

Jamestown, Québec and Santa Fe: Three North American Beginnings

Topic/Content: Thinking About Maps

Whether or not it is accurate, every map presents a point of view. Mapmakers choose to include some elements and exclude others, based on their audience and their purpose in making the map.

In the 1600s, mapmakers made maps for many reasons: to share information, to attract new settlers, to promote new investment in colonial ventures, and to make claims of dominion by re-naming places and drawing political boundaries.

Main Message:

- Maps have purposes other than wayfinding.

Applicable Standards of Learning:

Based on information compiled from:

Virginia Public Schools

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Superintendent/Sols/home.shtml>

New Mexico Public Schools

<http://www.ped.state.nm.us/standards/index.html>

Ontario Ministry of Education

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/>

Students will:

- Develop a general understanding of early settlements in North America;
- Develop map skills by locating the countries of Spain, England, and France and their early settlements in North America;
- Interpret geographic information from maps, tables, graphs and charts;
- Describe ways in which maps can illustrate a culture's particular point of view; and
- Learn the terms *cartographer* and *cartography*.

