

# Second Grade Social Studies Study Guide

## Unit 5: "America's Past"

### Summary:

- Lesson 1: Defined the term *history* and compared the cultures of four American Indian Groups
- Lesson 2: Described the journeys of Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus
- Lesson 3: Explained the hardships and life of the first colonists at Jamestown and Plymouth
- Lesson 4: Described the events that led colonists to declare independence from Great Britain
- Lesson 5: Discussed the influence of transportation in changing a community
- Lesson 6: Listed the influences of 5 famous heroes
- Lesson 7: Explained how inventions have changed the way people communicate

### Vocabulary:

History	settlement	Independence	colony
Journey	explorer	Technology	

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a small community built by settlers.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is another word for a trip.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a place ruled by another country.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is everything that happened in the past.
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a person who travels to find out new things.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is being free from rule by another nation.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is the use of science to make new things or to make things work better.

### Fill in the Blank:

8. Who was already living in America more than 500 years ago? \_\_\_\_\_  
They depended on natural resources for survival.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ was an explorer from Europe who wanted to find a faster way to reach parts of Asia. He sailed west and landed in North America instead.
10. England was one of the countries that started colonies in North America. In time, the colonists wanted independence from the king's rules. Therefore, the colonists wrote and signed an important paper that told the king that they wanted independence. The important paper was called \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Thomas Edison was a hero because he was a great \_\_\_\_\_.
12. New kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ have changed how people live in a community.

### Short Answer:

13. Name two leaders in the fight for American independence.
14. How were the settlers of Jamestown and Plymouth alike and different?
15. What happened when Great Britain refused to allow independence for the colonies?
16. The United States became a new country because \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Communication is any way of sharing information. Communication has changed over the years. In what ways were the telegraph system and postal system alike?

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***Answer Key***

1. settlement
2. Journey
3. colony
4. History
5. explorer
6. Independence
7. Technology
8. American Indians
9. Christopher Columbus
10. The Declaration of Independence
11. inventor
12. transportation
13. Possible Answers: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Abigail Adams, and Paul Revere
14. Possible Answers:
  - Alike: Settlers of both colonies came by ship from England. They both worked hard to survive. They also needed help from the American Indians to get food.
  - Different: Plymouth families belonged to a religious group. The first settlers at Jamestown were men and boys.
15. The Revolutionary War began.
16. American soldiers won the war.
17. Both systems were methods of communication.