The Southern Colonies

I. Settlement in Jamestown
   - Merchants ask King James I to found a new settlement in America in 1605
   - King James I granted the request in 1606
     ○ Merchants to settle in a region called Virginia

A. Founding a New Colony
   1. London Company
      - Joint-stock company between investors and company
      - First 105 colonists sent by the company arrived in America on April 26, 1607
   2. Jamestown
      - May 14, 40 miles up the James River in Virginia the colonists settled
      - This was the first permanent English settlement in North America
      - Colonists not prepared, many lives were lost
        i. Men who came were adventurers, no farming experience or useful job skills (carpentry).
      - Was surrounded by marshes full of disease-carrying mosquitoes.
      - By winter, 2/3 of the colonists died

B. Powhatan Confederacy
   1. John Smith took control of Jamestown in 1608
      - Showed colonists how to build a fort
      - Had settlers work harder and build better housing by creating rules
        i. Rewarded hard workers with food
   2. Powhatan Confederacy of Indians helped Jamestown colonists
      - Smith made an agreement with the Powhatan
      - Powhatan brought food to the colonists
      - Taught colonists how to grow corn.
   3. Four-hundred settlers arrived in 1606 in Jamestown
      - Winter hit hard
        i. Colonists called it the starving time
        ii. Much disease and famine
      - By spring of 1610, only 60 colonists survived
   4. Jamestown failed to make a profit until John Rolfe
      - He introduced a new kind of tobacco that sold well in England

C. War in Virginia
   1. John Rolfe married Pocahontas, daughter of the Powhatan leader in 1614
Notes: Chapter 2.1

2. Marriage helped colonists form more peaceful relations with Powhatan.
3. Pocahontas died three years later in England when visiting Rolfe.
4. In 1622, colonists killed a Powhatan leader.
   – Powhatan quickly responded with attacks on the Virginian settlers
   – Fighting between Powhatan and Colonists continued for 20 years.
5. London Company failed to protect colony.
   – English Crown cancels company’s charter in 1624
   – Virginia becomes a royal colony
     i. Under authority of a governor chosen by the king.

II. Daily Life in Virginia

– Lived on scattered farms rather than towns
– Tobacco farmers established *plantations*

A. **Headright System**
   1. Started by the London Company
   2. People who paid own way to Virginia received 50 acres of land
      – Could earn 50 acres for each person brought from England
      – Rich colonists brought servants or relatives
      – Gained large amounts of land

B. **Labor in Virginia**
   1. Colonists faced a hard life
      – Suffered high death rates, lead to labor shortages
      – Majority of workers were *indentured servants*
        i. People who received free trip to North America
        ii. Agreed to work without pay for a period of time

C. **Expansion of Slavery**
   – Not all slavery came from Europe
   1. **Dutch ship** brought the first *Africans* to Virginia in 1619
      – Africans were servants
      – Others had been enslaved
      – Some Africans became successful farmers when contracts ended
   2. Demand for workers grew
      – Not enough indentured servants
      – Soon cost of slaves fell
      – *Factors* led some colonists to turn to slave labor
      – By mid-1600 most Africans in Virginia were kept in *life-long slavery*
**Notes: Chapter 2.1**

**D. Bacon’s Rebellion 1676**

1. Uprising in mid-1660s poor colonists protesting the raise in taxes and protest of governor’s policies toward Native Americans.
   - Plantations grew causing Jamestown economy to expand
   - Causes colonial officials to ask for more taxes
   - Policies created because they felt the colony was vulnerable from attacks from Indians.
   - 1676, group of former indentured servants attacked some friendly American Indians and attacked & burned Jamestown

2. Attack led by **Nathaniel Bacon**
   - Bacon believed it was ok to take the Indian’s land
   - Bacon controlled much of the colony
   - Died of fever and rebellion ended

**III. Other Southern Colonies**

- Many English Catholics came to America to escape **religious persecution**
- English Catholics had been against English separation from Roman Catholic Church
- **English Catholics** not allowed to worship in England
  i. English leader feared they would ally with other Catholic countries (France/Spain)

**A. Maryland**

1. In 1620s, **George Calvert**, first Lord Baltimore
   - Ask King Charles I for a charter to establish a new colony in America for English Catholics
   - 1632, **Charles I** granted issued the charter
   - Calvert’s son, **Cecilius**, took over planning of the colony
     i. He’s known as second Lord Baltimore
     ii. He named the colony Maryland
        ▪ In honor of England’s queen

2. Colony **located** north of Virginia in the **Chesapeake Bay area**.
3. Calvert wanted the colony to be a **refuge** for Catholics
4. Maryland was a **propriety colony**
   - The colony’s proprietors (owners) controlled the government
5. In 1634, group of **200 Catholics** came to Maryland
   - Group was wealthy landowners, servants, craftspeople, and farmers
6. Settlers learned from lessons learned in Jamestown
Notes: Chapter 2.1

– Spent their time raising corn, cattle, and hogs
– Later growing tobacco for profit

7. Maryland was founded for Catholic, but a great number of Protestants began moving joining the colony in the 1640s
   – Religious conflicts arose between Catholics and Protestants
   – Lord Baltimore presented a bill known as, Toleration Act of 1649.
     i. First supporting law for religious tolerance in the English colonies
     ii. Not all conflicts were solved, but it protected rights of minority groups.

B. The Carolinas and Georgia

1. Colonies established in 1663 by King Charles II
   – Land consisted from area between Virginia and Spanish Florida

2. Carolinas were a single colony at first, due to distance between settlements and difficulties in 1732 they split into North and South Carolina

3. North Carolina
   – Made up of mostly farmers

4. South Carolina
   – Made up of European settlers
   – Those who paid own way received large land grants
   – Some brought slaves
   – Proprietors manage poorly, overthrown in 1719
     i. Allowed for Crown to purchase both colonies
     ii. 1729, they became royal colonies

5. In 1730, colony had 20,000 enslaved Africans compared to the 10,000 white settlers.

6. In 1732, King George II granted a charter to James Oglethorpe and other trustees.
   – They founded Georgia
   – Hope was for Georgia to shield other colonies from Spanish Florida
   – Oglethorpe wanted Georgia to be a place for debtors and poor
     i. Georgia to be a place for a new start

7. In 1733, Oglethorpe and 120 colonists founded city of Savannah
   – Oglethorpe did not want Georgia to be full of plantations
   – Wanted many small farms
Notes: Chapter 2.1

– To make this happen, **Oglethorpe outlawed slavery and limited size of land grants.**
  i. Settlers grew unhappy with Oglethorpe’s strict rules

8. In **1752, Georgia became a royal colony**
– **Coastal Georgia** became filled with large rice plantations worked by 1000s of slaves

**IV. Economies of the Southern Colonies**

– Colonies depended on **agriculture**
– Exported materials for building ships
  i. Wood
  ii. Tar
– Colonies traded with Indians for deerskins to sell
– Colonies were **agrarian** (based on farming)
  i. Had many small farms
  ii. Had large plantations
– Farms did well because of the **warm climate** and long **growing season**
  i. Many farms grew **cash crops**
    ▪ Tobacco
    ▪ Rice
    ▪ Indigo (plant used to make blue dye)
– Southern colonies require must labor during harvest time
  i. Large workforce needed
  ii. 1700s, enslaved Africans were main source of labor
– **Slavery** was a viciously brutal condition
  i. **Oluadah Equiano** was a former slave who recorded his experience
– Southern colonies passed **slave codes**.
  i. Larger plantation had stricter codes
    ▪ Slaves could not hold town meetings or own weapons
    ▪ Some slaveholders not allowed to free slaves