STANDARD VS.2A
VIRGINIA’S BORDERING STATES

Relative location may be described using terms that show connections between two places such as “next to,” “near,” “bordering.”

Bordering bodies of water:
- Atlantic Ocean
- Chesapeake Bay

Bordering states:
- Maryland
- West Virginia
- Kentucky
- Tennessee
- North Carolina

STANDARD VS.2B
VIRGINIA’S FIVE REGIONS

Virginia can be divided into five geographic regions. Geographic regions have distinctive characteristics.

Terms to know:
- Fall Line: The natural border between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions, where waterfalls prevent further travel on the river
- Plateau: Area of elevated land that is flat on top

Coastal Plain (Tidewater):
- Flat land
- Location near Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay (includes Eastern Shore)
- East of the Fall Line

Piedmont (land at the foot of mountains):
- Rolling hills
- West of the Fall Line

Blue Ridge Mountains:
- Old, rounded mountains
- Part of Appalachian mountain system
- Located between the Piedmont and Valley and Ridge regions
- Source of many rivers

Valley and Ridge:
- Includes the Great Valley of Virginia and other valleys separated by ridges (The Blue Ridge Mountains and the Valley and Ridge Regions are part of the Appalachian mountain system.)
- Located west of Blue Ridge Mountains

Appalachian Plateau:
- Located in Southwest Virginia
- Only a small part of the plateau is located in Virginia

STANDARD VS.2C
VIRGINIA’S RIVERS AND WATERWAYS

Water features were important to the early history of Virginia.

Many early Virginia cities developed along the Fall Line, the natural border between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions where the land rises sharply and where the waterfalls prevent further travel on the river.

The four major rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay are separated by peninsulas.

The Chesapeake Bay separates the Eastern Shore from the mainland of Virginia.

Terms to know:
- Peninsula: A piece of land bordered by water on three sides.
  - The Eastern Shore is a peninsula bordered by the Chesapeake Bay to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east.
Water features

Atlantic Ocean
  - Provided transportation links between Virginia and other places (e.g., Europe, Africa, Caribbean)

Chesapeake Bay
  - Provided a safe harbor
  - Was a source of food and transportation

James River
  - Flows into the Chesapeake Bay
  - Richmond and Jamestown located along the James River

York River
  - Flows into the Chesapeake Bay
  - Yorktown located along the York River

Potomac River
  - Flows into the Chesapeake Bay
  - Alexandria located along the Potomac River

Rappahannock River
  - Flows into the Chesapeake Bay
  - Fredericksburg located on the Rappahannock River

Each river was a source of food and provided a pathway for exploration and settlement of Virginia.

- Lake Drummond
  - Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region
  - Shallow natural lake surrounded by the Dismal Swamp

- Dismal Swamp
  - Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region
  - Variety of wildlife

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**STANDARD Vs.2D
AMERICAN INDIAN LANGUAGE GROUPS**

American Indians were the first people who lived in Virginia.

American Indians lived in all areas of the state.

There were three major American Indian language groups in Virginia.

Christopher Columbus called the people he found in the lands he explored “Indians” because he thought he was in the Indies (near China)

Artifacts such as arrowheads, pottery, and other tools that have been found tell a lot about the people who lived in Virginia.

American Indian identities have always been closely connected to the land. American Indians did not believe in land ownership.

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**STANDARD Vs.2E
INDIANS ADAPT TO ENVIRONMENT FOR FOOD, CLOTHING SHELTER**

Virginia’s American Indians worked with the climate and their environment to meet their basic wants.

Many American Indians lived in towns situated along the rivers, which made for good farming, good fishing, and easy travel.

Virginia Indian cultures have changed over time.

Climate in Virginia

- The climate in Virginia is relatively mild with distinct seasons—spring, summer, fall, and winter—resulting in a variety of vegetation.
• Forests, which have a variety of trees, cover most of the land. Virginia’s American Indians are referred to as Eastern Woodland Indians.

Environmental Connections

The kinds of food American Indians ate, the clothing they wore, and the shelters they had depended upon the seasons.

