

CONVERSATIONS ON SC HISTORY with Dr. Walter Edgar

Lesson 1: South Carolina Geography

Focus Points:

- The European explorers' impression of the land of South Carolina
 - First explorers – Spaniards
 - English explorers
- Geography from the coast to the mountain
- Transportation – 16th century travel
 - Rivers
 - Indian trading paths
- Climate
 - Dramatic changes
 - Hurricanes
- The impact of geography on the history of South Carolina
 - Port Royal Harbor
 - Olde Town
 - Importance of tides
 - Crops: rice, cotton, indigo
 - River structure

Discussion:

What differences did the explorers note in the land, rivers, and creatures of South Carolina? How was the history of South Carolina affected by the geography?

Readings:

Edgar, South Carolina, A History. pp. xix-xx, 1-11.

Paul Horne & Patricia Klien, South Carolina, The History of an American State. pp. 20-51.

South Carolina Social Studies Standards:

Standard 8-1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the settlement of South Carolina and the United States by Native Americans, Europeans and Africans.

Indicator 8-1.3: Summarize the history of European settlement in Carolina from the first attempts to settle at San Miguel de Gualdape, Charlesfort, San Felipe, and Albemarle Point to the time of South Carolina's establishment as an economically important British colony, including the diverse origins of the settlers, the early government, the importance of the plantation system and slavery, and the impact of the natural environment on the development of the colony. (H, G, P, E)

Standard USHC-1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the settlement of North America.

Indicator:USHC-1.1 Summarize the distinct characteristics of each colonial region in the settlement and development of America, including religious, social, political, and economic differences. (H, E, P, G)

Literacy Elements:

- F. Ask geographic questions: Where is it located? Why is it there? What is significant about its location? How is its location related to that of other people, places and environments?
- G. Make and record observations about the physical and human characteristics of places
- H. Use maps to observe and interpret geographic information and relationships