1625  French settlements in the Caribbean (St. Christopher) begin
1626  Peter Minuit, director of New Netherland, buys Manhattan for 60 guilders; New Amsterdam settled
1629  Massachusetts Bay Colony established by the Massachusetts Bay Company at Boston
      Charter granted to Captain John Mason for the colony of New Hampshire
      Charter granted to Sir Robert Heath for the colony of Carolina
1630-42  16,000 English colonists migrate and settle in Massachusetts Bay Colony
1631  Charter granted to Lord Baltimore for the colony of Maryland
1633  Colony of Connecticut founded by the Earl of Warwick
1635  Boston Latin Grammar School is established as first public school in America
1636  Establishment of Harvard College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for education of American ministers
1638  First printing press reaches America
1640  Providence Plantations unite to form the colony of Rhode Island
1642  Montreal, Canada, founded by the French; The Bahamas colonized by the English (1646)
1652  First money minted in the colonies; the pine tree shilling of Massachusetts
      Rhode Island enacts the first law in the colonies declaring slavery illegal
1661  John Winslow et al purchase the territory of Maine from the Massachusetts Bay Colony
1664  English acquire New Netherland; rename the colony and the settlement on Manhattan “New York”
      King Charles II grants a charter for colony of New Jersey to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret
      Colony of Carolina extended south
1670  Hudson’s Bay Company founded
1675-76  King Philip’s War: Metacomet, Wampanoag chief, wages war against the colonists due to territorial
         encroachment in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Maine; he is eventually defeated
1681  Territory granted in North America to English Quaker William Penn; known as Pennsylvania
      Sieur de La Salle claims Louisiana for France after reaching the mouth of the Mississippi River

Colonial Wars
The French and Indian Wars, 1690-1765

Resources for all ages
Penguin Atlas of North American History to 1870 - Colin McEvedy (clear maps show changes through history)

Grades 1-3: Overview of the era
Struggle for a Continent: The French and Indian War, 1689-1763 - Betsy and Giulio Maestro CB

Grades 1-3: Specific events
Ben Franklin and the Magic Squares - Frank Murphy (Franklin’s childhood fascination with math puzzles) VP
Ben Franklin’s Glass Armonica - Byrna Stevens (invention of harmonica) B

Grades 1-3: Biography
What’s the Big Idea, Ben Franklin? - Jean Fritz (exceptional biography with humorous twist) E
Amazing Life of Benjamin Franklin - James Cross Giblin, Michael Dooling (accurate and beautiful) VP
d’Aulaire’s Benjamin Franklin - Ingrid, Edgar d’Aulaire (narrative story by acclaimed authors, illustrators) B
Meet Benjamin Franklin - Maggie Scarf (Meet Famous Americans, Step-up biography series, 2nd-3rd grades) G
Young Ben Franklin - Laurence Santrey (Troll Easy Biography series) G
Many Lives of Benjamin Franklin - Aliki (story of American renaissance man and founding father) G
Daniel Boone: Frontier Adventures - Keith Brandt (Troll Easy Biography series) G

Grades 1-3: Historical fiction
Charlie’s House - Clyde Robert Bulla (indentured servitude, 3rd-4th grade reading level)
Grades 1-3: Historical fiction
Matchlock Gun - Walter Edmonds (boy protects mother during Indian raid) N
Tomahawks and Trombones - Barbara Mitchell (set during the French and Indian War) B

Grades 1-3: Culture
If You Lived With the Iroquois - Ellen Levine (northeastern tribe, way of life, culture, language, family life) E
If You Lived in Williamsburg in Colonial Times - Barbara Brenner (way of life and society) G
If You Lived in Colonial Times - Ann McGovern (way of life and society) G
Seventh and Walnut: Life in Colonial Philadelphia - James Knight (life at end of colonial times, 3rd+)
Village: Life in Colonial Times - James Knight (village life, Adventures in Colonial America series, 3rd-4th)

