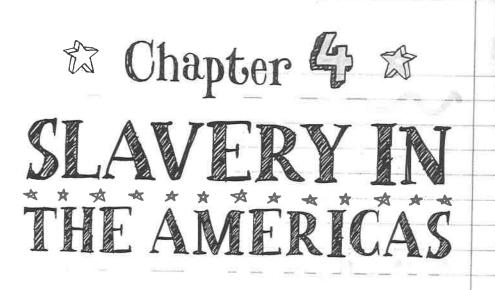
35

8. How did the defeat of the Spanish Armada affect colonization of the Americas?

34

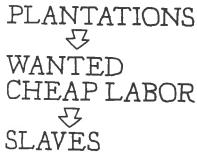


The 1600s and 1700s were a time of transition: Colonies and the institution of slavery were established, along with trade networks, regional identities, and, in the end, states. The goals of the first English settlers in Virginia were very different from the goals of those who followed. Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and George Washington, who were all born in Virginia, viewed themselves as British living in the New World. They wouldn't stand being denied their rights as Englishmen....



mm

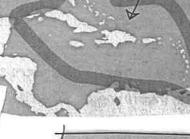
SUG-AR



Sugar became a major export to Europe, but narvesting sugarcane nvolved tough conditions. Initially, Native Americans were forced to work on Spanish and Portuguese plantations. Diseases from the Columbian Exchange and constant labor silled much of this population. The Spanish and Portuguese decided they needed another source of labor: **SLAVES**.

BECAME KNOWN AS "WHITE GOLD" MOST SUGAR PLANTATIONS WERE IN THE WEST

INDIES.



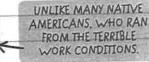
SLAVERY the practice of one person legally owning another; involuntary servitude for life passed down to future generations When the British began to set up TOBACCO PLANTATIONS in North America, they needed more laborers. By the 1700s, sadly, every colony in the Americas imported slaves from Africa.

Plantation owners thought that Africans were ideal workers for plantations because:

They were far from home, so they didn't have a free place to run away to.

MOLASSES

WEST INDIES



Plantation owners could enslave the slaves' children.

Many of the slaves had been farmers, so they had experience.

They already had immunity to the diseases that killed Native Americans.

The TRIANGULAR TRADE The slave trade was part of THE TRIANGULAR TRADE, a trade route with three stops: Africa, the West Indies, and the Americas.

AMERICAN COLONIES

SLAVES & GOLD

38

AFRICA

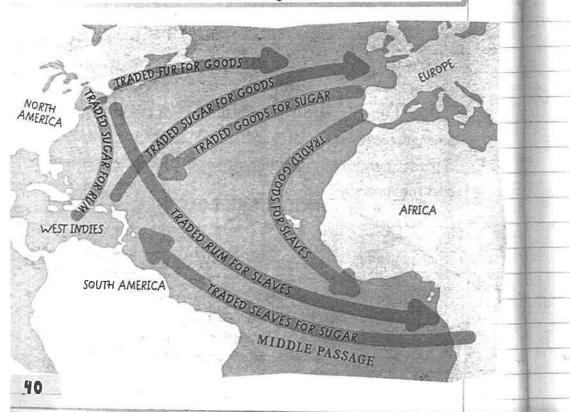
The Triangular Trade was just one part of a larger exchange of goods and slaves that included Europe.

#### FOR EXAMPLE:

Europe had manufactured goods (like textiles) but needed raw materials (like furs or tobacco).

Africa had slaves but needed manufactured goods.

The West Indies had raw materials (like sugar and molasses) but needed slaves, and New England had rum (made from molasses) and iron but needed more goods.



# The MIDDLE PASSAGE

The middle leg of the triangular trade, when ships left Africa with a cargo of slaves, was the MIDDLE PASSAGE. Because slaves were considered mere property, they were crammed together, given little food, exposed to disease, and otherwise abused and mistreated. About fifteen percent died during the middle passage en route to the colonies.

OLAUDAH EQUIANO was a slave brought to Virginia from Africa in the 1700s as a child. After buying his freedom, he wrote an autobiography depicting the horrors of slavery, which helped influence British lawmakers to abolish the slave trade.

# LAWS ABOUT SLAVERY

Many colonies enacted SLAVE CODES. Slave codes varied from colony to colony, but they all considered slaves property and granted them almost no rights. Although slave codes were meant to define the status of slaves as well as the owner's responsibilities so that fewer slaves ran away,

those who did try to escape were severely punished.

NOT THE COLOR-MORE LIKE BEING MAROONED ON AN ISLANDI

R

41

Runaway slaves in Latin America were known as MAROONS. Maroons formed communities in forests or swamps, sometimes joining with Native Americans. Slaves also rebelled. The Stono Rebellion of 1739, the New York City Conspiracy of 1741, and Gabriel's Conspiracy of 1800 are just a few examples.

