

Reading 2a

- 1** What do you know about Pocahontas?
Why do people call her 'a child of peace'?
- 🔊 Listen and read to find out.

Check these words

- chief • peace • colonist
- settle • fight • arrest • save
- prison • good manners • ill

Pocahontas

Pocahontas was the beautiful daughter of Powhatan, a very important Indian chief in Virginia, USA. Her real name was Matoaka and she was very brave and clever.

She tried hard to promote peace between her people and the English colonists who arrived in her country and settled there. Pocahontas managed to learn to speak English. She believed that the English could teach her people a lot of new things. One winter, the English didn't have any food so she asked her father to give them food. But soon, the Powhatans and the English started fighting again. During a fight the Indians arrested an English captain, John Smith. Pocahontas saved his life. In 1613, the colonists arrested her. Pocahontas stayed in prison for a year. She had such good manners that the English liked her and so they didn't hurt her. In April 1614, she married colonist John Rolfe. This helped end the war between the Powhatans and the English colonists. Unfortunately, while she was in England with her husband and son, Thomas, visiting King James I, she got ill and died. She was only 22.

- 2** Read the text. For questions 1-4 choose the correct answer A, B or C.

- 1** Pocahontas came from a(n) ...
A rich family.
B important family.
C small family.
- 2** Pocahontas wanted to ...
A save the English colonists from the Indians.
B unite the Indians and the English.
C free the Indians from the English.
- 3** She managed to ...
A arrest an English captain.
B save an Englishman's life.
C hurt herself.
- 4** Pocahontas had a ...
A big family.
B bad marriage.
C short life.

- 3** Choose the correct word.

- 1** Pocahontas's father was an Indian **chief/settler** in Virginia.
- 2** Pocahontas wanted people to live in **war/peace**.
- 3** The English **fought/arrested** her and put her in prison.
- 4** The English **colonists/captains** settled in Virginia trying to start a new life.
- 5** Pocahontas had good **sons/manners** and the English didn't hurt her.

- 4** Use the names below to give a summary of the text to your partner.

- Pocahontas • Powhatan • Virginia • Matoaka • the Powhatans
- the English • John Smith • John Rolfe • Thomas • King James I

Pocahontas was the daughter of Powhatan.

Famous quotation

*Listen with your heart,
you will understand.*

(Pocahontas)



What makes Pocahontas a person to remember?
Why should people remember her? In three minutes write a few sentences on the topic. Read them to the class.