Main Idea
Settlers begin to form the New England Colonies.

Key Terms
dissent, persecute, Puritan, Separatist, Pilgrim, Mayflower Compact, toleration

Reading Strategy
Classifying Information: As you read Section 2, re-create the diagram below and explain why different colonies in New England were settled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colony</th>
<th>Reasons the colony was settled</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
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Read to Learn
- why the Pilgrims and the Puritans came to America.
- how the Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire colonies began.

AN American Story
The young man looked around at the other passengers aboard the Mayflower. He and the other passengers sailed to the new world not knowing what they would find. They had muskets but knew little about shooting. They planned to fish but knew nothing about fishing. They had hoped to settle in Virginia but instead landed in New England without enough supplies to last the winter. The only thing these people had plenty of was courage. They would need it.

Religious Freedom
Unlike the Jamestown settlers, the next wave of colonists would arrive in search of religious freedom. England had been a Protestant country since 1534, when King Henry VIII broke away from the Roman Catholic Church and formed the Anglican Church. Not everyone in England was happy with the new church, however. Many people dissented—they disagreed with the beliefs or practices of the Anglicans. English Catholics, for example, still considered the pope the head of the church, and they were often persecuted, or treated harshly, for that reason.
At the same time, some Protestants wanted to change—or reform—the Anglican Church, while others wanted to break away from it altogether. The Protestants who wanted to reform the Anglican Church were called Puritans. Those who wanted to leave and set up their own churches were known as Separatists.

The Separatists were persecuted in England, and some fled to the Netherlands. Though they found religious freedom there, the Separatists had difficulty finding work. They also worried that their children were losing their religious values and their English way of life.

The Pilgrims' Journey

Some Separatists in the Netherlands made an arrangement with the Virginia Company. The Separatists could settle in Virginia and practice their religion freely. In return they would give the company a share of any profits they made.

The Separatists considered themselves Pilgrims because their journey had a religious purpose. Only 35 of the 102 passengers who boarded the Mayflower in September 1620 were Pilgrims. The others were called “strangers.” They were common people—servants, craftspeople, and poor farmers—who hoped to find a better life in America. Because Pilgrim beliefs shaped life in the Plymouth colony, however, all the early settlers are usually called Pilgrims.

The Mayflower Compact

The Mayflower’s passengers planned to settle in the Virginia colony. The first land they sighted was Cape Cod, well north of their target. Because it was November and winter was fast approaching, the colonists decided to drop anchor in Cape Cod Bay. They went ashore on a cold, bleak day in December at a place called Plymouth. William Bradford, their leader and historian, reported that “all things stared upon them with a weather-beaten face.”

Plymouth was outside the territory of the Virginia Company and its laws. Before going ashore, the Pilgrims drew up a formal document called the Mayflower Compact. The compact pledged their loyalty to England and declared their intention of forming “a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation.” The signers also promised to obey the laws passed “for the general good of the colony.” The Mayflower Compact was a necessary step in the development of representative government in America. (See page 612 of the Appendix for the entire text of the Mayflower Compact.)

Help From the Native Americans

Their first winter in America, almost half the Pilgrims died of malnutrition, disease, and
The First Thanksgiving

In the autumn of 1621 the Pilgrims invited the Native Americans to celebrate the peace between them. After the struggle through the first winter, the Pilgrims also felt relieved to be raising food. During the feast the Pilgrims thanked God for the harvest and for their survival.

Who took part? About 50 men, women, and children colonists and 90 Wampanoag Native Americans took part in the three-day feast.

What did they do? Dancing, singing, and playing games were part of the celebration. The Wampanoag demonstrated their skills with the bow and arrow.

When was it held? Exactly when the festival took place is uncertain, but it is believed the celebration occurred sometime between September 21 and November 9.

What did they eat? They most likely ate wild fowl, duck, and turkey shot by the colonists and deer provided by the Wampanoag.

New Settlements

In 1625 the English throne passed to Charles I. Charles objected to the Puritans’ calls for reform in the Anglican Church, and persecution of Puritans increased again. Some Puritans looked for a way to leave England.

In 1629 a group of Puritans formed the Massachusetts Bay Company and received a royal charter to establish a colony north of Plymouth. This was the Puritans’ chance to create a new society in America—a society based on the Bible.

The company chose a well-educated Puritan named John Winthrop to be the colony’s governor. In 1630 Winthrop led about 900 men, women, and children to Massachusetts Bay. Most of them settled in a place they called Boston.
During the 1630s, more than 15,000 Puritans journeyed to Massachusetts to escape religious persecution and economic hard times in England. This movement of people became known as the Great Migration.

At first, John Winthrop and his assistants made the colony's laws. They were chosen by the General Court, which was made up of the colony's stockholders. In 1634, settlers demanded a larger role in the government. The General Court became an elected assembly. Adult male church members were allowed to vote for the governor and for their town's representatives to the General Court. In later years, they also had to own property to vote.

