

Early Connections With America



Objectives

At the end of the lesson students will be able to:

1. locate America and The Bahamas on a map
2. define listed vocabulary words
3. discuss the importance of country relations
4. outline the early connections between America and The Bahamas
5. evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the links that were established between The Bahamas and America

Vocabulary

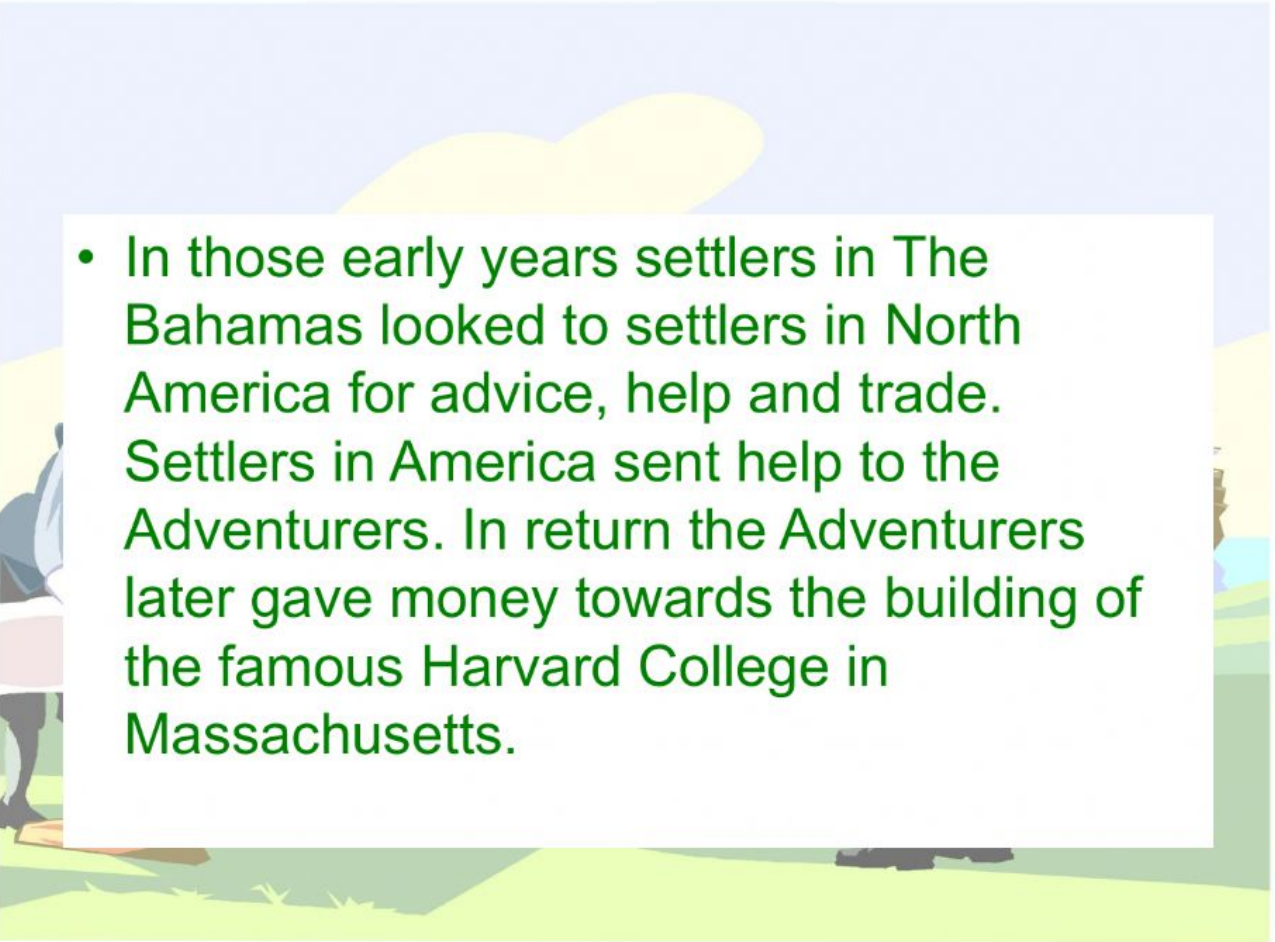
- **Ambassador** – person appointed to represent the government in another country who works in an embassy
- **Blockade** – access to a country's ports are prevented
- **Consul** – person appointed to represent the government in another country, who works in a consulate and is not as important as an ambassador