• Foods changed with the seasons.
• In winter, they hunted birds and animals and lived on foods stored the previous fall.
• In spring, they hunted, fished and picked berries.
• In summer, they grew crops (beans, corn, squash).
• In fall, they harvested crops and hunted for foods to preserve and keep for the winter.
• Animal skins (deerskin) were used for clothing.
• Shelter was made from materials around them.

Native peoples of the past farmed, hunted, and fished. They made homes using natural resources. They used animal skins for clothing.

Today, most native peoples live like other Americans. Their cultures have changed over time.

Archeologists study all kinds of material evidence left from people of the past.

Werowocomoco was a large Indian town located on the York River, used by Indian leaders for several hundred years before the English settlers came. It was the headquarters of the leader, Powhatan, in 1607.

Jamestown became the first permanent English settlement in North America. Archaeologists have discovered the site of the original fort.

The recovered artifacts give archaeologists clues about the interactions of English, Africans, and Indians in early Virginia.

American Indian people have lived in Virginia for thousands of years.

Virginia Indians have contributed to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation.

American Indians, who trace their ancestry family history back to before 1607, continue to live in all parts of Virginia today.

– Virginia Indians live and work as modern Americans.
– Many practice ancient traditions and crafts while incorporating new customs over time.
– The current state-recognized tribes are located in regions throughout Virginia.

The tribes maintain tribal museums and lands on which they hold public festivals called powwows.

– The powwow is a way of teaching American Indians and visitors about their culture, past and present.

Today, Virginia Indians maintain their strong cultural heritage through drumming, singing, dance, art, jewelry, clothing, crafts, pottery, and storytelling.

Virginia Indians contribute to American society as active citizens who vote, hold office, and work in communities.

Explain the reasons for English colonization

• England wanted to establish an American colony to increase her wealth and power - to compete with other European nations.
• England hoped to find silver and gold in America.
• An American settlement would furnish raw materials while opening new markets for trade.
Jamestown
- Jamestown was primarily an economic venture.
- The stockholders of the Virginia Company of London financed the settlement of Jamestown.
- Jamestown, founded in 1607, became the first permanent English settlement in British North America.

STANDARD VS.3B
REASON FOR JAMESTOWN LOCATION

The location and physical characteristics of the Jamestown site influenced the decision to settle there. The English believed the natural resources at Jamestown would benefit England.

When the settlers arrived in 1607, they founded Jamestown on a narrow peninsula bordered on three sides by the James River.
- Today, Jamestown is located on an island in the James River due to the erosion of the Jamestown peninsula.

Reasons for site choice
- Instructions from England told the settlers to go inland and find a suitable place for their colony.
- The location could be easily defended from attack by sea (Spanish).
- The water along the shore was deep enough for ships to dock.
- They believed they had a good supply of fresh water.
- Natural resources from Jamestown included timber and iron.

STANDARD VS.3C
VIRGINIA COMPANY CHARTERS

The King of England had the power to grant charters allowing settlement in North America.

Importance of Virginia charters
The King of England granted charters to the Virginia Company of London to:
- establish a settlement in North America
- define the physical boundaries of the colony
- extend English rights to the settlers

STANDARD VS.3D
1619 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As Jamestown grew, Virginia’s system of government evolved.

System of government
In 1619, the governor of Virginia called a meeting of the General Assembly.
- The General Assembly included two citizen representatives, called burgesses, from each of the divisions of Virginia along with the governor’s council, and the governor.
- They met as one legislative body. At that time, only certain free adult men had a right to take part.

The current Virginia General Assembly dates back to 1619 with the establishment of the General Assembly and its burgesses in Jamestown.
- It was the first elected legislative body in English North America giving some settlers the opportunity to take part in controlling their own government.

House of Burgesses
By the 1640s, the burgesses became a separate legislative body, called the House of Burgesses.
- They met separately from the Governor’s Council as one of the two legislative bodies of the General Assembly.

STANDARD VS.3E
AFRICANS & WOMEN ARRIVE

Virginia became a more diverse colony by 1620.

Portuguese sailors captured African men and women from what is present-day Angola.
- The legal status of these early African men and women as either servants or slaves in Virginia is unknown.
- Africans arrived in Virginia against their will in 1619.
- The arrival of Africans made it possible to expand the tobacco economy.

