

The Story of Jamestown

Week 23 • Tuesday • The First Lasting English Colony

Reading Time

In the year 1607, three small ships landed in Virginia. About one hundred men and boys stepped onto the shore. They built a fort by a river and named their new home **Jamestown**, after King James of England.

Life in Jamestown was very hard at first. The water was not clean, food ran low, and many colonists got sick. A brave leader named **John Smith** made a rule: everyone must work — planting, building, and fishing.

The Powhatan people already lived on this land. A young Powhatan girl named **Pocahontas** helped bring food and peace between her people and the colonists. Jamestown survived and became the first lasting English colony in America.

Reading Questions

1. In what year did the colonists land at Jamestown?

2. Who made the rule that everyone must work?

3. Who were the people already living on the land?

4. How did Pocahontas help the colonists?

Vocabulary Grid

Write what each word means in your own words.

Jamestown

fort

leader

Powhatan

survive

peace

Order the Story

Number these events 1 to 5 in the order they happened.

Event	Order (1-5)
Jamestown becomes a lasting colony.	
Three ships sail from England.	
John Smith says everyone must work.	
The colonists build a fort by the river.	
Pocahontas helps bring food and peace.	

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Jamestown was named after King James.
- ☐ Life in Jamestown was easy from the start.
- ☐ John Smith told everyone to work.
- ☐ The Powhatan people lived in Virginia before the colonists came.
- ☐ Jamestown was built in the year 2007.
- ☐ Jamestown became the first lasting English colony.

Think About It

1. Why do you think John Smith's rule that everyone must work helped Jamestown survive?

2. How do you think the Powhatan people felt when the ships arrived?

Fill in the Blanks

Jamestown 1607 fort John Smith Pocahontas work

1. The colonists landed in Virginia in the year _____.
2. They named their colony _____.
3. First, they built a _____ by the river.
4. _____ was a leader who made rules.
5. His rule was that everyone must _____.
6. _____ helped bring food and peace.

Draw It!

Draw the Jamestown fort by the river. Include the wooden walls, small houses, and the three ships.



Review

I learned...	Circle one
When and where Jamestown was built	YES / NOT YET
Why life was hard at first	YES / NOT YET
How John Smith and Pocahontas helped	YES / NOT YET