Colonial Era

Early Settlements
Roanoke: Located off the coast of North Carolina; vanished while waiting for supplies from England.
Jamestown: Settled in 1607, first permanent colony in North America.
Plymouth Colony: In 1620, the Pilgrims came here from Europe in order to gain freedom of religion.
Massachusetts Bay: Founded in 1630, ten years after the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, centered in Boston.
Providence Plantation: Founded in 1636, by Roger Williams. (Later Rhode Island)
Saybrook Colony: Founded in 1635, by John Winthrop. (Later Connecticut)
New Haven Colony: Founded in 1637, by John Davenport. (Later Connecticut)
New Amsterdam: Founded by Dutch settlers in 1625. (Later New York)
Fort Christina: Swedish Settlement Founded in 1638. (Later Delaware)

Thirteen Colonies
Virginia (1607), New Hampshire (1623), Massachusetts (1630), Maryland (1634), Connecticut (1635), Rhode Island (1636), Delaware (1664), New Jersey (1664), New York (1664), North Carolina (1672), South Carolina (1672), Pennsylvania (1682), Georgia (1732)

Cities
Philadelphia: Site of Continental Congress (1774) and Constitutional Convention (1787).
Boston: Site of the Boston Massacre (1770) and Boston Tea Party (1773).
Salem: Site of the Salem Witch Trials (1692).
Williamsburg: Early Capital of Virginia, since Bacon's Rebellion (1676).

French Colonies
Canada: Territory on along the St. Lawrence Seaway. Capital Quebec (1608). Ceded to Britain in 1763.
Newfoundland: French settlements were on south shore, but Island was ceded to Britain in 1713.
Hudson Bay: French settlements on Hudson Bay were ceded to Britain in 1713.


Rivers, Water Bodies

The Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario form border between British colonies and Canada.

Chesapeake Bay: Largest estuary on the east coast; drains over 150 rivers to the Atlantic Ocean.

Hudson River: River flowing south through New York, mouth at New York City.

Delaware River: Natural border between Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

Lake Champlain: Border between French Canada and British colonies.

Potomac River: Border between Virginia and Maryland colonies.

James River: River flowing east through Virginia.

Battle Sites


Fort Ticonderoga: South of Lake Champlain. Contested during French Indian, Revolutionary, and War of 1812.

Fort Duquesne: Near Pittsburg, PA. Site of Braddock's ill-fated expedition in French-Indian War.

Lexington: April 19, 1775, First Battle of Revolutionary War, near Boston.

Bunker Hill: June 17, 1775, Early Battle in Revolutionary War, near Boston.

Trenton: December 26, 1776, George Washington crossed Delaware to attack Hessians.

Saratoga: October 7, 1777, Critical American victory, near Albany, NY.

Yorktown: September, 1781. British army under Cornwallis surrendered, near Jamestown, VA.

Lake Erie: September 10, 1813, American naval victory under Commodore Oliver Perry.

New Orleans: December, 1814, Last Battle of the War of 1812.
The American West

Cities
Santa Fe: Founded in 1610 by Spain. Capital of Spanish province for 200 years.
San Francisco: Major western seaport that boomed in population due to California Gold Rush.
Sacramento: City on the Sacramento river near the gold fields of California.
San Antonio: City near the Alamo, site of the Texas Revolt.
Ogden: Mid-point of the first Trans-continental Railroad.
Independence: Starting point of the Oregon Trail.
St. Louis: City at confluence of Missouri and Mississippi River. Known as the 'Gate to the West.'

Rivers and Water Bodies
Mississippi River: The largest river in U.S., Drains into the Gulf of Mexico.
Columbia River: Drains the western Rockies, largest river in Pacific Northwest.
Platte River: Follows Oregon trail through Nebraska and Wyoming. Drains into Mississippi.
Rio Grande: Border between southern Texas and Mexico, drains into the Gulf of Mexico.
Great Salt Lake: In central Utah, largest saltwater lake in the West.

Indian Battles
Little Big Horn: June 1876, Sioux Indians annihilate U.S. Army under General Custer.
United States of America

River Systems
Toward Gulf of Mexico: Rio Grande, Mississippi, Alabama, Chattahochie
Toward Pacific: Columbia, Sacramento, San Joquin, Colorado
Toward Atlantic: Connecticut, Hudson, Delaware, James, Roanoake, Savannah
Mississippi Tributaries: (Midwest) Illinois, Wabash, Ohio, Cumberland, Tennessee
Mississippi Tributaries: (Great Plains) Missouri-Yellowstone, Platte (N/S), Arkansas, Red
Columbia Tributaries: (Northwest) Willamette, Snake, Clark Fork

Water Bodies
Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario
Western Lakes: Great Salt Lake, Flathead, Tahoe
Eastern Bays: Cape Cod Bay, Long Island Sound, Delaware Bay, Chesapeake Bay
Western Bays: Puget Sound, San Francisco Bay, Gulf of California

States
Mid-Atlantic: Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia
Southeast: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee
Midwest: Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnisota, Iowa, Missouri
North Central: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana
South Central: Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, New Mexico, Arizona
West: Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Alaska, Hawaii

Cities
Southeast: Atlanta, Miami, Tampa, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, New Orleans
Central: Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Denver
West: Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego