

*North American*  
**GEO QUEST**  
A 13 part Hist-ography Series



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Presents

*North American*  
**GEO QUEST**  
*Series*

A 13 Part Hist-ography Series

**THE**  
**NEW ENGLAND**  
**REGION**

**Maine • Vermont • New Hampshire**  
**Massachusetts • Connecticut • Rhode Island**

*INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE*

## INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES

The purpose of this video series is to provide students with a stimulating overview of both the history and the geographical regions of the United States, the Provinces of Canada, and Mexico. Specifically developed to enhance the social studies curriculum, **North American GeoQuest** is a 13-part **Histo-geography series**.

Filmed on location, these videos present *spectacular photography* along with *dynamic computer graphics*. Other features include; important historical figures, commerce, capital cities, significant points of interest and more! These videos also inform students of the relationships between the region's past and present developments. Some geological and geographical developments include the formation of mountains, lakes, volcanoes and glaciers and how these strongly influence a region's culture and history.

By understanding the profiles of these regions, students will acquire the knowledge that will define a *balance between the past and present*. Furthermore, as students study these videos, they will learn the geography of North America and about their own *heritage and those of others*. As a complementary device with the video, this instructional guide suggests exercises to help aid teachers, parents and students. These exercises will reinforce and further develop a student's level of comprehension. The instructional guide provides:

### **DVDs Allow:**

- students to actively participate in the learning experience
- for greater flexibility and interactive learning
- for custom user interfaces
- for a level of control over learning
- for the learner to become more engaged
- for the enhancement of the learning process by combining media and text

### **Vocabulary!**

### **Chronology!**

### **Discussion Points/Activities!**

## GEOQUEST 13 Part Series

*Pacific Region*  
*Mountain West Region*  
*Midwest Region*  
*Southwest Region*  
*Mississippi River Region*  
*New England Region*  
*Great Lakes Region*  
*Mid-Atlantic Region*  
*Southeast Region*  
*Washington D.C.*  
*Eastern Canadian Provinces*  
*Western Canadian Provinces*  
*Mexico*

## Available Fall 2002 - Central America Geoquest

• Belize • Costa Rica • El Salvador  
Guatemala • Honduras • Nicaragua • Panama

### **Suggested Usage:**

Geography, History, Social Studies,  
Language Arts, Commerce, Environment

Intermediate, Jr. High, General  
Approx. 22 minutes each video 1998

Permissions granted to copy the following  
exercises provided in this guide for educational use ONLY.

On the dotted line, list the name of the State and its Capital City.

The  
NEW ENGLAND  
Region



1 \_\_\_\_\_ /

2 \_\_\_\_\_ /

3 \_\_\_\_\_ /

4 \_\_\_\_\_ /

5 \_\_\_\_\_ /

6 \_\_\_\_\_ /

⊗ = Location of Capital City

## THE NEW ENGLAND REGION

Descendents of the Paleo-Indians, the Algonquian Indians, were the first known inhabitants to occupy this land. Later, the first European settlers, mostly from England, began to explore this region during the early 1600's.

Aboard ships, these early settlers arrived in New England seeking religious and political freedom. Eventually, tensions grew between the new settlers and the British authorities in Europe. Those tensions lead to the Revolutionary War in 1775. Lexington Massachusetts, is where the Revolutionary War began when a group of men called minutemen, fired the first shot against the British in what is today known as, "the shot heard round the world". After the war, the New England states began to form a Union, which eventually grew and is known today as the United States of America.

Along with its rich history New England also has geographical significance. Located along the Atlantic coast, New England is a major seaport for the fishing industry—and each autumn, millions of travelers visit New England to view the beautiful fall colors.

As we study New England, we begin to understand where we as a nation have been, and how far we have gone—as this region offers us a place of origin, a place of beauty and a place to learn.

**ALGONQUIAN INDIANS:** Descendants from the Paleo-Indians who occupied the New England Region during the arrival of the first Europeans in the early 1600's.

**APPALACHIAN REGION:** New England, is part of this region, named as an ancient mountain range, that ran from Canada, down through New England and into the far south.

**BOSTON TEA PARTY:** an event which took place Dec. 6th, 1773. The colonists dressed as Indians, boarded a British ship carrying a cargo of tea and threw it into the harbor to protest the tax England was placing on tea.

