

Colonial America Timelines

Grade 4 • SOCIAL-STUDIES • Students place major Colonial American events in chronological order and identify simple cause-and-effect relationships between them. • Standards: D2.His.1.3-5, D2.His.14.3-5

Read each question carefully and use the dates and information given to place events in order or identify cause-and-effect relationships. Write your answer on the line provided.

1. The first permanent English settlement in America was founded in 1607. The Mayflower arrived in 1620. Which event happened first?
2. In 1754, a major war between England and France began in North America. In 1763, the war ended. How many years did this war last?
3. Put these events in order from earliest to latest: (A) A tea protest happened in 1773, (B) Colonists declared independence in 1776, (C) England passed a tax on sugar in 1764.
4. Many colonists came to America seeking religious freedom because they were not allowed to worship as they chose in their home countries. What was the effect of this cause?
5. England needed money to pay for wars, so the king began taxing the colonists heavily in the 1760s. What was one effect of these new taxes?
6. In 1620, a group of settlers created an agreement for self-government before leaving their ship. In 1619, the first elected assembly in the colonies met. Which happened first?
7. Colonists protested unfair taxes by refusing to buy English goods. This hurt English merchants who lost money. What did the merchants do as a result?
8. Place these events in chronological order: (A) Fighting began between colonists and English soldiers in 1775, (B) Representatives met to discuss colonial problems in 1774, (C) England closed a major colonial port in 1774, (D) Colonists declared independence in 1776.

9. After England won a costly war against France in 1763, the king needed to pay war debts and station soldiers in America. What was the effect of these expenses on the colonies?

10. In 1775, fighting broke out between colonial militia and English soldiers. Before this, in 1774, colonists had been storing weapons and supplies in case of conflict. Explain the cause-and-effect relationship between these two events.

Answer Key — Colonial America Timelines

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. The first permanent English settlement in 1607 (*1607 comes before 1620 on the timeline*)
2. 9 years (*1763 minus 1754 equals 9 years*)
3. C, A, B (*The dates in chronological order are 1764, 1773, 1776*)
4. People came to America to practice their religion freely (*The desire for religious freedom caused migration to America*)
5. Colonists became angry with England (or similar answers about colonial protest or discontent) (*Heavy taxation caused anger and protest among colonists*)
6. The first elected assembly in 1619 (*1619 comes before 1620*)
7. The merchants asked the king to remove the taxes (or similar answers about pressuring England to change the laws) (*Economic pressure from merchants led them to lobby for tax repeal*)
8. B and C (same year, either order acceptable), A, D (*1774 events come first, then 1775, then 1776*)
9. England created new taxes on the colonists to pay for these costs (*War debts and military costs caused England to tax the colonies*)
10. Colonists prepared for possible war by storing weapons, which led to (or contributed to) fighting when soldiers tried to seize those supplies (*Military preparation by colonists was a cause that contributed to the outbreak of fighting*)