



Lesson Plans

Spanish Colonial St. Augustine

STRIFE: Life in Spanish St. Augustine

An interactive thinking game

Prepared by Jon Mapstone, Guilderland High School, Guilderland, New York

Intended Grade: 9th 10th and 11th

Subject Areas: Social Studies (European history, Latin American History, American History)

Correlation to National Standards:

Standard 1: How the transoceanic interlinking of all major regions of the world from 1450 to 1600 led to global transformation.

Standard 2: How European society experienced political, economic, and cultural transformations in an age of global intercommunication (1450-1750).

Standard 4: Economic, political, and cultural interrelations among peoples of Africa, Europe, and the Americas (1500-1750).

Standard 6: Major global trends from 1450 to 1770.

Objective:

This game will help students appreciate the motives, establishment, organization, societal make-up of a Spanish New World colony. It will then allow students to impact the colony with all manner of outside pressures (both national and private), environmental conditions, and other factors which were a constant threat to outposts on the edge of the Spanish empire.

Approximate Time Required: 20-30 minutes

Materials Required:

Set of STRIFE cards (printed out from below)

STRIFE-0-METER for each group

Instructions:

Teacher sets up background of St. Augustine as a Spanish holding. Emphasis on overview of historical relevance of St. Augustine.

Small groups of students (2 or 3) start with a "healthy" St. Augustine. As they draw cards they must change the STRIFE - 0 - METER to show the "health" status of the colony based on their reaction to the good news or bad news contained on the card. Each group member should be able to explain why the health of the colony changed for each card. Cards can be in chronological order or random.

At the end of the game one group member will present how their St. Augustine ended up.

Teacher will present the 'trump card' that St. Augustine survived through all of the problems due to its importance as the nearest military outpost to the Gulf Stream that carried the twice annual fleets from the New World back to Spain.

STRIFE - 0 - METER

You are in charge of the fate of the small Spanish colony of St. Augustine. As you turn over the cards adjust the *STRIFE - 0 - METER* to show if things are getting better or worse for the colony and the people of St. Augustine.

