



Teacher's Guide

William Penn and Pennsylvania **Drive Thru History/American History**

Grade Levels:

7-12

Subject Areas:

United States History

Synopsis:

At Pennsbury Manor Dave recalls William Penn's upbringing in England. Viewers learn that the King of England granted Penn the largest land charter ever given, hoping that other Quakers would follow Penn to the New World. Dave explains how Penn founded Philadelphia as a city of tolerance and how he created a system of government that provided for the separation of powers and checks and balances. Dave's final stop is Betsy Ross' House, where he tells the story of the creation of the first U.S. flag.

Learning Objectives: Students will:

- Explain why William Penn immigrated to the New World
- Discuss William Penn's contributions to the state of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia
- Understand that when Christ Church was built, it symbolized the power of the throne
- Explain why George Washington chose Betsy Ross to make the flag for the Continental Army

Vocabulary:

non-conformist, Quaker, separation of powers, checks and balances

Pre-Viewing Discussion:

Who were the Quakers?

Do Quakers still worship in America today? What is the name of their society of worshippers?

Can you name some famous historical figures who were Quakers?

Who was William Penn? What famous city did he establish in the New World? What state is named after him?

Post-Viewing Discussion:

Why did William Penn leave England for America? What did he hope to achieve in the New World?

Even today, how do William Penn's concepts of government affect us? Why did he compare good government to the running of a clock?

Why did George Washington choose Betsy Ross to make the flag? Is the story of Betsy Ross credible? Why or why not?

Further Activities:

Further investigate various kinds of architecture found in Pennsylvania today. What do these buildings show about American history?

Find out how many famous Americans had Quaker ancestors. Determine if Quaker principles have influenced their views on American government or the role of American citizens.

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