**Southern Colonies**

Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia

Lots of waterways (tidewater); great for farming because of rich soil and long growing season. Shipping of cash crops was easy due to the waterways. Few colonists settled in the “**backcountry**”.

Cash crops included rice, tobacco, and indigo which required a lot of work. Therefore, indentured servants and enslaved Africans were used to do the hard labor.

“While southern plantations were large and needed many workers, most southern colonists lived on small family farms. In the early 1600s, indentured servants did most of the hard work on plantations. As the number of plantations grew, southern planters began to use enslaved Africans as laborers. By 1750, greater numbers of enslaved Africans lived in the 13 colonies, but most lived in the southern colonies.” (social studies text, pages 212-213)

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| **Virginia** | **Maryland** |
| * 1st permanent English colony in 1607
* Plantations
* Cash crops – rice, tobacco, indigo
* Colonists had to start settling in the backcountry as more and more settlers took up the land
* Conflict over land with the Powhatan Indians
* 1st elected legislature – House of Burgesses
* Only planters (plantation owners) and white men could vote or be elected
* 1 official religion (Anglican) – if you were not Anglican, you had to leave the colony
 | * Founded in 1632
* Land was given to Cecilius Calvert (aka Lord Baltimore) by King Charles
* Founded as a refuge for Catholics – Catholics were being imprisoned in England for their religious beliefs
* 1649 – Toleration Act – 1st law to promise freedom of worship to Christians
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| **Carolinas** | **Georgia** |
| * Founded in 1663
* King Charles II formed the colony to keep France and Spain out of the area
* South was more successful than the North due to access to ports (shipping)
 | * Founded in 1732
* Land was given to James Oglethorpe
* He found Georgia as a place for poor people and debtors
* Oglethorpe paid for them to come to America and gave them land to start a new life instead of being imprisoned in England
* Friendly relations with Indians
* Strict rules for colonists: could not drink alcohol, could not own slaves, could not elect own legislature
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The establishment of the Southern colonies gave England control of the east coast of North America.