**American History**

The Jamestown Online Adventure



**Background**

In 1606, some 105 adventurers set off from England to try and establish the first permanent English colony in the New World. They settled in what is now the state of Virginia and called their colony first James Fort, and then James Towne, in honor of James I, the King of England. The early years of the colony were nearly a total disaster. Almost half of the settlers died due to poor choices in settlement location, management of resources, and quarrels with the indigenous Powhatan Indians.

**You are the Captain of the Jamestown Colony:**  
Can you do any better than the real colonists? You will have a copy of the London Company's Instructions to help guide you. Also, you can ask your fellow colonists and the Native Americans for advice. Be careful, though, because some advice is better than others!

**Scoring Factors:**  
After you make all your decisions, you will receive a report on the state of your colony based on these factors:

* Food: How well can you provide it for your colonists?
* Health: Can you keep your colonists from dying due to disease, starvation, and attacks?
* Wealth: Can you make yourself and your sponsors at the London Company rich from the discovery of gold and silver?
* Morale: Can you keep yourself in power by keeping everyone happy?

**Make History:**  
You will get to compare your colony to the historical Jamestown at the end. By examining the "Now we know..." section, you can learn from the mistakes of history so you do not repeat them when you play again.

Good luck!  
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Part I: Can you do any better than the real Jamestown colonists?

Follow the instructions below to complete part I.

1. <http://www.historyglobe.com/jamestown/>
2. Click on **Start the Adventure** (it may take a minute to load… ITS FLASH!!!)
3. Begin making decisions about the future of your colony. Be sure to consult the appropriate sources (colonist, Native, and the Charter) before making your decisions.
4. Read the evaluation of your decisions. **Complete the second and third columns on the chart below.**
5. Click on the Now we Know button and read about the real decisions the Jamestown colonists made. **Complete the third and fourth column on the chart below.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Decision** | **Your Choice** | **Was your decision good or bad? Why?** | **Jamestown colonists choices** | **Was their decision good or bad? Why?** |
| Landing Site |  |  |  |  |
| Interaction with Natives |  |  |  |  |
| Structure Built |  |  |  |  |
| Labor Force |  |  |  |  |
| What to do with time |  |  |  |  |
| Plant |  |  |  |  |

Part II. Your Advice to the Jamestown Colonists

Knowing what you know now what kind of advice would you give to Captain John Smith about establishing the Jamestown colony? List four pieces of advice that would help the Jamestown settlement have better initial success in the space below.

1.

2.

3.

4.