

## COLONIAL LIFE

### What do you know about Colonial Life?

Life in the new colonies was often challenging. While the settlers were free from the restrictions of life in European society, they also did not have the amenities of European life in the 1600s. Getting used to the new environments in which they settled was trying, but each colony worked hard to establish a bearable and even in some ways a comfortable environment.



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The settlement  
laws imposed

revolted against these laws, many succumbed to them in order to keep their newly found freedom. Revolts such as the **Boston Tea Party** took place in reaction to these laws.

Many families in the colonies worked on a small farm. The roles of society in colonial America were clearly defined. Men were the decision-makers, and women were in a supporting role. Most children were enrolled in schools created by the communities, and families worked together to create the food and share the work of a community.



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As these communities grew and thrived, the question of self-directed growth and local governance was raised frequently. The King and his Court were far, far away and knew little of the struggles of these settlers. Early colonists began to create **town governments** to meet the needs of the communities. Town meetings were held to raise money for local entities and to make decisions about their settlements separate from the British government. These actions began to create a culture of independence that grew, gradually at first, to become a revolution for independence from the British Empire.



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