Think and Review Questions

1. Why did the British come to Florida?
2. What does the saying, “The sun never sets on the British Empire,” mean?
3. Describe what impact the French and Indian War had on Florida.
4. Describe the size of La Florida in the 1700s.
5. What did the British do to Florida to deal with the large size?
6. Who governed East Florida? West Florida?
7. Describe the differences.
8. How are the counties of Santa Rosa and Escambia the same?
9. Describe the character trait of honesty.
10. Describe what the indigo plant looks like.

Fun Facts

President Ronald Reagan is not only the oldest president elected (he was 69) but also the only president that was divorced.

Think You Know What a “Banger” Is?

Do you ever eat bangers and eggs for breakfast? Has your mother ever asked you to hoover the living room? Does your little sister wear her hair in “bunches”? If you aren’t quite sure, then you probably don’t speak British English.

When the first colonists came to America from England, they spoke English, just like almost everyone in England. Over the years, the English spoken in England and the English spoken in America began to take on several differences. Besides coming up with our own unique accent, or way of pronouncing English words, Americans also started coming up with their own ways of saying things. New words were used to describe foods, clothing, entertainment and even hair styles. The language changed little by little as both the Americans and the British came up with different words for the same things.

For example, if you lived in England today, you would eat “chips” (fries) with your burgers and you would ask your mother for an “ice lolly” (popsicle) if the weather was warm.

The Secret Formula

One day, a science professor who’s a friend of your family passes by you and puts a strange bottle of liquid into your hand.

1. The color of the liquid in the bottle is …
2. The smell of the liquid is like …
3. One very strange thing about this secret liquid is …
4. By accident, the bottle falls to the floor with a crash!

The liquid spills all over. The most unusual thing begins to happen …

Using the Secret Formula . . .

Use the facts you completed above to finish the following story:

My strange discovery of the secret formula came quite by accident. It all happened the day I dropped the bottle containing the mysterious liquid. My teacher had given me an assignment to write about English Florida before the American Revolution. The facts had to be correct. I was struggling to write down what I knew when …

(Finish your story on a sheet of lined paper)
Ogelthorpe’s Battle on the Castillo

In 1740, General James Ogelthorpe, governor of the Georgia colony, landed on present-day St. Augustine, Florida, which was then held by the Spanish. The British navy attacked by sea and shot canons at Fort Castillo de San Marcos, which had been built half a month. The residents of St. Augustine were safe inside the fort, but their food was becoming scarce. Florida’s governor, Manuel de Montiano, wrote letters to the King of Spain to send supplies. Ogelthorpe’s soldiers were forced to retreat. The citizens of St. Augustine celebrated that the British were gone at least for a while.

French and Indian War

In Europe, France and Spain were fighting England to keep their land throughout the world. England wanted more and more land and started to fight the French for land in North America in 1754. Many of the American Indians joined France to fight the British who were also trying to take their land. Even though the French and American Indians joined forces to save their land, the British won the war.

Honesty

“A honest answer is a sign of true friendship.” —Proverbs 24:23

Honesty is being truthful, sincere and trustworthy. Do you try to choose friends who are honest with you? Have you ever had a friend who lied to you or did something dishonest that made you decide not to be his or her friend anymore? Have you ever been dishonest and lost a friend because of it? It is important that we are honest with others and that they are honest with us so that we can trust each other.

Governor James Grant, the British governor of Florida, was very impressed by the honesty he saw in the Seminole Indians. He discovered that this tribe was very truthful with him and that when they did promises, they kept them. He was so impressed that he decided not to attack the Seminole but to make a peace with them. He knew that they respected their honor and that he hoped they would keep their promises to him. It was a great decision because the Seminole realized that they had respected their honor and that they hoped they would keep their promises to him.