Grades 4-6: Overview of the era
Story of the Thirteen Colonies - Clifford Lindsey Alderman (English colonies on the Atlantic seaboard) L
Colonial Wars: Clashes in the Wilderness - Alden R. Carter (American Military History series) G

Grades 4-6: Specific events
Hearts and Hands: Chronicles of the Awakening Church - Mindy, Brandon Withrow (18th-19th century) VP
George Washington: Frontier Colonel - Sterling North (Washington’s campaigns during the frontier wars) L
Rogers’ Rangers and the French and Indian War - Bradford Smith (exciting narrative, frontier warfare) L
Evangeline and the Acadians - Robert Tallant (resettlement of French after Canada falls to the English) L
Westward Adventure: True Stories of Six Pioneers - William O. Steele (peril, joy on American frontier) B
African-Americans in the Thirteen Colonies - Deborah Kent (slave and free; Cornerstones of Freedom series)

Grades 4-6: Biography
John Peter Zenger: Free Press Advocate - Karen Westermann (New York newspaperman, 1697-1746)
Jonathan Edwards: Colonial Religious Leader - Norma Jean Lutz (Great Awakening leader, 1703-1758)
Jonathan Edwards, the Great Awakener - Helen Kooiman Hosier (Heroes of the Faith series, 6th-7th grade)
George Whitefield: Clergyman and Scholar - Susan Martins Miller (Great Awakening leader, 1714-1770)
George Whitefield, Pioneering Evangelist - Bruce Fish (Heroes of the Faith series, 6th-7th grade)
Life of Ben Franklin: From Boyhood to Manhood - William M. Thayer (accurate, respects Christian faith) CB
Ben Franklin, Young Printer - Augusta Stevenson (Childhood of Famous Americans)
Ben and Me - Robert Lawson (fictionalized biography; light-hearted and humorous) E
Poor Richard - James Daugherty (excellent biography of Ben Franklin by master storyteller) A
Ben Franklin of Old Philadelphia - Margaret Cousins (excellent Landmark series biography) L
B. Franklin, Printer - David A. Adler (American renaissance man presented in all his facets, excellent) G
Benjamin Franklin: Man of Science - Immegarde Eberle (Immortals of Science, his scientific investigations) E
Benjamin Franklin’s Adventures with Electricity - Beverly Birch, Robin Corfield (recreate his experiments) BF
Daniel Boone, Young Hunter - Augusta Stevenson (Childhood of Famous Americans series) E
Daniel Boone - John Mason Brown (the time between the French and Indian War and American Revolution) L
Daniel Boone - James Daugherty (wonderful biography by acclaimed children’s author) N
Wilderness Wife - Etta de Gering (the story Rebecca Boone, wife of Daniel) B

Grades 4-6: Historical fiction
Hitty: Her First Hundred Years - Rachel Field (100 years in the life of a doll in colonial America) N
Madeleine Takes Command - Ethel C. Brill (1690s Canada, girl saves family’s fort when Iroquois attack) BB
Queen Anne’s War - Joann A. Grote (1710 Boston, American Adventure series #5) G
Danger in the Harbor - Joann A. Grote (Boston during Queen Anne’s War, American Adventure series #6) G
Tomahawk Border - William O. Steele (set in Ft. Christiana, Virginia in 1714)
Smallpox Strikes: Cotton Mather’s Bold Experiment - Norma Jean Lutz (smallpox epidemic in 1721 Boston) G
Maggie’s Choice - Norma Jean Lutz (Maggie and Great Awakening, 1740s Boston, American Adventure #8) G
Calico Bush - Rachel Field (1743, story of French indentured servant in the colonies) H
Wayah of the Real People - William O. Steele (Indians near Williamsburg, 1752-53)
Duel in the Wilderness - Karin Clafford Farley (Maj. George Washington’s Ohio mission, 1753-54) VP
I am Regina - Sally Keene (true story of girl kidnapped by Indians, 1755, faith helps her survive captivity) BF
Grades 4-6: Historical fiction
Redskin and Colonist - G. A. Henty (set in 1754-63 America during the French and Indian War)
With Wolfe in Canada - G. A. Henty (English general that took Quebec, 1759)
Sign of the Beaver - Elizabeth George Speare (white, Indian boy become friends in colonial New England) G
Night Journeys - Avi (set in 1760s Pennsylvania, Quaker family) B
Blackthorn Winter - Douglas Wilson (Monroe Family Chronicles 1; Christian faith; piracy in colonial times) VP
Susan Creek - Douglas Wilson (Monroe Family Chronicles 2; Christian faith; the Great Awakening) VP