The arrival of women in 1620 made it possible for the settlers to establish families and a more permanent colony in Virginia.
**STANDARD VS.3F**

**JAMESTOWN HARDSHIPS**

The English settlers found life in Virginia **harder** than they had expected.

**Hardships faced by the settlers**

- The site they chose to live on was **marshy** and lacked safe drinking water.
- A **drought** at the time of settlement reduced the amount of **food** available to everyone in Virginia.
- The settlers **lacked some skills** necessary to provide for themselves.
- Many settlers died of **starvation** and **disease**.

**Changes that resulted in survival**

- The arrival of **ships bringing supplies and new settlers**
- The **forced work program** and strong leadership of **Captain John Smith**, and
- The development of **new settlements** that spread away from the unhealthy environment of Jamestown.
- The emphasis on **agriculture**

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**STANDARD VS.3G**

**ENGLISH & POWHATAN**

The native peoples and the English settlers in Virginia established **trading relationships** and for a while had **positive interactions**.

**Captain John Smith** initiated **trading** relationships with the native peoples.

- The native peoples traded **food fur, and leather** with the English in exchange for **tools, pots, and copper** for jewelry.

The native people contributed to the **survival** of the **Jamestown settlers** in several ways.

- **Powhatan**, chief of many tribes, provided **leadership** to his people and taught the settlers **survival skills**.
- **Pocahontas**, daughter of Chief Powhatan, served as a **contact** between the native peoples and the English.
- The native peoples showed the settlers how to plant **corn** and harvest **tobacco**.

**Over time**, the native peoples realized the English settlement would continue to **grow**.

- The native peoples came to see the settlers as **invaders** who would **take over their land**

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**VS.4 LIFE IN THE VIRGINIA COLONY**

**STANDARD VS.4A**

**AGRICULTURE & SLAVERY**

The success of **tobacco as a cash crop** transformed life in the Virginia colony and **encouraged slavery**.

**Terms to know**

- **Cash crop**: A crop that is grown to **sell for money** rather than for use by the growers.
- The economy of the Virginia colony **depended on agriculture** as a primary source of **wealth**.
  - Tobacco became the **most profitable** agricultural product because it was sold in England as a **cash crop**.

The successful planting of **tobacco** depended on a **steady and inexpensive source of labor**.

- For this reason, **African** men, women, and children were **brought to the Virginia colony and enslaved** to work on the **plantations**.

- The Virginia colony became **dependent on slave labor**, and the dependence lasted a long time.

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**STANDARD VS.4B**

**CULTURE REFLECTS ORIGINS**

The culture of colonial Virginia reflected beliefs, customs, and architecture of **Europeans, Africans, and American Indians** living there.

Although a colony of England, Virginia developed a **unique culture** different from that of England.

**Culture of colonial Virginia**

Whenever people settle an area, they change the landscape to reflect their **culture and customs**. Examples of **architecture** that reflect different cultures include

- **barns**
- **homes**
- **places of worship** (e.g., churches)

**Place names** reflecting culture

- **English—Richmond**
Settlement areas

- **English and other Europeans** settled primarily in **Coastal Plain** (Tidewater) and **Piedmont** regions.
- Germans and Scots-Irish settled primarily in the **Shenandoah Valley**, which was along the migration route.
- **Africans** were brought primarily to the **Coastal Plain** (Tidewater) and **Piedmont** regions to work in tobacco fields which required a great deal of **labor**.
- Prior to the arrival of the settlers, American **Indians** lived **throughout Virginia**.
  - After the settlers arrived, most were **forced inland**.

Migration and living in new areas caused people to **adapt** old customs to their new environment.

**STANDARD Vs.4C**

**CAPITAL MOVES TO WILLIAMSBURG**

A variety of factors explain the reasons for moving Virginia’s capital.

Reasons why the capital was moved from Jamestown to Williamsburg

- **Drinking water** in Jamestown was contaminated by seepage of salt water.
- **Unhealthy living** conditions caused diseases.
- Fire destroyed wooden and brick buildings at Jamestown.
- Williamsburg was an already **established town**.

