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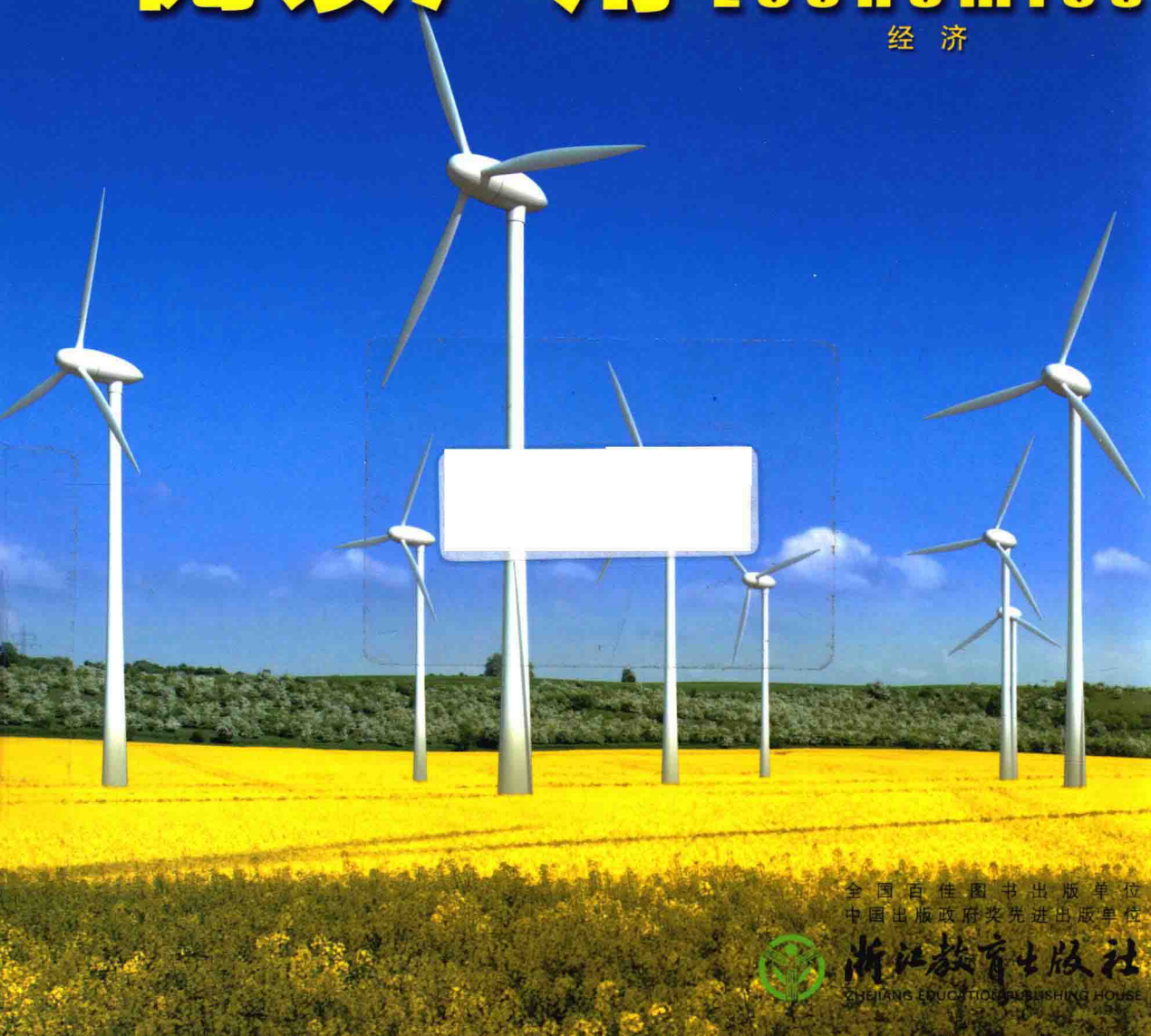
SRA
**READING FOR
INFORMATION**

