Teach

Creating a New England

Reader, Recorder, Reporter
• What economic advantage did many New England settlers have over early settlers in the South? (Many New England settlers were affluent and were able to pay their own way across the Atlantic.)
• Why do you think Rhode Island tolerated all Christian denominations and Judaism? (Its founders believed in the principle of religious tolerance for all.)
• Causes and Effects What democratic traditions did New England settlers establish? (Towns and churches were self-governing; Puritan men elected the Massachusetts governor and legislature; voting rights were expanded in two states.)

New England Colonies 1640

Connect Geography & History

COMPARE AND CONTRAST Have students compare this map with the map on page 69 and describe the extent of settlement it shows. (The area of settlement doubled.)

ANSWERS
1. Place They expanded along the coast.
2. Make Inferences In a land without roads, settlements along coasts and rivers allowed settlers to travel and stay in communication by boat.

Connect to the Essential Question

How did the experience of the early colonists shape America’s political and social ideals?
Ask students what they have learned so far that can help them answer this question. Students might mention:
• Dissenters spoke out for religious freedom and established colonies.
• The Quakers challenged Puritan laws.
• Churches and towns governed themselves, and voting rights were extended.

Differing Instruction: Tiered Activities

OBJECTIVE Debate the question: Did the New England colonists believe in freedom and democracy?

Basic
Have students reread from the beginning of the section, looking for facts showing the attitude of colonists toward freedom and democracy. Have them list facts in a table, then form two teams and debate the question.

On Level
Help students develop working definitions of freedom and democracy. Have students use these definitions to evaluate the facts listed in the section. Then have them form two teams and debate the question.

Challenge
Have students write notes about the relationship between the New England colonists’ ideas about freedom and democracy and the fact that many colonies had one dominant, “established” church. Then have them form two teams and debate the question.

Connecting Geography & History

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KEY QUESTION What did the New England colonies have in common?
By the 1650s, settlers had fanned out across New England, bringing their beliefs, religious disagreements, and political traditions with them. Although a number of colonies were established throughout the region, the New England colonies had much in common.

New England Foundations Many New England settlers came from the densely-populated eastern counties of England. They were used to living in towns and established similar settlements in America. Most New England settlers were also religious dissenters who disagreed with the practices of both the Catholic and the Anglican churches. The New England population was mainly Puritan, but had a large numbers of other Protestant groups such as Quakers, Separatists, Baptists, and other dissenters in Rhode Island.

Most New England settlers came from the middle ranks of English society. Many were highly skilled and educated. As they were wealthier than most of the early settlers in the South, they were able to pay their own way across the Atlantic. Few were forced to become indentured servants, who sold their freedom in exchange for passage to America. Unlike the first Jamestown colonists, who were mostly young men, the Puritans traveled in “companies” with their families, friends, and neighbors.

Questions About an Established Church In all the New England colonies, settlers were aware that they were creating new societies in what was, for them, a new world. It is not surprising that they often argued about what direction these new societies should take.

A major argument revolved around a single question: should each colony have one, dominant, “established” church, funded by the taxpayer? In Europe, each national government supported only one established religious group. Other groups might face persecution from the religious group in power.

When the Puritans set up their society in Massachusetts, their church became the only established church in the colony. Other New England colonies were also dominated by Puritans, who tolerated some Christian groups but persecuted others. Only Rhode Island tolerated all Christian denominations, as well as Judaism.

72 Chapter 3
**Democratic Traditions** Throughout the New England colonies, settlers established democratic practices and self-government. Colonists wove democratic practices into both their local government and their church life.

- The Congregational churches of the Puritans were self-governing.
- In Massachusetts, Puritan men elected the governor and the legislature.
- Voting rights were expanded in Massachusetts and Connecticut.
- In the New England countryside, towns controlled their own affairs. Because of this democratic tradition in the region, the New England town meeting became a symbol of local self-government. At a time when very few Europeans had the right to vote, New England became famous for its democratic practices.

During these early decades of settlement, Massachusetts had the largest population and the greatest influence in the region. Its democratic political trends, its religious beliefs, and the conflicts of its early years influenced the course of American history.

**COMPARE AND CONTRAST** Describe the features that the New England colonies had in common.

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### Section Assessment

**TERMS & NAMES**

1. Explain the importance of
   - John Winthrop
   - Pilgrims
   - Mayflower Compact
   - Puritans
   - Great Migration

2. **Using Your Reading Notes**
   - **Using Your Reading Notes**
     - **Causes and Effects**
     - Complete the diagram that you started at the beginning of this section.

### Key Ideas

3. Why did the Puritans leave England?
4. Why was Rhode Island founded?
5. In what ways were New England settlers different from the settlers of Jamestown?

### Critical Thinking

6. Analyze Point of View Why was religious tolerance an important issue for the early settlers?
7. Make Generalizations How did the Puritans weave democracy into their political and religious life?
8. Connect to Today What modern American values might be familiar to a 17th-century Puritan?
9. Writing Research Report Mary Dyer broke Puritan laws by returning to Massachusetts. This was an act of civil disobedience. Write a paper about other historical figures who used this form of protest.

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### Research Report Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Accuracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>excellent; well organized, supported by research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>good; organized, evidence of research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>fair; disorganized, little evidence of research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>poor; disorganized, no evidence of research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Section 2 Assessment Answers

**Terms & Names**

1. John Winthrop, p. 67; Pilgrims, p. 68; Mayflower Compact, p. 68; Puritans, p. 68; Great Migration, p. 68; Roger Williams, p. 70; Anne Hutchinson, p. 70; Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, p. 71; Quakers, p. 71

**Using Your Reading Notes**

2. Cause—Separatists wanted religious freedom.

**Key Ideas**

3. The Puritans wanted to reform the Church of England and faced persecution there.
4. Roger Williams founded Rhode Island to establish religious tolerance.
5. They generally were prosperous, educated, and skilled, unlike most of Jamestown’s settlers.

**Critical Thinking**

6. Many settlers had left England because they were being persecuted. In the colonies, many settlers did not want to pay taxes to support a church to which they did not belong.
7. Each congregation chose its minister; male church members elected representatives; Puritans gathered in town meetings.
8. He or she might recognize modern America’s work ethic, high regard for education, and representative government.
9. Reports should discuss civil disobedience and use a historical figure as an example. Use the rubric to score students’ reports.