

# Unit 2: New Jersey (European Colonization, State and Local Government)

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 3**  
Time Period: **November**  
Length: **8 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

During this unit, students will explore how the people in New Jersey have always been influenced by their environment. They have also affected their environment. Students will have the opportunity to gain knowledge about New Jersey's natural regions and physical characteristics, as well as the state's natural resources. They will learn about the state symbols, counties, and major cities of New Jersey.

## Standards

SOC.6.1.4	U.S. History: America in the World: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.
SOC.6.1.4.B.10	Identify major cities in New Jersey, as well as in the United States, and the world, and explain how geographic and demographic tools (e.g., maps, globes, data visualizations) can be used to understand cultural differences.
SOC.6.1.4.C.5	Explain the role of specialization in the production and exchange of goods and services.
SOC.6.1.4.C.6	Describe the role and relationship among households, businesses, laborers, and governments within the economic system.
SOC.6.1.4.C.12	Evaluate the impact of ideas, inventions, and other contributions of prominent figures who lived New Jersey.
SOC.6.1.4.C.15	Describe how the development of different transportation systems impacted the economies of New Jersey and the United States.
SOC.6.1.4.C.16	Explain how creativity and innovation resulted in scientific achievement and inventions in many cultures during different historical periods.
SOC.6.1.4.C.17	Determine the role of science and technology in the transition from an agricultural society to an industrial society, and then to the information age.
TECH.8.1.5.F.1	Apply digital tools to collect, organize, and analyze data that support a scientific finding.

## Student Learning Objectives

Students will learn to:

- to identify and describe landforms and resources in each of the 4 regions of New Jersey.
- to explain the similarities differences between the 4 regions.
- key Geography terms.
- to describe how New Jersey citizens throughout history who have made contributions, inventions, and innovations that have shaped our nation.

- to identify famous New Jersey citizens

## Essential Questions

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What is the land like in each region of New Jersey?

What resources does New Jersey have?

What contributions have New Jersey citizens made to the United States and the world?

How do the different regions of New Jersey affect the economics of the state of New Jersey?

What is culture?

## Enduring Understandings

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Students will understand that...

- the land and resources of each of New Jersey's regions affects the way of life for the people who live there.
- citizens of New Jersey have made contributions, inventions, and innovations throughout history that have changed the nation and world.
- different cultures exist in the world which impact our communities.
- immigrants come to New Jersey and the United States for various reasons and have a major impact on the state and the nation.
- key historical events, documents, and individuals led to the development of our nation.
- personal, family, and community history is a source of information for individuals about the people and places around them.
- the study of American folklore and popular historical figures enables Americans with diverse cultural backgrounds to feel connected to a national heritage.
- cultures include traditions, popular beliefs, and commonly held values, ideas, and assumptions that are generally accepted by a particular group of people.
- American culture, based on specific traditions and values, has been influenced by the behaviors of different cultural groups living in the United States.
- cultures struggle to maintain traditions in a changing society.
- prejudice and discrimination can be obstacles to understanding other cultures.
- historical symbols and the ideas and events they represent play a role in understanding and evaluating our history.
- the cultures with which an individual or group identifies change and evolve in response to interactions with other groups and/or in response to needs or concerns.
- people view and interpret events differently because of the times in which they live, the experiences they have had, the perspectives held by their cultures, and their individual points of view.