The Puritans came to America to put their religious beliefs into practice. The Puritans had little toleration—they criticized or persecuted people who held other religious views. This lack of toleration led to the creation of new colonies.

Connecticut and Rhode Island

The fertile Connecticut River valley, south of Massachusetts, was much better for farming than was the stony soil around Boston. In the 1630s colonists began to settle in this area.

A minister named Thomas Hooker became dissatisfied with Massachusetts. He did not like the way that Winthrop and the other Puritan leaders ran the colony. In 1636 Hooker led his congregation through the wilderness to Connecticut, where he founded the town of Hartford. Three years later Hartford and two other towns, Windsor and Wethersfield, agreed to form a colony. They adopted a plan of government called the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut. This was the first written constitution in America, and it described the organization of representative government in detail.

Good land drew colonists to Connecticut, but Rhode Island was settled by colonists who were forced out of Massachusetts. The first of these was Roger Williams, a minister. Williams felt that people should not be persecuted for their religious practices. In his view the government should not force people to worship in a certain way. Williams also believed it was wrong for settlers to take land away from the Native Americans.

The ideas of Roger Williams caused Massachusetts leaders to banish him in 1635. He took refuge with the Narraganset people, who later
sold Williams land where he founded the town of Providence. Williams received a charter in 1644 for a colony east of Connecticut called Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. With its policy of religious toleration, Rhode Island became a safe place for dissenters. It was the first place in America where people could worship freely.

Others followed Williams’s example, forming colonies where they could worship as they pleased. In 1638 John Wheelwright led a group of dissenters from Massachusetts to the north. They founded the town of Exeter in New Hampshire. The same year, a group of Puritans settled Hampton. The colony of New Hampshire became fully independent of Massachusetts in 1679.

Conflict With Native Americans

Native Americans helped the settlers adapt to the land. They also traded with the settlers, exchanging furs for goods such as iron pots, blankets, and guns. In Virginia the colonists had frequent encounters with the many tribes of the Powhatan confederacy. In New England the settlers met the Wampanoags, Narragansets, and other groups.

Conflicts arose, however. Usually settlers moved onto Native American lands without permission or payment. Throughout the colonial period, English settlers and Native Americans competed fiercely for control of the land.

In 1636 war broke out between the settlers and the Pequot people. After two traders were killed in Pequot territory, Massachusetts sent troops to punish the Pequot. The Pequot then attacked a town in Connecticut killing nine people. In May 1637, troops from Connecticut attacked the main Pequot fort with the help of the Narraganset people. They burned the fort, killing hundreds.

In 1675 New England went to war against the Wampanoag people and their allies. Metacomet, the Wampanoag chief, was known to settlers as King Philip. He wanted to stop the settlers from moving onto Native American lands. The war began after settlers executed three Wampanoags for murder. Metacomet's forces attacked towns across the region, killing hundreds of people.

The settlers and their Native American allies fought back. King Philip's War, as the conflict was called, ended in defeat for the Wampanoag and their allies. The war destroyed the power of the Native Americans in New England, leaving the colonists free to expand their settlements.

/Reading Check/ Evaluating Describe the significance of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut.

/Student Web Activity /
Visit t+tavolt.glencoe.com
and click on Chapter 3—Student Web Activities for an activity on King Philip's War.

TAKS Practice

SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding
1. Key Terms Write a short paragraph in which you use the following terms: dissent, persecute, Puritan, Separatist, Pilgrim, Mayflower Compact, toleration.
2. Reviewing Facts Identify the reasons why the Separatists left Europe for the Americas.
3. Civic Rights and Responsibilities What freedom did Rhode Island offer that other colonies did not?

Critical Thinking
4. Comparing What did the Mayflower Compact and the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut have in common?
5. Determining Cause and Effect Re-create the diagram below and describe the effects as colonists interacted with Native Americans.

Analyzing Maps
6. Geography Skills Study the map on page 77. What products came from New Hampshire?

Interdisciplinary Activity
Government Research and write a one-page paper about the life of Roger Williams. Explain why he left Massachusetts to found a new colony. Describe how his religious ideals contributed to the growth of the representative government in Rhode Island.
Why Learn This Skill?

A bar graph presents numerical information in a visual way. Bars of various lengths stand for different quantities. A bar graph lets you see a lot of information in an organized way. Bars may be drawn vertically—up and down—or horizontally—left to right. Labels along the left axis and the bottom axis explain what the bars represent.

Learning the Skill

To read a bar graph:
- Read the title to learn the subject of the graph.
- Look at the horizontal and vertical axes to find what information the graph presents.
- Compare the lengths of the bars on the graph.

Practicing the Skill

Study the bar graph on this page and answer the following questions.
1. Which colony had the largest total population in 1700? The smallest?
2. Did Virginia or Maryland have a larger African American population?

Applying the Skill

Reading a Bar Graph  Create a bar graph to represent the number of students in each American history class in your school.

Glencoe’s Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook CD-ROM, Level 1, provides instruction and practice in key social studies skills.
The American Republic To 1877

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