



# Family Newsletter for Unit 2

## Exploration, Colonization, and Settlement

### Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- about the exploration of Florida and the factors that led to its colonization
- the struggle among European nations for control of Florida and the effect of the American Revolution on Florida
- the conflicts and factors that led to the Florida Territory becoming a state

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

### Talk About It

Chapter 3: Europeans Come to Florida

**Early explorers** Today, people travel for many different reasons, such as for business or for vacation. Discuss how these reasons are different from why the early explorers traveled.

Chapter 4: The Struggle for Florida

**Friend or foe?** European nations struggled to control the lands of Florida. Discuss why the Europeans might have thought it was important to be friendly with the American Indians already living there.

Chapter 5: From Territory to State

**Settlers and statehood** To help meet population requirements for statehood, settlers were offered free land to come to Florida. Talk with your child about how population growth and the value of land in Florida is very different today.

### Make It

**A newsletter** Select one region of Florida that you and your family have visited, or choose your home region. Ask your child to write a short newsletter highlighting what your family likes about life in Florida.

### Read to Learn More About It

*The Congress*, by Carol Greene. Presents a clear picture of the work that senators and representatives do in Congress.

*Pass the Quill, I'll Write a Draft*, by Robert Quackenbush. A lively, amusing biography of Thomas Jefferson.

*Sam the Minuteman*, by Nathaniel Benchley. This book recreates what it must have been like for a young boy to fight in the Battle of Lexington.



### Technology

Check out  
[www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/](http://www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/)  
for more information.