Florida:

Florida: Going, Going and Gone to England

The year was 1763. This colonization business was really booming (going well), but Spain was in a tight spot. Its Florida colony was completely surrounded by British land. The Spanish could not to attack the settlers if the settlers kept their promises to leave the Seminole Indians in peace and only settle on the land that had been agreed upon. Governor James Grant was able to get along well with the Seminolies because he trusted them and believed in their honor. As long as the settlers continued to keep their promises to the Seminole, both groups were able to get along well together. Honesty between the two groups helped them to live in peace.

British were ready to promise on it any nature! To make matters worse, Britain had already conquered Spanish Cuba. The message from England was clear: “Now, here’s the deal,” they said: “We’ll give Cuba back, but in exchange, you have to give us Florida!” Perhaps King Charles of Spain was spot a few sleepless nights thinking it over. Perhaps King George III of England wondered for a day or so what Spain would really go for. And then, the handshake—after 250 years of Spanish rule, Florida finally belonged to England! France signed over more land to make the deal complete. While the Spanish colonists packed up to leave, you can bet that King George slept pretty well that night!

That’s One Big Colony!

For Florida, it was huge when Britain took control. It stretched from the East Coast of the peninsula all the way to the Mississippi River. Britain decided Florida was way too big for one colony. They took a map and drew a line right at the Apalachicola River. Everything east of the line was one colony and everything east of the line was another. What did they name the colonies? How about Georgeland, after the king, or maybe New World Central, or Orangia, after the oranges brought by the Spaniards? Well, these men were explorers and colonists who were brave and hardworking, but they weren’t very creative. They named the new colonies . . . (are you ready for this?) . . . West Florida and East Florida. Ta-daa! What would you have named them, if you had been in charge?

East Florida

East Florida included much of the land that makes up Florida today. It was full of large plantations that were worked mostly by African American slaves. The first governor of East Florida was a man named James Grant. He became the governor in 1764. He had gained fame and glory a few years earlier by dealing with the Cherokee Indians. How did he deal with them? Did he burn their homes and crops, forcing them to “make peace” because they had no food? No way! When Grant was governor, he dealt quite differently with the natives of Florida (mostly the Seminole). His policy was simple: Treat them like friends and rely on their sense of honesty and justice. What a concept! And what’s more, it worked! Grant held great councils (meetings) with the American Indians. He gave them gifts. When there were angry feelings, he talked things over instead of starting wars. Now, that’s the way to deal with people.

Florida History!

This Week’s Question

What do you think life was like on the large plantations in East Florida?

Florida:

Florida:

Florida was owned by Spain, France and England before. It was owned by America. Its county seat is Pensacola. This great town is the home of the Blue Angels, the most famous flight Demonstration Squadron.

There are many businesses in Escambia County, as well. One of them is a business that makes parts for mapping devices! Wow, that’s high tech! They also have healthcare, chemical, publishing and communication companies. Both of these great companies have many visitors because they’re terrific places to go!

Indigo Plant

I love you very put a blue outfit on land asked yourself how it got that color? Well, probably not. Today, you don’t really have a problem. You go to the grocery store or drug store and you can buy artificial chemical dye.

But if you wanted a blue outfit 100 years ago, you’d have a problem. The indigo plant is an herb that grows in Florida. It is one of many species that come from tropical plants. The plants have a natural blue color in their leaves and stems. It also has clusters of red flowers that look like butterflies. It grows from two to six feet in height. The indigo plant likes warm climates and can be found growing in mostly South America and Central America. When the first explorers came to America, they developed blue dye. They didn’t find much gold, but the rich Florida soil and tropical climate were perfect for growing indigo. In the 1700s, indigo had become one of the leading crops. However, in the early 1900s, less indigo was grown because it was replaced with artificial dyes.

Florida's First Governor

George Johnstone was the first governor of East Florida. He was in charge for almost three years. Johnstone thought he was very impressed by the honesty he saw in the Seminole Indians. As long as the settlers continued to keep their promises to the Seminole, both groups were able to get along well together. Honesty between the two groups helped them to live in peace.

When we are honest with each other and keep our promises, we are able to get along better in our families, our classrooms and our communities.