Three Native American Indian groups who lived here before people from Europe came

1. **Powhatan Indians** (east coast)
   - found in middle Atlantic coast
   - men: fish & hunt
   - women: gathered & grew food, built homes, cared for children
   - made & traveled in canoes
   - lived in longhouses
   - clothes came from animals’ fur and skin

2. **Sioux Indians** (mid-plains)
   - found in the Midwest, grassy plains
   - hunted buffalo for food, clothing & homes
   - made tepees for quick moving
   - walked and rode horses

3. **Pueblo Indians** (southwest)
   - found in southwest, dry desert
   - farmers since not many animals
   - adobe homes made of clay bricks
   - grew cotton for clothes
   - walked to get around
**explorer** - someone who travels to a new place to learn about it

**Spanish Explorers** explored the New World

- landed in Florida while searching for gold
- built a colony there called St. Augustine (oldest settlement in US)
- more Spanish people came to live in North America

**English Explorers** settled Jamestown, Virginia & had many problems:

- ruled by England
- not enough food
- became sick
- didn't know how to farm the land

* John Smith (a colonist) who became the leader of Jamestown helped them learn to hunt, clear land, build homes, and plant corn.

The **Pilgrims**

- left England to find religious freedom
- sailed on the Mayflower
- landed in what is now Plymouth, Massachusetts
- Squanto (from the Wampanoag tribe) taught them to fish, hunt and plant corn
- celebrated the first harvest to give thanks to God = 1st Thanksgiving

More English settlers moving here formed 13 colonies under England’s (British) rule.

- thought it was unfair to pay taxes
- worked together to fight for independence (freedom) for England = American Revolution led by George Washington

a. Patriots - colonists who wanted to be free *won with the help from France & Spain

b. Loyalists - colonists who wanted to stay with England
**The Declaration of Independence**
- written by Thomas Jefferson
- signed on July 4, 1776
- The United States was a new free country

*Paul Revere - patriot/hero who warned that the British were coming

**Thomas Jefferson - 3rd President of the US**
- bought a big piece of land from France
- wanted to explore & expand the US to the Pacific Ocean
- sent Lewis and Clark to explore

**Lewis and Clark**
- pioneers because they were the first to head west to explore
- trip took 2 ½ years
- met Sacagawea (Sioux Indian) helped to lead & talk to other Indians tribes
- recorded all landforms, animals and plants they saw
- drew maps for others to follow
- ended in what is now Oregon

**pioneers** - followed the Oregon Trail heading west to own land, build homes, traveled in covered wagons
Westward Expansion

The Morgan Family

- left Indiana for Oregon on April 11, 1846
- wanted to have a better life & bigger farms
- traveled the Oregon Trail in a covered wagon as part of a “Wagon Train” (many pioneer families/covered wagons traveling together)
- took trunks of clothes, food and water, animals, very valuable things (nothing extra)

The Morgan Family faced hard times on the Oregon Trail:

- wagon broke, lost oxen, bad weather
- had to cross rivers, mountains, and deserts

Life was hard in Oregon:

- bad weather, sickness, small house with a leaky roof
- Mrs. Morgan sold their things for food

*After a while the Morgan Family got to buy their new farm!

John Ross

- Cherokee Indian Chief
- owned a corn field in Georgia
- hard worker who wanted to give his land to his son someday
- wanted to fit in with the settlers - so he learned to read and write, dressed like them and lived in homes like they did
- begged the US Government not to make the Cherokee leave Georgia

President Andrew Jackson made the Cherokee to move to "Indian Territory" (Oklahoma)

Trail of Tears

- Cherokee forced to move west
- journey the Cherokee took from Georgia to Oklahoma
- traveled the trail in the fall & winter months
- didn’t have the supplies & food they needed
- many Cherokee became sick & died
The Pony Express

- mail delivery system using horses
- stretched from Missouri to California
- took about 10 days for letters to travel the route
- riders had to be tough, loyal, young & light
- routes were dangerous; bad weather, wild animals, rough land, injured horses
- mail was carried relay-style, with rider taking certain sections & then passing off the mail to another rider &/or horse at stations
- successful for 18 months then the telegraph lines were complete & messages could be sent in minutes