美国中小學生拓展讀本

閱讀廣角

Level 4A
Economics

經濟



全國百佳圖書出版單位
中國出版政府獎先進出版單位



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美国中小學生拓展读本

阅读广角

Level 4A
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经济



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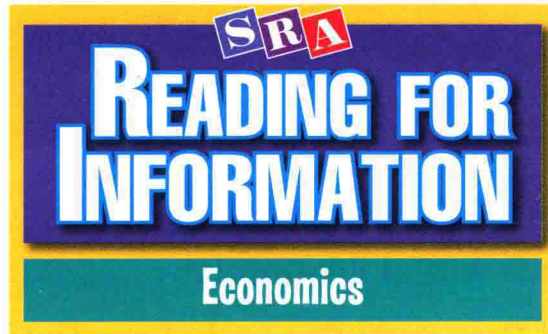



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Colonial American Economics

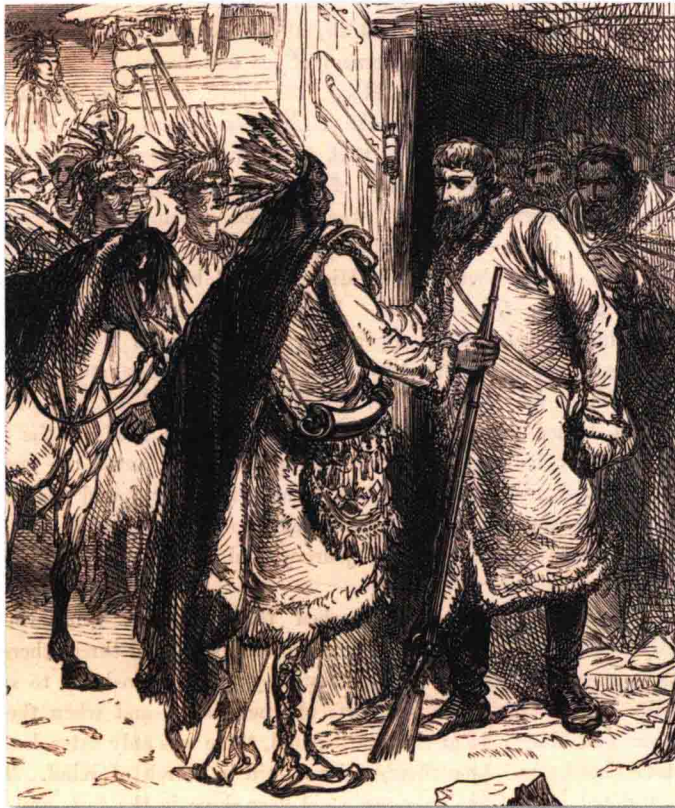
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Colonial American Trade



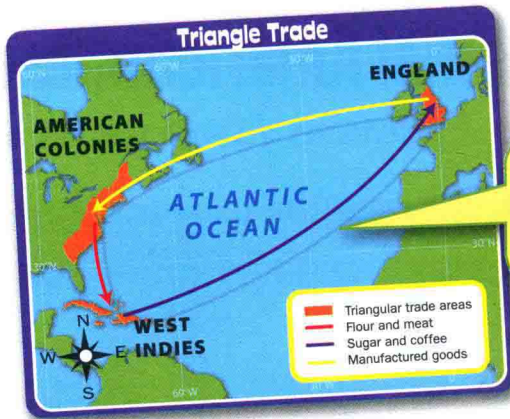
Before You Read

Here are some things you can do to help you read for information.



Features Diagrams and Charts

A **diagram** is a drawing or graphic representation with labels.



Diagrams make it easier to picture what you are reading.

Charts organize information and make it easy to read. Sometimes charts include boxes with arrows showing the order in which something is done. Other times charts have columns with numbers in them.

Colonial Crops and Resources

Charts are used to organize information. What is this chart about?

New England

lumber, fish
and fur

Middle Colonies

barley, oats, rye, corn,
wheat and livestock

Southern Colonies

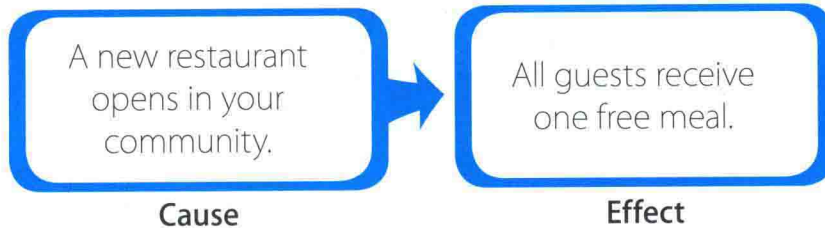
tobacco, rice, indigo
and cotton



Structures Cause and Effect

A **cause** is the reason something happens. An **effect** is what happens. Imagine that a field floods because it has rained too much. Too much rain is the cause. A flooded field is the effect.

Below is an example of another cause and effect.



Look at this picture. There are many people standing in line.
What could be the cause for this?

ABC Vocabulary Words to Know

conform to become like those around you



economy a system of managing money, goods, resources and services

inform to give information; to tell



Newspapers are used to **inform** people about current events.

specialization the act of learning one career very well



A blacksmith's **specialization** was working with iron.

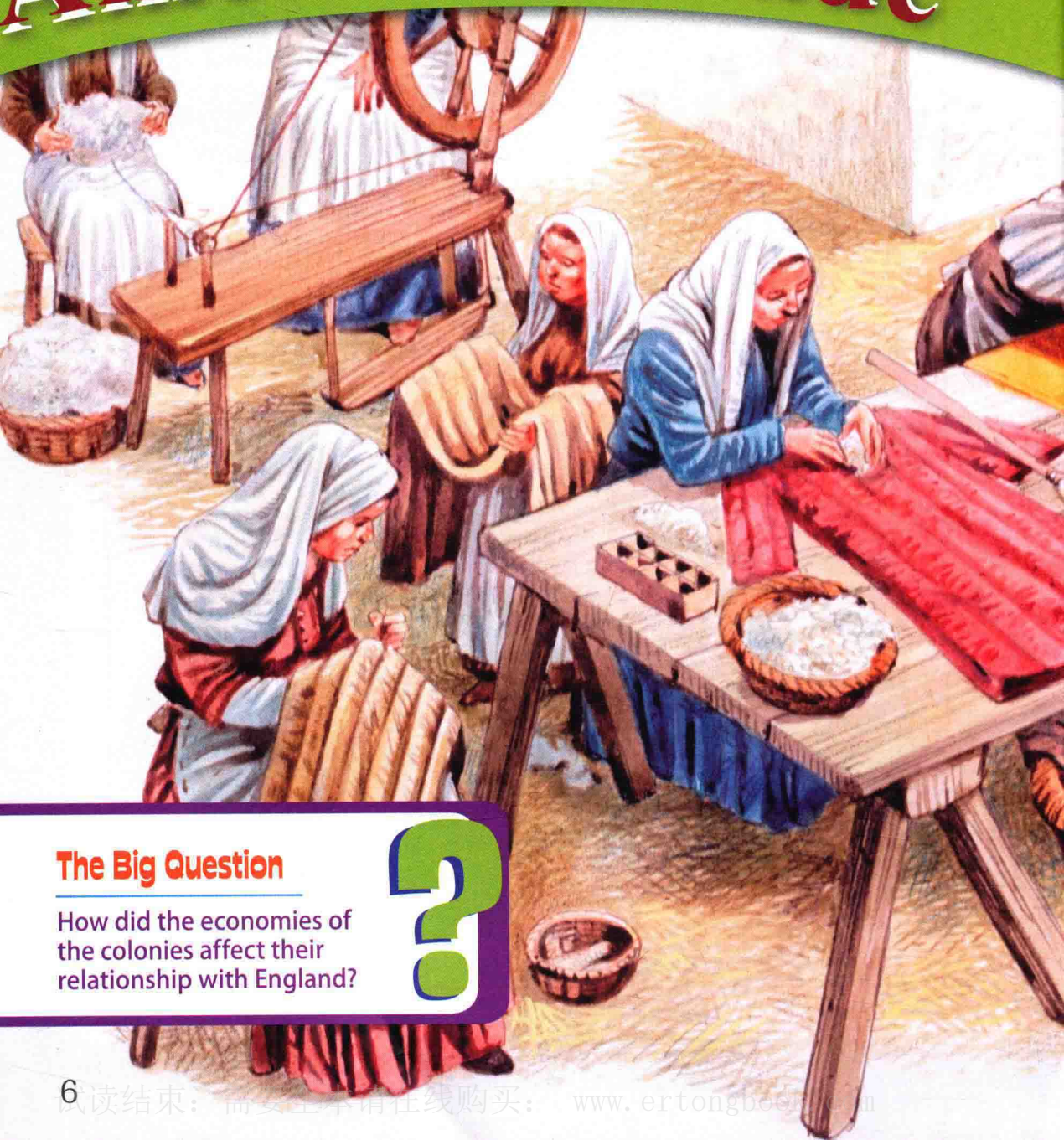
NEEDS LIVING	
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PRAMS	6.99
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CHICKEN	10.99
BLKTAIL FREE RANGE EGGS	4.35
GREEN PEPPERS	3.99
MILK SKIMMED	1.82
WILD ROCKET	1.99
ORANGES	1.37
RASPBERRIES	2.99
	1.79

