

Everyday Life in Colonial Virginia

1. Natural, capital, and human resources found in colonial Virginia were used to produce the goods and services people needed to survive. Natural resources are resources found in Virginia, such as fish or trees. Capital resources are the items used by people to complete a task. For example, the tools used by farmers to farm their fields would be considered capital resources. Some of these capital resources were made in Virginia. Some were brought from England. People who do the work are human resources. Some of the colonists that came to Virginia were soldiers, farmers and blacksmiths. Those colonists would be considered human resources.

2. Many Virginians made their living from the land as small farmers. Some people owned large farms, or plantations. Enslaved African Americans tended tobacco, other crops and livestock for their owners. Enslaved African Americans did not have any rights. Many free African Americans owned their own businesses and property, but they were still denied many rights.

3. Life was very different during colonial times. Most people lived in one-room houses with dirt floors. Some people, such as wealthy farmers, lived in larger homes. Households used the resources available to them to make their own clothes. Most clothing was made of cotton, wool, and leather. Food choices were very limited for the colonists. Meals were made from local produce and meats.

4. Colonial Virginia was very different from the Virginia we know today! The colonists used the resources found in Virginia to live everyday.