

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Famous Colonial Figures Christopher Newport

*Read about Captain Christopher Newport, then answer the questions on the following page.*

Captain Christopher Newport started his career as a privateer, raiding Spanish ships and stealing their supplies for England with the permission of the government. Back in the 16th century, crowned heads asked privateers to raid foreign ships for them. Newport was a sought-after privateer and the go-to guy for important missions.



In 1606, Newport was chosen to lead an expedition to the New World. As captain of the *Susan Constant*, Newport led the sea voyage from London across the Atlantic Ocean to explore foreign shores. It was not an easy trip because the ship was battered by storms, the crew was fighting, and everyone was on the brink of starvation. The voyage lasted for 144 days – roughly five months! Over 100 settlers traveled with Christopher Newport to Virginia with hopes of establishing a colony.

While the journey was difficult, Newport never gave up, and he eventually brought the colonists to the New World in 1607. Initially, the group encountered difficulties when

they reached land, so they continued traveling. Once they reached an area which they wished to colonize, they created Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in North America.

From pirate to colonial settler, Newport played an important role in history. Newport was a skillful voyager on the seas and made a significant impact on the history of Britain and the Americas.