tax an additional charge on the price of certain goods

trade to exchange or swap one item for another



Colonial American Trade



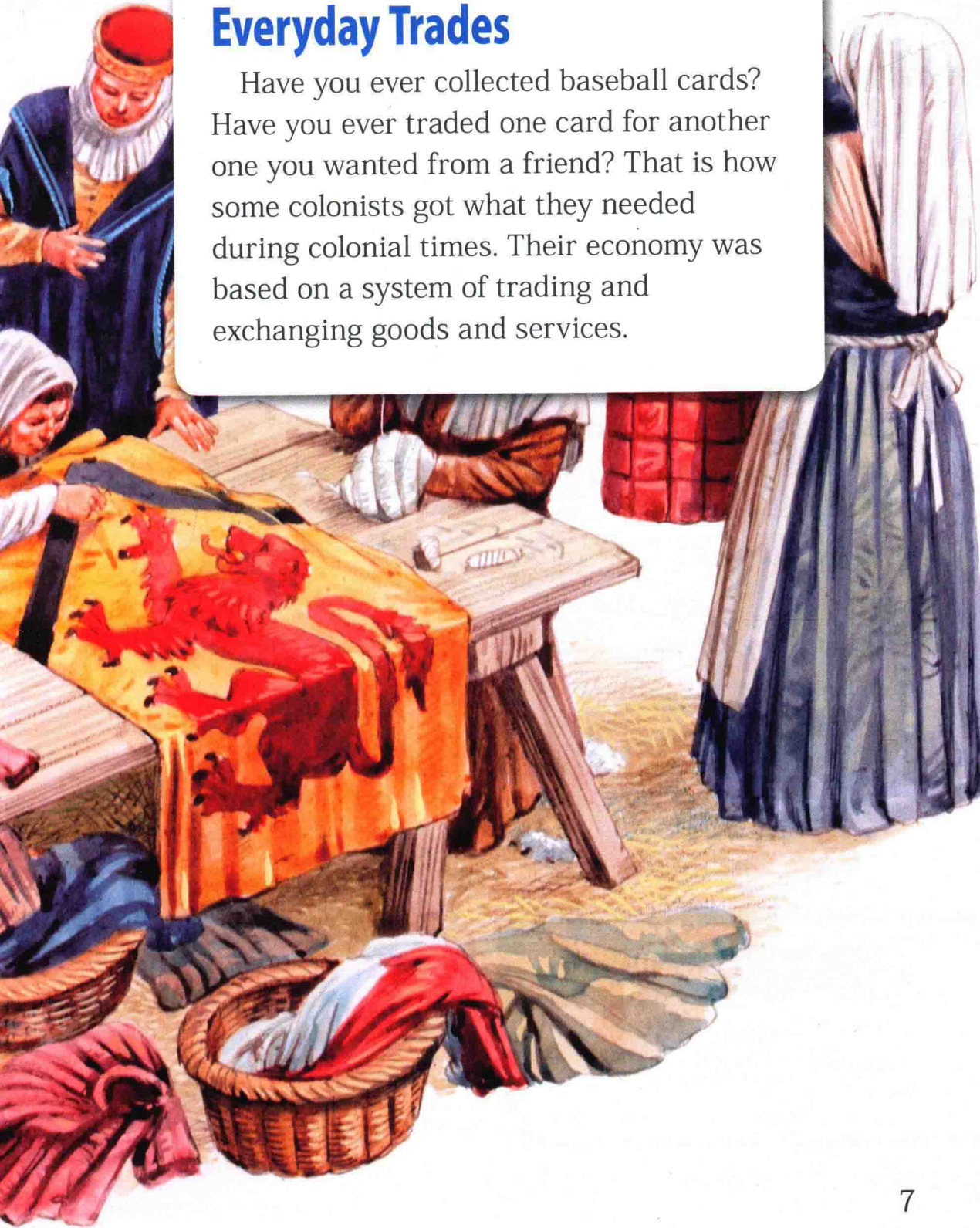
The Big Question

How did the economies of the colonies affect their relationship with England?



Everyday Trades

Have you ever collected baseball cards? Have you ever traded one card for another one you wanted from a friend? That is how some colonists got what they needed during colonial times. Their economy was based on a system of trading and exchanging goods and services.



Exploration and Economic Growth

An **economy** is a system of managing money, goods, resources and services. The economy of a country depends on many different things.

Trade is the exchange of one item for another. Trade is an important part of a country's economy. If a country has valuable products, such as rare foods or natural resources, the country can trade those products for other things it needs. Through trading, the country might become wealthy, and its economy may strengthen.

