

01002

ERA 1: THREE WORLDS MEET (BEGINNINGS TO 1620)

THEMES: AMERICAN IDENTITY, POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP

# Jamestown Hangs in the Balance

## Guiding Questions

Why would someone go to or being willing to invest in Jamestown?

Would there be a United States without Jamestown?

## Question Focus Examples for Task 24

The United States as we know it would not exist if not for Jamestown.



Re-creations of the three ships that first landed at Jamestown in 1607, *Discovery*, *Susan Constant* and *Godspeed*, can now be boarded by visitors to Jamestown Settlement.

## Teacher-to-Teacher

Introduce the lesson by asking students to examine the first three documents. These documents depict a promising beginning for the Virginia colony. Ask students why they might have chosen to travel to Jamestown if they lived in the early 17th century. Then ask students to examine Documents 4 and 5. Do these documents change their view of colonization in Virginia? Consider using the “Article, Laws, and Orders” document to address the values and concerns of those leading the Virginia Company and how those laws compare to later laws in colonies and the United States. Also consider using “America, Found and Lost” as a supplemental piece that can pique student interest; the introduction describes Jamestown as the site for introducing European earthworms to North America and its impact on ecosystems.

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2007/05/jamestown/charles-mann-text/1>

**Literature Connection:** *The Deerslayer* by James Fenimore Cooper,  
*Champlain’s Dream* by David Hackett Fischer

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- ✿ **A True Declaration of the Estate in Virginia** DOCUMENT
- ✿ **Letter from an Indentured Servant to His Parents, 1623** DOCUMENT
- ✿ **Articles, Laws, and Orders, Divine, Politic, and Martial for the Colony in Virginia** DOCUMENT

## Recommended Instructional Strategies

### Task 4

Explicit Vocabulary Sheet

### Task 8

Analyze and Compare Author Purpose

### Task 23

Identifying Claim and Evidence

### Task 24

QFT (Question Focus Technique)

### Task 25

Document Sourcing

**fourscore**  
make history