

LESSON PLAN – 6th Grade

Title

Jamestown and Plymouth: Two Early Colonies

Objective


Students will:

- Identify Jamestown and Plymouth
 - Explain why each colony was founded
 - Describe basic challenges colonists faced
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Vocabulary

Colony, Profit, Religious Freedom, Pilgrims, Compact

Warm-Up (5 min)

 “Would you risk your life for money or for freedom? Why?”

Direct Instruction (10–15 min)

Jamestown (1607)

- Founded for **economic profit**
- Tobacco became main success
- First representative government (House of Burgesses)

Plymouth (1620)

- Founded for **religious freedom**
- Pilgrims (Separatists)
- Mayflower Compact → early self-government

 Both colonies faced:

- Disease
 - Starvation
 - Harsh environments
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Guided Practice

Students complete:

Colony	Main Reason	One Problem
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Jamestown	Profit	Starvation
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Plymouth	Religion	Cold winter
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Activity

“Would You Survive?” Activity

Students choose:

- 3 items to bring to a colony
 - Explain why
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Discussion

- Which colony had a harder start?
 - Why did so many colonists die early?
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QUIZ – 6th Grade

Multiple Choice

1. Jamestown was founded for:
A. Religion B. Profit C. Farming
2. Plymouth was founded for:
A. Trade B. Religion C. War

3. Which colony created the Mayflower Compact?
 - A. Jamestown
 - B. Plymouth
 - C. Spain
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Short Answer

4. Name one problem colonists faced
 5. What was Jamestown known for growing?
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 **Answer Key**

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. (disease, starvation, etc.)
5. Tobacco