#### The BEGINNINGS of AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE

Slaves came from all over western Africa and were spread out once they arrived. Because of this **DIASPORA**,

African slaves in the Americas formed new cultures built from their differing backgrounds and their common experiences.

Some characteristics of the new slave cultures:

**RELIGION:** Most slaves were converted to Christianity but still retained their African beliefs. Religion was important in daily life, and **SPIRITUALS** became a major element of it.

SONG, DANCE, AND STORYTELLING: Influenced by African traditions, song. dance, and storytelling were also used to teach.

FAMILY: Families were the central unit of society, even though the slave trade often split families apart.

#### CHICKEN OR EGG? RACISM, CAUSE AND EFFECT

As Africans became associated with slavery (it had previously been a social distinction rather than a racial one), racism took hold in the Americas. Racism, the belief that some races are inferior, also justified using anyone of African descent as a slave, which was convenient for the slave owners who relied on the system of slavery. Racism and slavery were not part of a cause and effect chain—they were the parts of a vicious cycle.

SPIRITUAL a religious folk song created by enslaved African people in the Americas

DIASPORA

a MIGRATION (moving

from one place to

another) that involves a spreading out of

people from the same

homeland or culture

# CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Name a crop cultivated by slave labor in the Americas.

2. Why didn't plantation owners continue to use Native American labor?

3. Why were African slaves seen by plantation owners as the best source of labor?

1. What were the three "points" of the triangular trade?

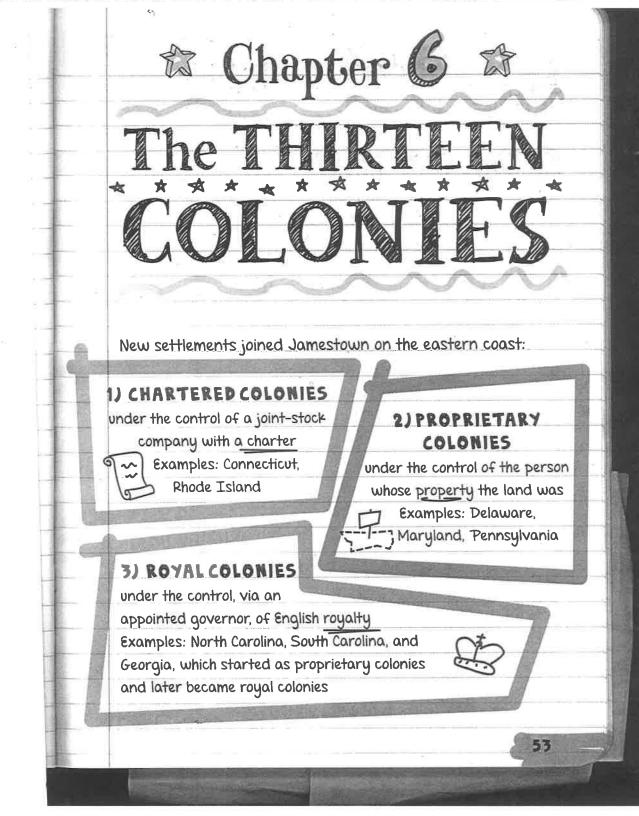
5. To what does the term "middle passage" refer?

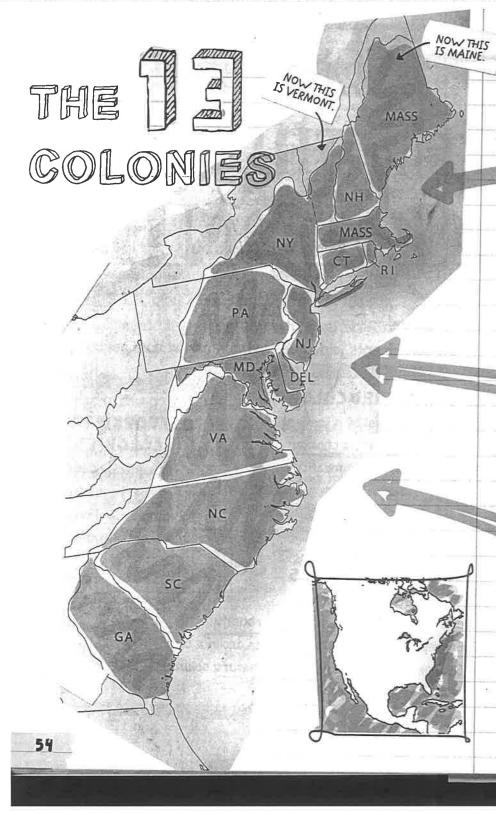
6. What is a marcon?

7. Did slavery or racism come first in the Americas?



43





NEW ENGLAND COLONIES Plymouth/Massachusetts Bay (1620) New Hampshire (1629) Rhode Island (1636) Connecticut (1662)

> MIDDLE COLONIES New York (1624) New Jersey (1664) Pennsylvania (1681) Delaware (1634)

Southern Colonies

Maryland (1633) Virginia (1607) North Carolina (1663) South Carolina (1663) Georgia (1733)