During the 1400s and 1500s, trade between Europe and Asia was strong. However, the path that traders had to follow to get from one continent to the other was long and often dangerous. Explorers wanted to find a faster way to get to Asia so they could bring valuable spices and silks back to Europe.



Structures

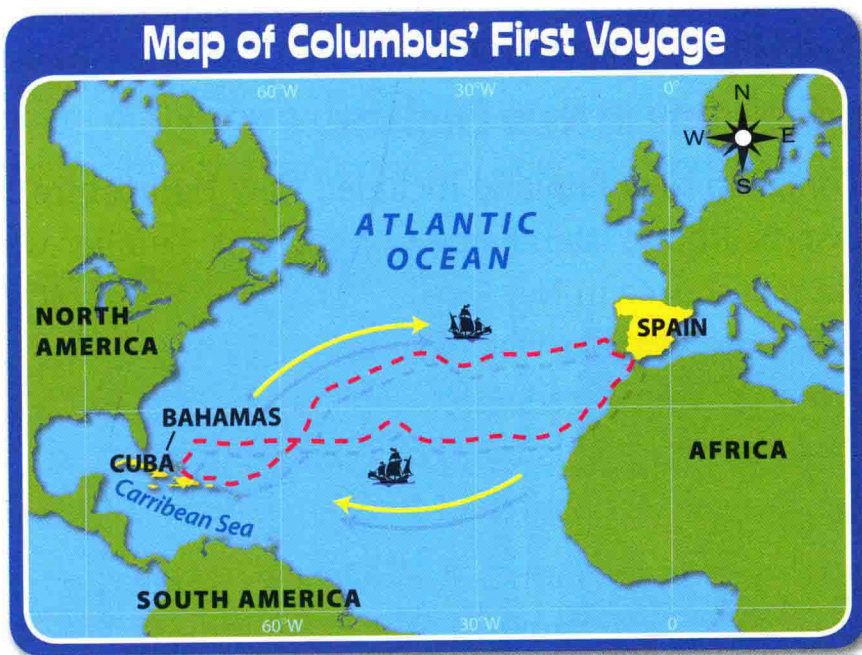
Cause and Effect

What effect would a faster route have had on European trade with Asia?

✓ **Comprehension**
Can you picture what the trade routes between Europe and Asia may have looked like?

Columbus and the New World

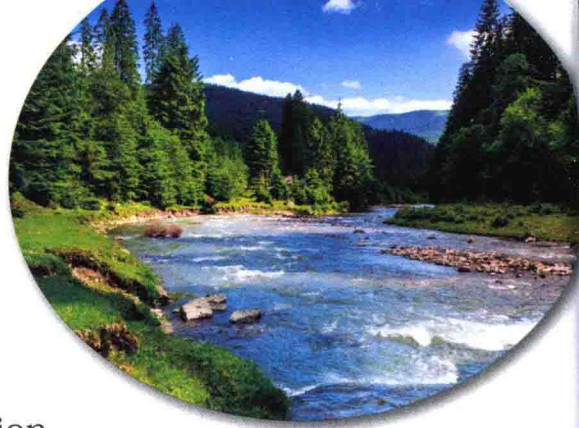
One explorer who tried to find a new route was Christopher Columbus. The king and queen of Spain paid for his trip, hoping that Columbus would find riches that would help Spain's economy. However, Columbus did not make it to Asia. Instead, he landed in the Bahamas and Cuba.



