CLASS SET! Royal Colony Fact Sheet

Royal Colony

- In 1752, the Trustees surrendered control of the colony to the King and Georgia became a royal colony.
- Restrictions on land ownership and slavery were removed and Georgia began to thrive economically.

Slave Labor

- Georgia's slave population grew from less than 500 in 1750 to 18,000 in 1775.
- Colonists began to build plantations in the river deltas where slaves cultivated rice in the fertile marshlands.
- They also grew other successful crops, such as, indigo, corn, peas, wheat, rye, and tobacco.
- Georgia's thriving economy relied heavily on slave labor.

New Government

- The new royal government needed new government officials, including an attorney general, head of military, and a royal governor.
- There was also a legislature that was made up of a council, court of appeals, and two representatives from each county in the colony.

John Reynolds

- Georgia's first governor was John Reynolds, who served from 1754 to 1756.
- He was a former naval officer.
- Reynolds had many conflicts with the colonial legislature, so the king revoked his
 position.

Henry Ellis

- Explorer Henry Ellis served as the next governor from 1757 to 1760.
- He worked well with the legislature and the Native Americans.
- Ellis showed the colonists how to govern themselves, explaining the need for a budget, taxes, and military defense.
- · He left office in 1760 due to poor health.

James Wright

- Georgia's final royal governor, James Wright, served from 1760 to 1776.
- He was a popular governor who negotiated important treaties with the Native Americans that opened up millions of acres for settlement.
- Georgia prospered and grew faster than any other English colony under Wright's leadership.
- Wright stayed loyal to England when the Revolutionary War began and was eventually arrested.

CLASS SET! Trustee Period Fact Sheet

Salzburgers

- · After Savannah was founded, more and more people left England for Georgia.
- The largest ethnic group during the Trustee Period were German Protestants from Salzburg (Austria today).
- The Salzburgers came to Georgia in 1734 seeking religious freedom and hoping to establish a silk industry in the colony.
- The Salzburgers were given land 25 miles north of Savannah that they named Ebenezer ("the Rock of Help").
- In Ebenezer, they planted mulberry trees and cultivated silk from silkworms that fed on the leaves.
- They were also successful in lumber production, cattle raising, and agriculture.

Highland Scots

- Oglethorpe was concerned with the military threat posed by the Spanish in Florida so he recruited another group of immigrants to help defend the colony.
- In January 1736, 177 Scottish soldiers known as the Highland Scots established the town of Darien.
- The Highland Scots were well-known for bravery in battle.
- They established successful timber and cattle industries.
- The Highland Scots created the first Presbyterian Church in Georgia.

Battle of Bloody Marsh

- Oglethorpe was smart to fortify Georgia with soldiers and forts.
- In July 1742, Spanish troops attacked the fort on St. Simons Island.
- Oglethorpe's much smaller force (including the Highland Scots) defeated them in the Battle of Bloody Marsh.
- After this battle, the Spanish gave up all claims to Georgia.

Malcontents

- The Trustees had set up rules for the colony including no slavery, no selling of land, and no liquor.
- They wanted to create a classless society where there were no rich or poor people and each man worked his own land.
- Colonists called "malcontents" were not happy and demanded the Trustees make some changes.
- The malcontents believed that the Trustees' policies kept the colony from prospering.
- They saw how successful South Carolina was because of slavery.

The malcontents said that Georgia would never grow unless people were allowed to buy and sell land and use slaves in their fields