Grades 4-6: Literature
Whistle - Benjamin Franklin (wisdom from Ben’s Poor Richard’s Almanack)

Grades 4-6: Culture
Boys and Girls of Colonial Days - Carolyn Bailey, Michael J. McHugh (true stories of children) E
Colonial Children: Source Readers in American History No. 1 - Albert Bushnell Hart (first-hand accounts) CB
Shaw’s Plantation: The Picture Story of a Colonial Plantation - Edwin Tunis (excellent depiction)
Little Book of Early American Crafts and Trades - Peter Stockham (reprint of 1807 children’s book) D
Colonial Craftsmen and the Beginnings of American Industry 1600-1775 - Edwin Tunis (fascinating)
Colonial Living - Edwin Tunis (another excellent description of life by accomplished author) B
Tavern at the Ferry - Edwin Tunis (1687-1787, 100 years along the Delaware River) B
Colonial Days: American Kids in History - David C. King (1732, book of projects, games, activities, recipes)
Colonial Cookbook - Lucille Recht Penner (much, much more than recipes - fascinating!)
Good Land - Patricia Mitchell (cookbook based on primary sources, Indian and early colonial foods) VP
Science in Colonial America - Brendan January (Native American as well as European achievements)
Art of Colonial America - Shirley Glubok (illustrated with many examples)

Grades 7-9: Overview of the era
Struggle for a Continent: The French and Indian Wars - Albert Marrin (excellent narrative history) G
France and England in North America Vol. 2 - Francis Parkman (Frontenac, Montcalm, Wolfe)

Grades 7-9: Specific events
Redeemed Captive - John Williams (pastor and family’s harrowing captivity with Indians, French, 1704) VP
Bulletproof George Washington - David Barton (God’s supernatural protection during the colonial wars)
Montcalm and Wolfe - Francis Parkman (the battle for Quebec by acclaimed 19th century historian)
Conspiracy of Pontiac - Francis Parkman (acclaimed history of final chapter in the French and Indian War)

Grades 7-9: Biography
A Divine Light: The Spiritual Leadership of Jonathan Edwards - David Vaughan (Leaders in Action series) VF
Jonathan and Sarah: An Uncommon Union - Edna Gerstner (story of Jonathan Edwards’ life, from diaries) VP
Forgotten Founding Father: Heroic Legacy of George Whitefield - Stephen Mansfield (Great Awakening) VP
Molly Bannaky - Alice McGill (indentured servant becomes grandmother of Benjamin Banneker; novelized) G
Autobiography - Benjamin Franklin (the story of his life up to his pre-war stay in London) W, R
Soldier of Virginia - Marjorie Bowen (novelized but accurate life of George Washington during Colonial Wars)
Daniel Boone: His Own Story /Daniel Boone: The Kentucky Rifleman - Daniel Boone, Francis Lister Hawkes VP