**STANDARD Vs.4D**

**MONEY, BARTER, CREDIT**

Money was not often used in the early Virginia colony.

Because farmers could not pay for goods until their crops were harvested, **credit** was important in Virginia.

Terms to know

- **Money**: A medium of exchange (currency, which includes coins and paper bills)
- **Barter**: Trading/exchanging of goods and services without the use of money

- **Credit**: Buying a good or service now and paying for it later
- **Debt**: A good or service owed to another
- **Saving**: Money put away to save or to spend at a later time

Few people had **paper money** and coins to use to buy goods and services.

- **Barter** was commonly used instead of money.
- **Tobacco** was used as **money**. A tobacco farmer could use his tobacco to pay for goods and services.

Farmers and other consumers could also buy goods and services on **credit** and pay their **debts** when their crops were harvested and sold.

Colonial Virginia had **no banks**

**STANDARD Vs.4E**

**EVERYDAY LIFE**

**Resources** were used in colonial Virginia to produce the goods and services that people needed.

**Everyday life** was different for **whites**, enslaved African Americans, and **free African Americans in colonial Virginia**.

People living in **colonial Virginia** depended on **natural**, **human**, and **capital resources** to produce the goods and services they needed.

**Food**:

- **Food** choices were limited
- Meals were made of **local** produce and meats

**Housing**:

- Most people lived in **one-room homes** with dirt floors
- Some **wealthy** people (farmers) lived in large houses

**Clothing**:

- **Women** in households made clothes for family members
- Most clothing was made of **cotton**, **wool**, and/or **leather**.

Most **white Virginians** made their living from the land as **small farmers**.

- A few owned **large farms (plantations)**.

Most **enslaved African Americans** worked **tobacco**, **crops**, and **livestock**.

- Enslaved African Americans were **denied basic rights**.
- Some **free African Americans** owned land but were **denied basic rights**.
Conflicts developed between the colonies and Great Britain over how the colonies should be governed.

The Declaration of Independence gave reasons for independence and ideas for self-government. The colonists and the British Parliament disagreed over how the colonies should be governed.

- Parliament believed it had legal authority in the colonies, while the colonists believed their local assemblies had legal authority.
- Parliament believed it had the right to tax the colonies, while the colonists believed they should not be taxed since they had no representation in Parliament.

The Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson, states that authority to govern belongs to the people rather than to kings and that all people are created equal and have rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Virginians made significant contributions during the Revolutionary War era.

American Indians, whites, enslaved African Americans, and free African Americans had various roles during the American Revolution.

Varied roles of American Indians, whites, enslaved African Americans, and free African Americans in the Revolutionary War era

- Virginia patriots served in the Continental Army and fought for independence, leading to the British surrender at Yorktown.
- Some American Indians fought alongside the Virginia patriots, while others fought with the British.
- Some Virginians were neutral and did not take sides while other Virginians remained loyal to Great Britain.
- Women took on more responsibility to support the war effort.
- Some enslaved African Americans supported the British who promised them freedom.

Some free African Americans fought for independence in the American Revolution.

Contributions of Virginians during the Revolutionary War era

- George Washington provided military leadership by serving as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.
- Thomas Jefferson provided political leadership by expressing the reasons for colonial independence from Great Britain in the Declaration of Independence.
- Patrick Henry inspired patriots from other colonies when he spoke out against taxation without representation by saying, “...give me liberty or give me death.”
- The Marquis de Lafayette, a French nobleman, volunteered his service to the Continental Army during the American Revolution.
  - The king of France provided French troops, ships and money.
  - The Marquis de Lafayette contributed to the victory at Yorktown.
- James Lafayette, an enslaved African American from Virginia, served as a spy in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.
  - He successfully requested his freedom after the war with the support of the Marquis de Lafayette.

The last major battle of the Revolutionary War was fought at Yorktown, Virginia.

The American victory at Yorktown resulted in the surrender of the British army in 1781, which led to an end to the war.

While this victory did not end the war, it was the last significant military battle involving British forces and the Continental Army.

The war ended with the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

A variety of factors explain the reasons for moving Virginia’s capital.