Colonists in the New World

Exploration of the New World continued into the 1600s. Poor economic conditions in England caused some people to move to the New World. These colonists wanted a chance to own land and earn a good living. Later, some colonists came to America for religious freedom. They did not want to **conform** to the religious beliefs of those around them. They wanted to keep their own beliefs, so they moved to America where there was religious freedom.

Colonists discovered that there were several different regions in America where they could settle. Each region had its own type of land and climate. As a result, each region produced different crops and goods to trade. This caused each region to develop its own unique economy.



How were the forests of New England valuable to the early economy?

Colonial Economy in New England

The colonies in New England included New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Lumber was an important resource in New England because the region had many forests. Lumber was used to build houses and ships. Lumber was also traded for goods from England. The forests were full of animals too. The animals provided fur for trading and served as a source of food.

Many New England colonists lived close to the ocean. They caught fish to feed their families. They also hunted whales. Whale fat and oil were used to make soap and candles. Colonists sold these resources and goods at markets.

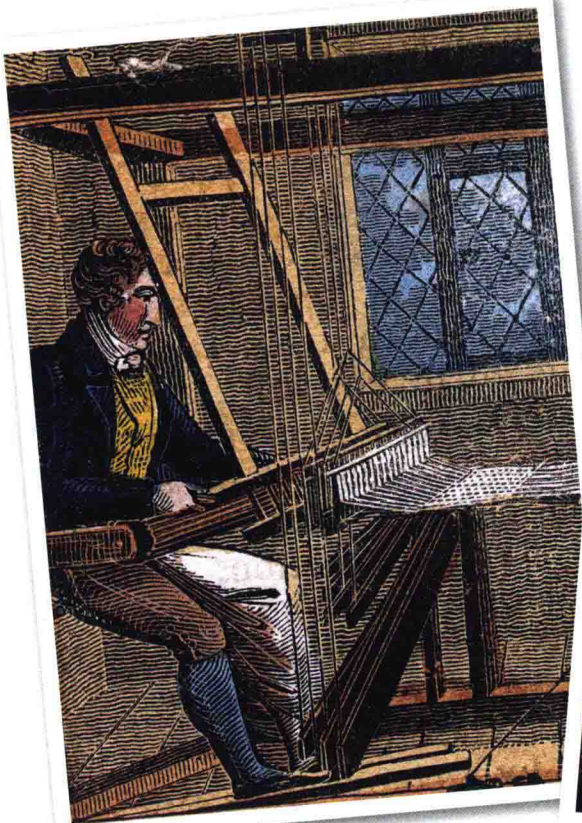


Colonists in New England sold fish at local markets. Today many fishermen continue to sell their fresh catches to help the local economy.



The soil in New England was not ideal for farming. Many colonists grew only enough corn and wheat for their own families. They traded eggs or pigs with their neighbors to get other supplies they needed.

Some people had a certain skill, or **specialization**, that they used to make money. For example, there were skilled dressmakers and shoemakers. They set up shops and businesses where they turned their skills into services. Members of the town paid these experts for their services. Towns became the center of the New England economy.



These colonists used one specific skill to make a living.

What could you trade today to get supplies you might need?

The Middle Colonies

The Middle Colonies were made up of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The Middle Colonies had many ports where ships could easily load and unload goods.

✓ Comprehension

What do you think a busy colonial port would look like?

The Middle Colonies had good farmland. Farmers raised livestock and grew crops. They traded crops, such as wheat, for special items from England, such as pewter dishes and glass mirrors. Grain from the new colonies helped to feed the people in England.

Colonists grew an abundance of crops, which were loaded onto ships to trade with England and other countries.