- **Embassy** – part of a nation's territory within another country; the ambassador and his staff work here
- **Smuggling** – to carry forbidden goods into a country
- **Wrecking** – attracting ships to cays and reefs, then taking away the goods on board to sell



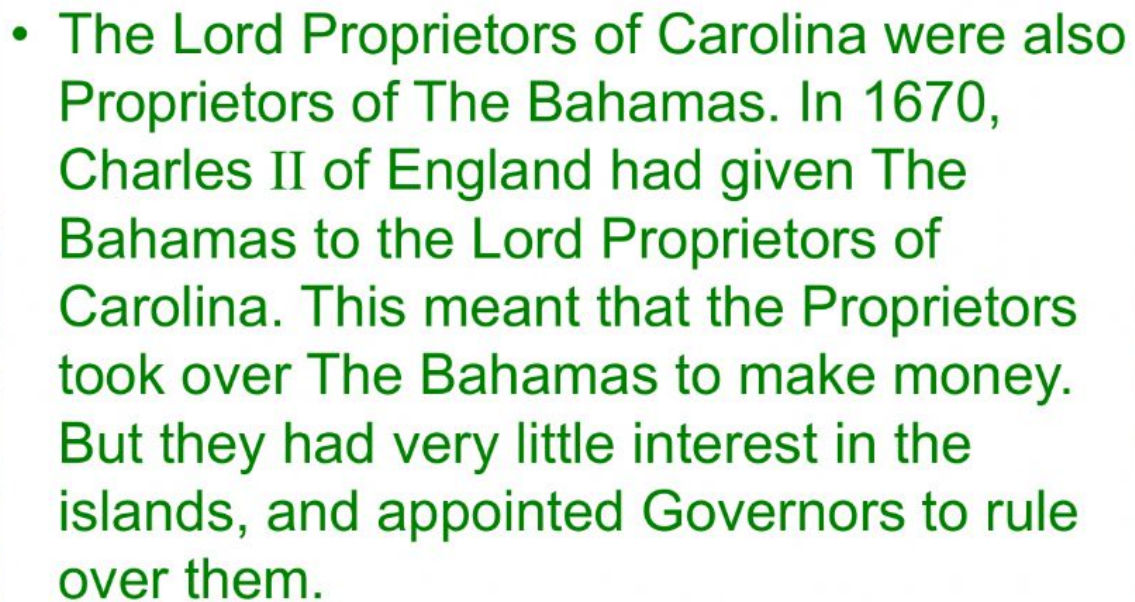
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- The people in The Bahamas have always been closely associated with America. In 1629, King Charles I of England gave the lands of the American Carolinas and The Bahamas to his chief legal advisor, Attorney-General Sir Robert Heath. By this grant, these lands became British territories.

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- In those early years settlers in The Bahamas looked to settlers in North America for advice, help and trade. Settlers in America sent help to the Adventurers. In return the Adventurers later gave money towards the building of the famous Harvard College in Massachusetts.



- Many of our islands made a living by trading with the American colonies. Nassau became a second home to many American sea captains and pirates, and Bahamians sailed to and from Carolina, Virginia and Massachusetts.

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- The Lord Proprietors of Carolina were also Proprietors of The Bahamas. In 1670, Charles II of England had given The Bahamas to the Lord Proprietors of Carolina. This meant that the Proprietors took over The Bahamas to make money. But they had very little interest in the islands, and appointed Governors to rule over them.

- The people who lived in The Bahamas were expected to pay some of their wages to the Proprietors in America. The Governors were supposed to collect this money, but often the people refused to pay.