Reasons why the capital was moved from Williamsburg to Richmond

- The population was moving westward for more opportunities.
- Richmond was a more central location.
- Moving to Richmond increased the distance from the sea and possible attack by the British.
George Washington is called the “Father of Our Country” and James Madison is called the “Father of the Constitution.”

The actions and ideas of Virginians formed the basis for the new constitutional government of the United States.

George Washington, a Virginian, was elected as the first President of the United States of America.

- He provided the strong leadership needed to help the young country and provided a model of leadership for future presidents.
- Thus, he is often called the “Father of Our Country.”

James Madison, a Virginian, believed in the importance of having a United States constitution. He kept detailed notes during the Constitutional Convention.

- His skills at compromise helped the delegates reach agreement during the difficult process of writing the Constitution of the United States of America.
- This earned him the title “Father of the Constitution.”

The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, written by Thomas Jefferson, states that all people should be free to worship as they please.

Geography influenced the movement of people and ideas as Virginians moved to and beyond the Virginia frontier.

After the American Revolution, Virginia’s agricultural base began to change, and as a result large numbers of Virginians moved west and to the deep South to find better farmland and new opportunities.

- Tobacco farming was hard on the soil, causing many farmers to look west and south for new land to farm.
- The development of the cotton gin led to the opening of new lands in the south and attracted settlers from Virginia.
- The mechanical reaper allowed farmers to grow more wheat with fewer workers, which forced many Virginians to leave the state in search of jobs.
- Virginians migrated into western territories looking for large areas of land and new opportunities.
- As Virginians moved, they took their enslaved people, traditions, ideas, and cultures with them.
- Many enslaved African Americans were sold to people who lived in other southern states.
- Settlers crossed the Appalachian Mountains through the Cumberland Gap as they migrated to new lands in the west.
Because of economic differences between the North and South, they were unable to resolve their conflicts and the South seceded from the United States. Virginians were divided about secession from the Union, which led to the creation of West Virginia.

Differences between northern and southern states
- The economy in the northern part of the United States was industrialized, while in the southern part it was agricultural and relied more on slave labor.
- Northern states wanted the new states created out of the western territory to be "free states," while the southern states wanted the new states to be "slave states."

Events leading to secession and war
- Nat Turner led a revolt against slavery in Virginia.
- Abolitionists campaigned to end slavery.
- Harriet Tubman supported a secret route that escaped enslaved African Americans took; it became known as the "Underground Railroad."

- John Brown led a raid on the United States Armory (Arsenal) at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (present-day West Virginia).
  - He was trying to start a slave rebellion.
  - He was captured and hanged.
- After Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States in 1860, some southern states seceded from the Union and formed the "Confederate States of America."
  - Later, Virginia seceded and joined them.

Creation of West Virginia
- Conflict grew between the eastern counties of Virginia that relied on slavery and western counties that did not favor slavery.
- Many disagreements between the two regions of the state led to the creation of West Virginia.

Virginia played a significant role in the Civil War and became a major battleground between Union and Confederate troops.

Major Civil War battles fought in Virginia
- The first Battle of Bull Run (or Manassas) was the first major clash of the Civil War.
- Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson played a major role in this battle.
- General Robert E. Lee, Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, defeated Union troops at Fredericksburg, Virginia.
- Richmond was the capital of the Confederacy. It fell to General Ulysses S. Grant and was burned by the Confederacy near the end of the war.
  - Fires were set by retreating Confederate forces to keep war supplies from approaching Union forces.
- President Abraham Lincoln used the Union navy to blockade southern ports. An important sea battle between the Monitor (Union) and the Merrimack (Confederate), two iron-clad ships, took place in Virginia waters near Norfolk and Hampton.
  - The battle was fought to a draw.
- The Civil War ended at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, where Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered his army to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in April, 1865.
American Indians, whites, enslaved African Americans, and free African Americans had various roles during the Civil War.

Varied roles of whites, enslaved African Americans, free African Americans, and American Indians during the Civil War

- Many American Indians did not take sides during the Civil War.

- Most white Virginians supported the Confederacy.

