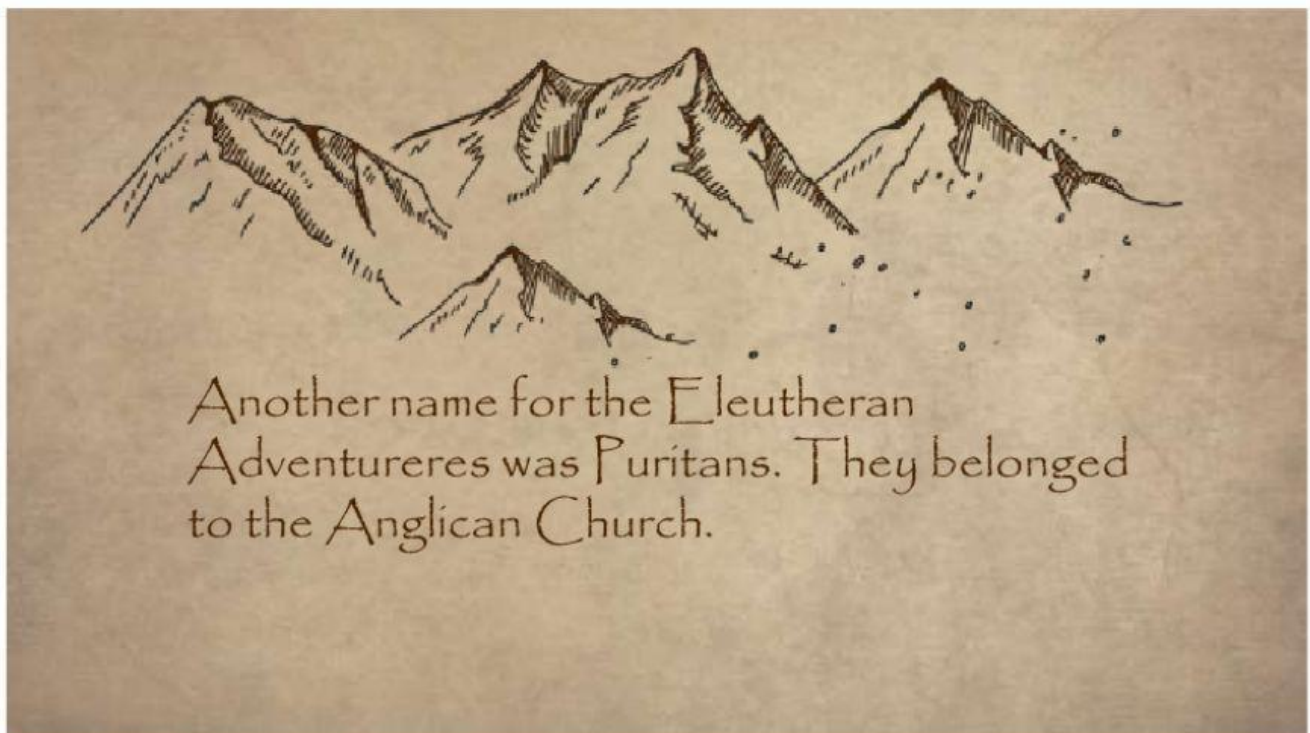
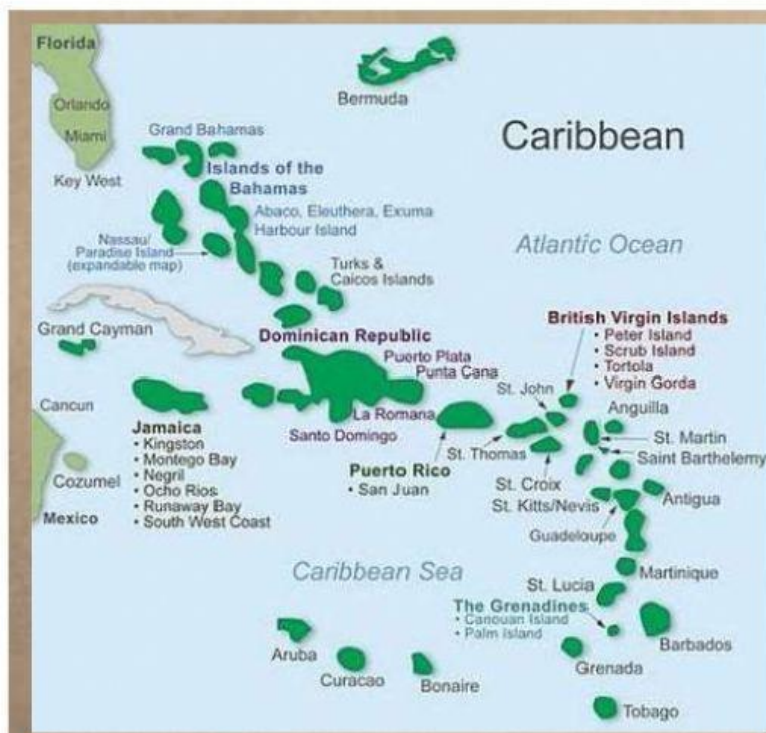






