

Big Idea Card

Big Ideas of Lesson 3, Unit 1

- When historians investigate past events, they consider the overall context in which those events occurred. This includes understanding the temporal (time/when) and spatial (geography/where) circumstances in which the event occurred. By understanding both time and place, we can begin to appreciate differences in economic, sociocultural, and political factors when exploring past events.
- Every place has geographic factors that influence how people live. Geographic factors consist of the natural/physical environment including the resources found there, and how humans interact with those features and resources.
- Social scientists also consider economic, sociocultural, and political factors that can make a place distinct.
 - Economic factors involve the use of resources that have value to individuals or groups of people.
 - Sociocultural factors involve identities, customs, and traditions of groups of people.
 - Political factors involve how groups make decisions (power and authority).
- Due to the influence of geography on human life ways, historians and geographers use the idea of “regions” to narrow their investigations of the past so they are more accurate. A “region” is an area that shares at least one common characteristic (geographic, economic, sociocultural, and/or political).
- Over time, thirteen distinct British colonies emerged in North America, which historians have grouped into three colonial regions. Each colonial region shared some economic, political, and sociocultural factors that set it apart from the other colonial regions.