

Academic Conversation Homework: The 13 Colonies

Integrated Reading/Writing/Social Studies Learning
Mrs. Hoehlein

Today your child was introduced to The 13 Colonies and learned the location of each colony along the eastern seaboard of North America. (the US was not imagined yet!). They also learned how the distinct location of each colony influenced who came to live there and how that colony developed over time.

Tonight's Academic Conversation homework is to engage in a conversation about their new knowledge.

A good conversation requires that the speaker and listener sit opposite each other, speak in clear voices, use good eye contact and specific language (we have practiced in class) to help explain, elaborate and/or clarify ideas as needed.

Here are the key points for this discussion.

- Define the term colony and explain why the colonies were created.
- Using the map created in class, show and name each of the 13 Colonies.
- Explain how and why we color-coded the map in a particular way.
- Describe some of the similarities and differences in the colonial regions.

Word Bank

Map Key, New England, Middle, Southern, Great Britain, geographic, climate, resources, economy/jobs, religious beliefs

Important sentence starters for a good conversation on the above ideas are:

“The 13 colonies were grouped into three distinct _____ regions.”

“This is the colony of It is located (point) in the _____ region.” (elaborate)

“The _____ color stands for The colonies in this region were This is important because” (elaborate about the way the colonies are put into groups)
Colonies in the _____ region were similar because _____.”

“On the other hand, colonies in the _____ region _____. “(name a difference)

Good conversation was an ART in colonial times. Not every person could read or write well, but everyone could speak. Words, when used well, have the power to persuade others. That skill will launch a revolution one hundred fifty years later.

Student name _____ Parent signature _____

How did your child do? Did he/she seem secure with this new area of learning?