**CONIFEROUS:** *Evergreen trees* found in the New England mountain areas, following the ice age.

**DECIDUOUS:** *Leafy trees* found in the New England mountain areas, at lower elevations, following the ice age.

**GREEN MOUNTAINS:** a primary mountain range in New England which starts in Canada and runs south through all of Vermont and down into Western Massachusetts.

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5. Draw a map (if you like, use a computer or the map provided on page 8) of the New England region, indicating significant points of interest. For example, the capital cities, i.e. Montpelier, Vermont; important events, i.e. Boston Tea Party; names of early explorers, i.e. Roger Williams for Rhode Island etc..

6. America was founded by many principles originating from the early New England settlers, *i.e. religious freedom*. What are those principles, and how do they differ from those originating in other countries throughout history? What impact do these principles have on past and future generations?

7. If possible, arrange a trip near your community to visit museums, cultural centers, state parks etc. to stimulate your imagination to explore the beautiful history of New England.

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## Discussion Points/Activities

1. Today such conveniences as computers, telephones, automobiles, electricity, etc. are used to enhance our modern day lives. Explain how these enhancements differ to those used during the time New England was being discovered. Use this information for the following study points/activities.

2. Imagine what it would be like to be an early explorer. Discuss issues which may have concerned these early settlers: weather conditions, commerce, regional terrain, food/vegetation, dealing with homeland authorities in England, France, or Spain etc..

3. Both geographical and historical information has been documented throughout the world. Explain why this type of information is important when studying New England, and how it relates to our everyday lives? Furthermore, how do the disciplines of geography and history interact or relate with other areas of study in your school's curriculum?

4. Since tensions must have existed between the early American settlers and the European authorities, *i.e. Boston Tea Party*, assemble the students into small groups to negotiate or debate the interests of these two groups.

**MINUTEMEN:** A group of armed men, most noticeably Paul Revere, who fought the British Army, and are known to have fired “the shot heard around the world”. The name for this group originated because they were ready to fight on a minutes notice.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Term used by the first European settlers to describe the Northeast territory—which in appearance and climate, was similar to their homeland. This region consists of 6 states: *Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut.*

**PALEO - INDIANS:** *Nomadic Hunters and gatherers* who were the first known inhabitants to live in the New England region.

**PILGRIMS:** First English settlers who arrived in New England aboard the Mayflower in 1620.

**PLYMOUTH ROCK:** is a historical landmark located in Massachusetts, and believed to be where the first Pilgrims landed in 1620.

**THANKSGIVING:** the act of giving thanks: the holiday as celebrated today began in 1621 as a gesture of friendship among the Indians and Pilgrims. Also known as a celebration of the first harvest.

**WHITE MOUNTAINS:** a primary mountain range in New England which begins in Maine and runs southwest into New Hampshire.

## Chronology of NEW ENGLAND Region

- **25,000 years ago:** Paleo-Indians migrate from Asia into North America—by using a land bridge which at one time connected Asia with Alaska.
- **10,000 years ago:** Last Ice Age begins moving from the Arctic into New England.
- **1100:** Vikings explore the area which eventually becomes the state of Maine.
- **1499:** John Cabot first European to explore the waters off the coast of Maine.
- **Early 1600's:** First Europeans arrive in the New England region—Descendants of the Paleo-Indians, the Algonquian Indians occupy the region during their arrival.
- **1602:** Thomas Pring, an Englishman, is the first European explorer to visit New Hampshire.
- **1620:** First Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock (Massachusetts) aboard the Mayflower.
- **1621:** New American settlers celebrate their first harvest—an event which eventually becomes known as Thanksgiving Day.

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- **1630:** Boston becomes the Capitol of Massachusetts.
- **1633:** Early Dutch and English settlers establish Connecticut.
- **1636:** Roger Williams becomes the first settler of Rhode Island.
- **1724:** First European settlement in Vermont.
- **1773:** On December 6th, 1773 Bostonians dressed as Indians, boarded a British ship carrying a cargo of tea and threw it into the harbor protesting the tax England was placing on tea, an event known as the Boston Tea Party.
- **1775:** Revolutionary War begins.
- **1776:** January 6th, 1776 New Hampshire declares its independence from England.
- **1788:** Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts become members of the Union.
- **1790:** Rhode Island admitted to the Union.
- **1791:** Vermont admitted to the Union.
- **1805:** Montpelier becomes the capital of Vermont.
- **1812:** War of 1812 begins.
- **1820:** Maine admitted to the Union.

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