

Virginia is growing.....



Q: What was daily life like in Colonial Virginia?

Housing	
Food	
Clothing	

By the early 1700's....

- Once Jamestown was a successful colony, people starting moving off the main site and started new towns.
- Most towns were centered around new plantations where tobacco was grown.
- The new towns were in the Coastal Plains and the Piedmont regions.

Shirley Plantation...what do you notice???



Plantations were owned by wealthy planters

- Virginia's economy depended on agriculture as its main sense of wealth.
- What was the crop that raised the most money???

–Tobacco!

It was a cash crop...\$\$\$\$



Where were most plantations built?

- Most were built along the rivers...
- Why do you think they would build there?



What was daily life like in Colonial Virginia?

- For those people who lived on plantations, they had a good life!
- Beautiful clothes
- Lots of meats, fruits, and vegetables to eat
- Lovely furniture
- Carriages for travel



Plantation life for Rich Planters



Do you think most people lived this way?

- The answer is NO....
- Most white Virginians and Free African Americans made their living from the land as small farmers.



- Only a few owned plantations...just like today, only a few are super rich! (Think Hollywood)

How did most white Virginian's and Free African Americans live?

- They had to rely on the Natural Resources available to them.
- Food choices were limited.
- Meals were made of local produce and meats.



Salted
Ham...

Did they live in huge houses?

- No, most people lived in a one-room house with a dirt floor.



Did they wear beautiful clothes?

- Each household made their own clothes.
- Most was made of cotton, wool and leather.



Free African Americans

- Free African Americans lived just like most whites

They owned businesses & property....

BUT they were denied most rights legally.



Enslaved African Americans

- Most worked tobacco, crops and livestock on the large plantations.
- They were fed by the plantation owners usually fish, corn, and some vegetables.
- They lived in homes that were also 1 room with dirt floors, but usually had more family in them.
- They wore simple clothing that was handmade.



Daily Life of Slaves



FQ: What was daily life like for the rich different from most

- Compare the life of the rich and most Virginians. Use a box and T chart:

Same:

Rich

Most Virginians