

# Online Book Club

## The Colonial Caper Mystery at Williamsburg

# Bring It To Life!

1. Pretend you are a cartographer. Draw a map of your city or town. Include your school, your house and your favorite places to go. Don't forget to make a legend!
2. Have a colonial party! Find games that were commonly played and play them with your friends. Dress up like you are living in Williamsburg and play the part!
3. Many different foods are mentioned in the mystery. What were some of them? Were there any you didn't recognize? If so, look up what these different dishes are. Do they sound like anything you would eat?
4. Play a game! Split your book club up into two groups. Have each person write down 3 questions from the book. Choose a host to ask the questions to each team. Whoever knows the most about the book wins!
5. Imagine that you are a tradesperson or a shopkeeper in Williamsburg. Create a symbol and a sign for your shop! Keep it simple, colorful and easy to recognize.



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### Fascinating Facts

1. Williamsburg is only one of three capitals Virginia has had. The other two? Jamestown and Richmond.
2. Some famous natives of Williamsburg include President George Washington, Martha Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Lawrence Taylor (football player) and Bruce Hornsby (musician).
3. Williamsburg is the home of America's first theater.
4. The College of William and Mary is the second oldest in the United States. Thomas Jefferson was a student there.
5. Slightly more than half of the residents of Williamsburg were black. A few were free, but most were the slaves and servants of the community.
6. Back in colonial times, a person's clothing was a quick clue to their rank in society. Only the privileged never got dirty and wore lace and ruffles.
7. Coffee, chocolate, certain fruits and even sugar were delicacies in Williamsburg! Lump sugar came in the shape of a cone and was kept locked away!
8. Spinning (making yarn or thread) was a common activity for all women. Dyeing and weaving, however, were the work of specialized people and did not take place within a colonial household.
9. In colonial times, the apothecary's shop was like a modern-day drugstore. An apothecary was a pharmacist, a doctor and sometimes even a surgeon!
10. Williamsburg had a printing complex that was the place to go for information. The printing complex included the post office, printing office, and the book bindery. People came there to pick up letters and packages as well as to see the important notices and advertisements that were posted on the walls.



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### Pop Quiz

Answer the questions below:

1. What was the stolen map a map of?

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2. Who was the strange judge that ordered the bailiff to take Christina and Grant to The King's Arms?

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3. What is the "necessary?"

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4. What does a cartographer do for a living?

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5. Who do Christina and Grant meet when they are looking for the College of William and Mary?

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6. Why did Mimi interrupt the checkers game?

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7. What did Christina save from the fire?

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8. Where did Christina and Grant finally see the original map?

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# Know your SAT Words!

**Mystery Name: The Colonial Caper Mystery at Williamsburg**

## SAT Words



1. Accusation: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Condemn: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Digress: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Isolation: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Prohibitive: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.

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### Talk About It!

1. If you took a trip to Williamsburg, where would be the first place you would go? What would you want to explore?
2. If you lived in colonial times, what would you have wanted your job to be?
3. Papa, Mimi, Christina and Grant stayed in an old, colonial cottage. Have you ever stayed in or been in an old house? Did you feel like you had gone back in time?
4. Back in colonial times there were no cars, just horses and carriages! Have you ever ridden a horse or taken a ride in a horse-drawn carriage? Would you want a horse to be your only form of transportation?
5. Grant and Christina met the Queen of England on their mystery adventure. If you could meet anyone from a royal family or anyone famous, who would it be?
6. In colonial times, people dressed very differently. Women wore corsets and men even wore stockings! Would you want to dress in colonial clothes, even for a day?
7. Who was your favorite character in the book? Which character is most like you?
8. What was your favorite part of the book? Why did you like this part?

