

## 2.4

# Immigration & Slavery in the Colonies



## **As a Young Historian, I will be able to...**

- Explain how European immigration to the colonies changed between the late 1600s and 1700s.
- Analyze the development of slavery in the colonies.
- Describe the experience of enslaved Africans in the colonies.

# Immigrants from England!

Half of immigrants are **indentured servants**- poor immigrants who get passage to new world in exchange for 4-7 years work

They would receive bare necessities to live rather than pay

English Economy improves & immigration diminishes



# **Other Countries Enter!**

**Scottish & Irish immigration grows!**

**As does Germany!**

**People leave their countries due to war,  
taxes, & persecution**

**The mixing of cultures are accepted in the  
middle colonies, especially  
Pennsylvania.**

# **Slavery in the Colonies**

**As immigration slows, demand for labor grows in the colonies**

**In the beginning, most African workers were treated as indentured servants**

**Eventually laws were created for permanent slavery**

**“Slaves imported who were not Christian in native country their children will be slaves.”**



# Transatlantic Slave Trade

**During 1700s, British colonies imported 1,500,00 slaves to the New World**

**Enslaved people came to America via the **Triangular Trade**- A 3 part voyage. 1<sup>st</sup> from Europe to Africa..**

**Then, the **middle passage**, carrying slaves across the Atlantic to the colonies, then traders returned to their mother country**

**Slaves were subjugated to intense suffering during middle passages. 10% did not survive**

# **Africans in the colonies**

**Colonial buyers often broke up families to avoid rebellion or escape.**

**New England most slaves were farmhands, dockworkers, sailors, & house servants**

**The South, mostly agriculture based jobs on plantations**

**Most enslaved lived in very poor conditions**

# **A New Culture Emerges**

**In the colonies African Americans develop  
a rich culture based on their  
African traditions**

**Most adopt Christianity but mix with  
African traditions**

**They modify African instruments to create  
banjos, rattles, & drums.**



# Resistance & Freedom

**Many slaves try to escape via rebellion or running away becoming a [maroon](#).**

**Many would stay on plantations but work slowly, fake illness, pretend ignorance, or break tools**

**Those who did obtain freedom would move to the cities.**

**Phillis Wheatley is an example, she publishes a book of poems in 1773**