



## Unit Title: “From Settlement to Colony”

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### Components

This fully integrated unit contains social studies, science, reading and language arts (writing), research, and mathematics components. Several design challenges are incorporated into this unit and provide an engaging, “project-based” focus and lively “simulation aspect” to the unit activities. Both music and arts also play a part.

Following topics *The First Americans* and *Exploration*, this unit begins in December and encompasses Units 4 and 5 of our Scott Foresman social studies text; addressing California History and **Social Studies** standards 5.3 (.1 - .6), 5.4 (.1 - .7), 5.5 (.1- .2). Although not strictly part of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade **science** standards, we also undertake a study of ocean currents and water quality. This enables students to make clear connections between the physical world and the history-making events that shape civilizations. During the several weeks of science experiments (assisted by science instructor) and discussions, students learn the causes of ocean currents, the patterns they make across the globe, and how they influence the arrangements of settlement and trade between Europe and the New World. Some students are **reading** the novel *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, getting a taste of life in a Connecticut colony, while others are reading shorter stories in our *Excursions* text that deal with life along the coast (e.g. *Wading into Marine Biology*, *Sailing Home*). Students are actively engaged in many different **writing** genres from explanatory (non-fiction) to personal narrative (creative), as well as role play, as they explore a colonial trade, or become a sea captain ready to take a group of colonists to the Americas. The design challenges bring **mathematics** into play as students blueprint then construct a scale model of a colony from given specifications. Using longitude and latitude to locate possible settlement spots and measuring distances from building to building, calculating area and perimeter are but a few of the ways students apply Everyday Mathematics skills from Units 3 and 9 in authentic ways. **Technology** also plays a significant role, not only as a means of written communication, but as an auditory device into which teams record a guided tour or their colony. The arts are not forgotten. Two major 5<sup>th</sup> grade events are also part of this unit of study: the *Colonial Faire*, and the *Walk Through the Revolution*. The timeline below gives a more complete picture of the unit’s breadth.

### Timeline

Approximate Date	Activity or Event	Integration
	Begin <i>Ocean Currents</i> (weekly Tuesdays)	Science (Dettloff)
	Begin <i>The Witch of Black Bird Pond</i>	ELA Background
	Begin <i>Our Nation</i> Unit 3 <i>The Fight for a Continent</i>	Social Studies Background
	<i>Sailing Home</i> ( <i>Excursions</i> Anthology)	ELA Background
	Begin water quality testing	Science (Dettloff)
	Begin <i>Our Nation</i> Unit 4 <i>Life in the Colonies</i>	Social Studies Background
	Blog: Apply for Ship Captain Role*	Simulation Background
	Selection of Ship 5 Captains	Simulation
	Conferring of Land Grant Charters*	Simulation
	Selection of Colonial Trades (random drawing)	Simulation
	<i>Wading into Marine Biology</i> ( <i>Excursions</i> Anthology)	ELA



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	Colonial Trade Research* / Ship Captain’s Logs*	ELA , Research
	Begin ‘water cycle’ investigation	Science (Rusch)
	Captains “interview” prospective colonists	Simulation
	Construction: Colonial Craft (kite)	Simulation
	<i>Storm Along</i> (Excursions Anthology)	ELA
	Captains select colonists for colony	Teacher/Student Check Point
	Begin Unit 3 <i>Everyday Math</i> (Geometry)	Math
	Compose Colony “Compact” - rules to guide colony	Simulation
	Begin Design Challenge: Construct Colony Model	Math, Collaboration
	Estimation Challenge: Williamsburg Tour	Math
	<b>Colonial Faire</b>	Simulation
	Finish and assess <i>The Witch of Black Bird Pond</i>	ELA
	<i>Lewis &amp; Clark</i> (Excursions Anthology)	ELA
	Introduction of random-chance cards	Simulation, Math
	Begin <u>Our Nation</u> Unit 5 <i>Causes of the Revolution</i>	Social Studies Background
	Begin <i>Ben and Me</i>	ELA
	Begin Everyday Math Unit 9 (Coordinates, Area, etc.)	Math
	Begin practice for <i>Walk Through the Revolution</i>	ELA, Social Studies
	Art Project – Hanging Our Shingles/Colonial Trades	Arts
	Begin audio tour of colony model ( <i>Garageband</i> )	Simulation
	<b>Walk Through the Revolution</b>	Game
	Tally settlement points	Math
	Begin Unit Assessment	

### **Avenues of Assessment**

1. **Group Reflection** – Captains work with colonists to determine success or failure of colony (written essay)
2. **Self Reflection** – Students rate their performance as a colonist (written essay)
3. **Oral Presentation** - Presentation of colony model and audio tour to class (teacher rubric)
4. **Written Assessment** – Finished ‘Colonial Trades’ reports and Captain’s Logs turned in for ELA evaluation (writing rubric)

Additional downloads, guidelines and specifications sheets, required for the simulation are available at <http://IE21.ORG>.