They sailed to The Bahamas from Bermuda, a small island in the North Atlantic Ocean where they were being prosecuted because of their religious beliefs.

They came to The Bahamas because they wanted religious freedom, meaning they wanted to worship God as they chose. They did not want anyone to tell them what kind of church services they could have.



They arrived in Eleuthera in the year 1648, with 70 people on a ship called The William. They called the place where they landed on Eleuthera, Governor's Harbour.



The word "Eleuthera" is a Greek word meaning freedom.



On the ship, there were African slaves. They were the first blacks to come to The Bahamas.



The leader of the group was William Sayle.

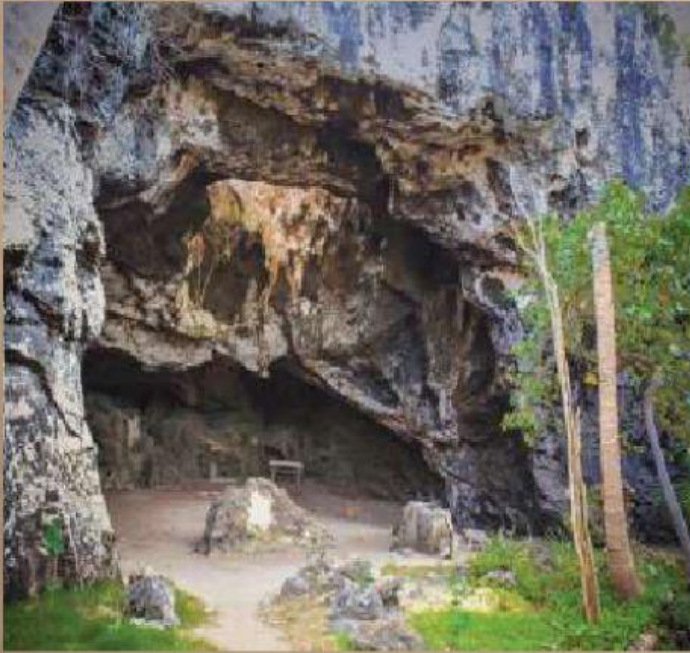


They created the first Constitution of The Bahamas which was called Articles and Orders.



The group split into two after Captain Butler disagreed with William Sayle.





The shipwrecked people found shelter in a cave which they names Preacher's Cave. In there, they held their first church service on Eleuthera.

Life was hard on Eleuthera because:

- The soil was poor, so it was hard to grow crops.
- There was hardly any food to eat.
- The land was not equally distributed among the settlers.



In exchange for supplies from the people of New England, Sayles gave them braziletto wood.





They exported ambergris, a wax-like substance used to make perfume.

The number of settlers increased with the arrival of new settlers from Bermuda who were convicts. They were sent to Eleuthera as punishment.

When conditions got bad on Eleuthera, some Adventurers returned to Bermuda, and others settled on Sayles Island which we now call New Providence.