

Online Book Club

The Colonial Caper Mystery at Williamsburg

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.

