



Topic: Rene Laudonniere Builds Fort Caroline

Level: 8th-11th grade

Site of Activity: Classroom post-activity, 15 minutes

Designed by: Pamela James, Teacher to Ranger to Teacher, Sandalwood High School

Theme: Society and Culture

Goal and Objectives:

Students will understand how interactions of societies and cultures have influenced Florida's history by:

1. Identifying and defining new vocabulary words found in the passage.
2. Creating a word map to increase their knowledge of the word and its meaning for understanding Florida history.

Sunshine State Standards

SSA 634

Materials Needed:

1. Background Reading (attached)
2. Worksheet (attached)
3. Pencil and paper

Directions:

After reading the background information students will fill in the blanks below.

One Sentence Summaries:

Make sure to take time and allow your students to share their answers.

Background:

During the time that Jean Ribault was in prison, Rene Laudonniere was sent to rescue Charlesfort in South Carolina. Laudonniere led an expedition of 304 Huguenot colonists. The Huguenots were excited about moving to a new colony where they would have freedom to worship. Life was difficult for the Protestant Huguenots in Catholic France. When they arrived at the mouth of the St. John River in Florida, they stopped there and built a triangle-shaped fort for protection. They called it Fort Caroline.

At first, the colony prospered. The French ships were well stocked with cattle, supplies, and tools. On board were farmers, artisans, women, and children. Laudonniere set out to explore the interior of this new territory. Initially he established good relations with the Timucuan Indians. Soon, however, supplies ran short and the French colony was unable to get food from the natives.

Some of the colonists no longer believed Laudonniere's leadership. They stole boats and sailed south to become pirates and raid Spanish treasure ships. Most of the colonists at Fort Caroline decided to go home to France. The French colony was in trouble.

Student Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Rene Laudonniere Builds Fort Caroline

Directions: Complete the Vocabulary Word box for each of the five words listed below.

VOCABULARY WORDS

Colonist Artist
Protestant Expedition
Interior

WORD MAP

| | |
|---|---|
| Synonym | Antonym |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"><hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Vocabulary Word</div> | |
| Use it in a sentence | What pops into your head when you hear this word? |