

Chapter 6, lesson 2

Cities, Towns, and Farms

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1. What do Benjamin Franklin's accomplishments tell you about his values?

Establishing a public library shows that he valued reading and learning. By establishing the first hospital and volunteer fire department, Franklin shows that he was concerned about the public's health and safety.

Look at the population graph on pg. 211 and respond to the following questions.

2. Which colonial cities had less than half the population of Philadelphia in 1760?

Charleston and Newport

3. What was the population of Charleston?

The population of Charleston was about 7,000.

Pg. 211 Review Question

Contrast the populations of New York and Charleston in 1760. How many more people lived in New York?

There are approximately 17,500 people in New York City. There are approximately 7,500 people in Charleston. Therefore, there were approximately 10,000 more people living in New York in 1760.

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4. Why is the mill pictured on pg. 212 located near the river?

The flowing water turns the water wheel on the side of the mill.

5. How is this different than a windmill?

A windmill uses wind power to turn and a water wheel uses the power of moving water.

6. Why were many New England towns able to be self-sufficient?

Townpeople were able to grow food in nearby fields and make or buy goods they needed.

7. What were some reasons people went into towns in the New England and Middle Colonies?

To buy and sell goods and services; to attend church or meetings

Pg. 212 Review Question

What was the purpose of the town common?

The purpose of the town common was to provide an open space where cattle and sheep could graze.

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8. How were plantations like colonial towns?

Both were often self-sufficient; both had carpentry and blacksmith workshops

9. What kinds of work did slaves do on a plantation?

Planting and harvesting crops; cooking and cleaning in the planter's house; work in blacksmith and carpentry shops, smokehouses, bakeries, laundry buildings, and stables

10. Why do you think the kitchen of the planter's house was in a separate building?

To keep the heat and smoke from the oven and cooking fires out of the house; to prevent fires in the planter's house.

Pg. 213 Review Question

What was the role of the overseer on a plantation?

The overseer was the plantation manager who gave orders to the enslaved people. Slaves could be beaten as punishment for not doing what they were told.

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11. What does Ruth Belknap tell us about life on a farm?

Farming families had to make their own bread and butter.

Pg. 214 Review Question

Do you think Ruth Belknap enjoyed her life on a small farm? Explain your opinion.

Perhaps, for even though it was hard work, her poem seems light and playful.