

## Summary: Colonies in America

### The Pilgrims

In 1620, an English ship named the *Mayflower* landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts. A group of Christian settlers were on the ship. We call them the Pilgrims. They wanted to build a colony where they could practice their religion freely. The first winter was very hard for the Pilgrims. They were cold and hungry. Half of the Pilgrims died.

In the spring, the Wampanoag Indians taught the Pilgrims how to adapt. They taught the Pilgrims how to hunt and fish. The Pilgrims also learned how to grow beans, corn, and pumpkins. In the fall, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag celebrated with a Thanksgiving feast. More English families began to start other colonies.

### The Spanish in the West

England's colonies grew quickly. The King of Spain was worried. He thought that England might try to take Spain's land in the West. In the late 1700s, Spain sent soldiers and Roman Catholic priests to California and other places. They started missions. The priests wanted to teach the Roman Catholic religion to American Indians. Soldiers forced some American Indians to join the missions. Others joined because they wanted to. The American Indians and the Spanish learned new ideas from each other. California became a mixture of Spanish and Indian culture. Many churches used Spanish and Indian designs. The music reflected styles from both groups. Today, Indian, English, and Spanish culture are part of American culture.



#### Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

**colony** *noun*, a community belonging to a distant country

**mission** *noun*, a community built around a church



#### After You Read

**REVIEW** In what ways did the Pilgrims adapt to life in Plymouth? Highlight two sentences that tell what the Wampanoag Indians taught the Pilgrims.

**REVIEW** In what ways is California's culture a mix of Spanish and Indian cultures? How does the music reflect these cultures? Draw a box around the two sentences that tell about churches and music.