Grades 7-9: Historical fiction
Young Puritans in King Philip’s War - Mary Prudence Smith (set during 1675-76) S
Shadows on the Rock - Willa Cather (set in 1697-1713 Quebec) A
Yemassee - William Gilmore Simms (set in the early 1700s, Indians in South Carolina) A
Deerslayer - James Fenimore Cooper (set in upper New York in 1740) A
High Wind Rising - Elvis Songmaster (set during 1728-55, story of the Six Nations of the Iroquois) A
Light in the Forest - Conrad Richter (Pennsylvania boy captured and raised by Indians) A
With Pipe, Paddle, and Song - Elizabeth Yates (1750s Canada, Indian-French teen and both cultures) BB
Calico Captive - Elizabeth George Speare (1754, young girl captured by Indians, sold to the French) G
Evangeline - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1755, Acadians’ exile forced by British after capture of Canada) A
Pathfinder - James Fenimore Cooper (set in 1756 during the French and Indian War) R
Last of the Mohicans - James Fenimore Cooper (1757 during the wars; one of great stories of Western Lit) A
Grades 7-9: Historical fiction
Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison - Lois Lenski (true story; captured in 1758 during the wars) NH
Satanstoe - James Fenimore Cooper (travels in New York and Ticonderoga in 1751-58) A
Seats of the Mighty - Sir Gilbert Parker (set during the Fall of Quebec in 1759) A
Guns of Thunder - Douglas Bond (Scots covenanters emigrate to America, French and Indian Wars) VP
Great Valley - Mary Johnston (set in 1735-60 Virginia; Scottish Presbyterian minister in North America) A
Virginia Comedians - John Esten Cooke (set in 1764 Virginia; a vivid picture of places and events) A
Melitte - Fatima Shaik (slave girl in Louisiana during French, Spanish rule, 1765-72, riveting and haunting)

Grades 7-9: Literature
Poor Richard’s Almanack - Benjamin Franklin (published from 1732-57, famous sayings and essays) A
Wit and Wisdom from Poor Richard’s Almanack - Benjamin Franklin (wonderful selections) D
Way to Wealth - Benjamin Franklin (excellent essay published in 1758; Applewood Books) A
Legend of Sleepy Hollow - Washington Irving (New York legend, local character, culture, and flavor) A
Rip Van Winkle - Washington Irving (fairy tale set in the Hudson Valley, colonial New York) A

Grades 7-9: Culture
Journal of Madam Knight - Sarah Kemble Knight (Boston - New York horseback journey, 1704-05, insightful) A
Slumps, Grunts and Snickerdoodles: What Colonial America Ate - Lila Perl (much more than recipes) B
Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy - Hannah Glasse (popular 18th century English cookbook used in colonies)
Sketches of 18th Century America - Michel Guillame Crevecoeur (colonial life) A

Grades 10-12: Overview of the era
Colonial Experience, 1607-1774 - Clarence B. Carson (from a Christian conservative historian) G
Crucible of War - Fred Anderson (definitive history of the Seven Years’ War, 1755-1763; British ascendency)
War That Made America: A Short History of the French and Indian War - Fred Anderson (above, scaled down)

Grades 10-12: Specific events
Women’s Indian Captivity Narratives - Kathryn Zabelle Derounian-Stodola (10 source accounts of captivity)
Guns At the Fork - Walter O’Meara (story of the battle of Ft. Duquesne and Braddock’s defeat)

Grades 10-12: Biography
Jonathan Edwards: A New Biography - Iain Murray (famous preacher of the Great Awakening) VP
Marriage to a Difficult Man - Elizabeth Dodds (Jonathan Edwards bio via his marriage to Sarah Pierrepont) AG
George Whitefield: God’s Anointed Servant in the Great Revival of the 18th Century - Arnold Dallimore VF
Benjamin Franklin - Carl Van Doren (Franklin lived 1706-90, Pulitzer Prize winning biography) P
Most Dangerous Man in America: Scenes from the Life of Benjamin Franklin - Catherine Bowen (sketches)
Life of Daniel Boone - Lyman C. Draper, Ted Franklin Belue (authoritative, based on 1850s text)
Paths of Glory: The Life and Death of General James Wolfe - Stephen Brumwell (wonderful narrative)

Grades 10-12: Historical fiction
In the Valley - Harold Frederic (set in the Mohawk valley during the French and Indian Wars) A
Prospering - Elizabeth George Speare (mission to Indians during the French and Indian War; excellent)
Northwest Passage - Kenneth Roberts (set during the background of the Roger’s Rangers) A