- The Confederacy relied on enslaved African Americans to raise crops and provide labor for the army.

- Many enslaved African Americans sought freedom by following the Union Army where many found work.
  - Some women and men provided labor, and some men fought for the Union Army.

- Some free African Americans joined the Union Army and Union Navy.

Terms to know

- Segregation: The separation of people, usually based on race or religion

- Discrimination: An unfair difference in the treatment of people

During Reconstruction, African Americans began to have power in Virginia’s government, and black and white men could vote and hold office.

After Reconstruction, these gains were lost when “Jim Crow” Laws were passed by southern states.

- “Jim Crow” Laws established segregation or separation of the races and reinforced prejudices held by whites

Effect of “Jim Crow” laws on the lives of African Americans and American Indians included

- experiencing unfair poll taxes and voting tests that were established to keep them from voting;

- difficulty voting or holding public office;

- being forced to use separate, poor-quality facilities and services, such as drinking fountains, restrooms, and restaurants; and

- attending separate schools.

Segregation and discrimination had an impact on:

- Housing

- Employment

- Health care

- Political representation

- Education

The Freedmen’s Bureau was a federal government agency that provided food, public schools, and medical care for freed African Americans and others in Virginia.

Sharecropping was a system common in Virginia after the war in which freedmen and poor white farmers rented land from a landowner by promising to pay the owner with a share of the crop.

“Jim Crow” laws had an effect on African Americans and American Indians.
STANDARD VS.8c
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

After the Civil War, industry and technology, transportation, and cities began to grow and contribute to Virginia’s economy.

Virginia began to grow in many areas after the Civil War and Reconstruction.
- Virginia’s cities grew with people, businesses, and factories.
- Railroads were a key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry.
- They facilitated the growth of small towns to cities.
- Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed.
- Coal deposits were mined in the Appalachian Plateau.
- The need for more and better roads increased.
- Tobacco farming and tobacco products became important Virginia industries.

VS.9 20TH CENTURY AND BEYOND

STANDARD VS.9a
VIRGINIA’S ECONOMY TRANSFORMS

During the 20th century and beyond, Virginia changed from a rural, agricultural society to a more urban, industrial society.

During the early 20th century, agriculture began to change.
- Mechanization (the tractor) and improvements in transportation changed farming.
- Crop prices were low.
- Growth of Virginia’s cities
  - People moved from rural to urban areas for economic opportunities.
  - Technological developments in transportation, roads, railroads, and streetcars helped cities grow.
  - Coal mining spurred the growth of Virginia
- During the 20th century, Northern Virginia has experienced growth due to increases in the number of federal jobs located in the region.

In the late 20th century and the early 21st century, Northern Virginia and the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region have grown due to computer technology.

Virginia’s population has become increasingly diverse as people have moved to Virginia from many other states and countries.

STANDARD VS.9b
WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE & GREAT DEPRESSION

The U.S. Constitution was amended in 1920 to give women the right to vote.
- Maggie L. Walker was an African American leader from Virginia who supported equal rights for women.

The Great Depression was a period of worldwide harsh economic conditions during the 1930s.
- Many Virginians lost their jobs, farms, homes, and businesses.
- The federal government established New Deal programs to provide employment and ease many hardships.

STANDARD VS.9c
DESEGREGATION & MASSIVE RESISTANCE

After World War II, African Americans demanded equal treatment and the recognition of their rights as American citizens.

As a result of the Civil Rights Movement, laws were passed that made racial discrimination illegal.

Terms to know
- Segregation: The separation of people, usually based on race or religion
- Desegregation: Legal end of racial segregation
- Integration: Full equality of all races in the use of public facilities

Desegregation and Massive Resistance in Virginia
- Barbara Johns, a 16-year-old high school junior in Farmville, Virginia, led a student strike against segregation in 1951.
- The case, Davis v. Prince Edward, became one of the five cases reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court when it declared segregation
unconstitutional in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

- The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1954 (*Brown v. Board of Education*) that “separate but equal” public schools were unconstitutional.

- All public schools, including those in Virginia, were ordered to desegregate.

- Virginia’s government established a policy of Massive Resistance, which fought to “resist” the desegregation of public schools.

