

Name _____

Colonial Beginnings Answer Key

1. opportunities
2. religious
3. land
4. frontier
5. dream

Short Response: Answers should explain that people took risks for freedom, land, success, and a chance to improve their lives and their families' futures. Students should show understanding that the American Dream began with hope and effort in the colonial and frontier periods.

Teacher's Guide

- **Target Skill:** Using context clues to understand historical vocabulary and ideas.
- **Before Reading:** Briefly discuss why people moved to the colonies and later to the frontier.
- **Differentiation:**
 - Provide visuals (map of colonies/frontier, symbol for freedom).
 - Offer sentence starters for the response ("People took risks because...").
 - Challenge advanced learners to include a historical event or group in their explanation (e.g., Puritans, westward settlers).
- **Engagement Tips:**
 - Have students share which word from the Word Bank helped them understand the passage the most and why.
 - Connect the concept of early dreams to modern examples of students' own goals.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Students write a short paragraph imagining themselves as a colonial or frontier settler with a personal dream.
 - Create a class timeline showing how the meaning of the American Dream has changed over time.