Grades 10-12: Literature
Treatise on Religious Affections - Jonathan Edwards (1703-58, great American theologian and preacher) C
Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God - Jonathan Edwards (Great Awakening sermon, 1740-41) VP
Justification by Faith Alone - Jonathan Edwards (exposition; salvation by faith or works) VF
Diary - David Brainerd (Brainerd lived 1718-47, was missionary to the Indians, inspiring diary) C
Cato’s Letters - John Trenchard, Thomas Gordon (1720-23, written under pen name; civil, religious liberty)
John Woolman’s Journal - John Woolman (1720-72 events of life, American devotional classic) A
Writings - Benjamin Franklin, J. A. Leo Lemay, editor (includes Autobiography, Poor Richard’s Almanack)

Grades 10-12: Culture
Genius of Puritanism - Peter Lewis (concise overview of the meaning of Puritanism and their beliefs) VF
Timeline of the Colonial Wars

1690-97  King William’s War between Britain and France in North America, sparked by European tensions
1692  Salem, Massachusetts, witch trials; 150 persons accused; 20 executed
1693  College of William and Mary founded in Williamsburg, Virginia
1696  Slave trading for profit first engaged upon in the colonies
1697  Massachusetts General Court expresses official repentance for witch hysteria; families compensated
1700  Massachusetts and New York expel Roman Catholic priests
1701  Yale College founded in Connecticut
1702-13  Queen Anne’s War between Britain and France in North America, sparked by European war
1704  First newspaper published in the colonies, The Boston News-Letter
1710  First postal system established in the colonies
1712  Carolina colony divided into North and South Carolina; Pennsylvania bans import of slaves
1718  New Orleans is founded by the French at the mouth of the Mississippi River
1728  Danish navigator Vitus Bering explores the Bering Straits, coast of Alaska (1741)
1729  Benjamin Franklin, 1706-90, begins publishing the Pennsylvania Gazette
1731  Benjamin Franklin founds the first American public library in Philadelphia
1732  Establishment of the colony of Georgia, first settlers were debtors from English prisons
1732-57  Benjamin Franklin publishes Poor Richard’s Almanack
1734-54  Great Awakening: Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield, influential preachers
1744-48  King George’s War between Britain and France in North America, sparked by European war
1754-63  French and Indian War; French and English use Indians to terrorize the other’s territory
1755  Braddock’s Defeat: British general, Edward Braddock, does not listen to his lt. colonel, 23 year-old George Washington, and is mortally wounded by the French on the Ohio frontier
1760  English take Quebec under General James Wolfe; George III ascends the English throne
1763  Peace of Paris ends war; Britain gains Canada and land east of the Mississippi River from France, except for New Orleans; Britain gains Florida from Spain
North American Indian uprising against the British led by Pontiac, Ottawa chief, fails
Proclamation of 1763: prohibits English settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains

Overview of American History

from 1620 through the Modern Era

Resources for all ages

Penguin Atlas of North American History to 1870 - Colin McEvedy (clear maps show changes through history)
A Time for Freedom - Lynne Cheney (the most important dates in American history and their meaning) CB
Timetables of American History - Laurence Urdang (day-by-day timeline of American and World history) E
American History in Verse - Burt Stevenson (every major event in American history, explorers -WWII) BF
Patriot’s Handbook - George Grant (documents, speeches, poems, songs, profiles of great Americans)
United States of America State-by-State Guide - Millie Miller, Cyndi Nelson (illustrated atlas, history, facts)
Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America - Lynne Cheney (landmarks, famous people) CB
Dictionary of American Portraits - Hayward and Blanche Cirker (portraits of 4000 important Americans) D
Look It Up Book of Presidents - Wyatt Blassingame (all presidents, brief bios, interesting, little-known facts)
Presidents: A Library of Congress Book - Martin W. Sandler (beautifully illustrated from the library’s archives)
Eyewitness Books: Presidents - James G. Barber (museum in a book, fascinating photos and information)
Eyewitness Books: First Ladies - Amy Pastan (museum in a book, fascinating photos and information)
Land of Fair Play - Geoffrey Parsons (America’s unseen service to the world; wonderful book) SM