- Some schools were closed to avoid desegregation.

- The policy of Massive Resistance failed, and Virginia’s public schools were integrated.

- Harry F. Byrd, Sr., led a Massive Resistance Movement against the desegregation of public schools.

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**STANDARD VS.9D**

**IMPORTANT VIRGINIANS**

Many individuals from Virginia have had social, political, and economic impact on life in Virginia during the twentieth century and beyond.

Citizens who made political, social, and/or economic contributions

- Maggie L. Walker was the first African American woman to establish and become a bank president in the United States.

- Harry F. Byrd, Sr., as governor, was known for a “Pay As You Go” policy for road improvements, and he modernized Virginia state government.

- Oliver W. Hill, Sr., was a lawyer and civil rights leader who worked for equal rights of African Americans.  
  - He played a key role in the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

- Arthur R. Ashe, Jr., was the first African American winner of a major men’s tennis singles championship.  
  - He was also an author and eloquent spokesperson for social change.

- A. Linwood Holton, Jr., as governor of Virginia, promoted racial equality and appointed more African Americans and women to positions in state government than previous governors.

- L. Douglas Wilder, as governor of Virginia, was the first African American to be elected a state governor in the United States.
VS.10 VIRGINIA’S GOVERNMENT, GEOGRAPHY, AND ECONOMICS

STANDARD VS.10A

THREE BRANCHES OF VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT

Virginia state government is made up of three parts (branches) that ensure Virginia laws agree with the state constitution.

The government of Virginia is divided into three branches.

- The General Assembly is the legislative branch of the Virginia government that makes state laws. It is divided into two parts—the Senate and the House of Delegates.
- The governor heads the executive branch of the state government. The executive branch makes sure that state laws are carried out.
- The judicial branch is the state’s court system.
  - The judicial branch decides cases about people accused of breaking the law and whether or not a law agrees with Virginia’s constitution.

STANDARD VS.10B

PRODUCTS & INDUSTRIES

Available resources (natural, human and capital), as well as geography, are major factors in what is produced in the state.

Major products and industries change over time as people and businesses buy different goods and services.

Selected examples of products and industries important to Virginia’s economy:

Top products and services for Virginia include:
- Architectural or engineering services
- Banking and lending
- Computer programming or systems design
- Food products
- Shipbuilding

The service industry is important to Virginia’s economy. Virginians earn income through jobs in:
- Private health care, computer programming or systems design, and engineering.
- Government services including operation of public schools, hospitals and military bases.

Manufacturing (making goods on a large scale using machinery) is also a top industry. Top manufactured products in Virginia include:
- Ships
- Tobacco products
- Beverages (such as soft drinks)
  - Chemical goods
  - Motor vehicle parts and trucks

Fertile soil and a favorable climate make agriculture an important industry in Virginia.
- Chickens (broilers), beef, milk, turkeys, and hogs are Virginia’s leading livestock products.
- Soybeans, corn, tobacco, tomatoes, apples, and peanuts are among Virginia’s leading cash crops.
  - Tobacco, once the basis of Virginia’s economy, has been replaced by livestock and livestock products as the state’s most valuable source of agricultural income.

Access to deep water ports and proximity to the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean make shipbuilding, fishing, crabbing and oyster harvests possible.

Historically, the success of Appalachian coalfields is due to the expansion of railroads that transport coal to piers in Tidewater for shipment to both domestic and international markets.
  - Today, coal is less crucial to Virginia’s economy as businesses and individuals shift to other sources of energy.

STANDARD VS.10C

TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY

Advances in transportation, communications, and technology have facilitated migration and led to economic development in Virginia.

Industries in Virginia produce goods and services used throughout the United States and the world.

Virginia’s transportation system (highways, railroads, and air transportation) moves raw materials to factories and finished products to markets.
  - Virginia exports agricultural and manufactured products, including tobacco, poultry, coal, and large ships.

Virginia has a large number of communications and other technology industries.

Tourism is a major part of Virginia’s economy.

Because many federal workers live and/or work in Virginia, the federal government has a significant impact on Virginia’s economy.

Virginia has increased trade relationships with other countries.