

Lesson 2.1

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS MAINE?

Objective: Students will compare and contrast early maps of Maine and New England with a present day map, discovering how the geographical concept of "Maine" has changed over time.

Materials:

- **Sheet 2.1A:** Directions
- **Sheet 2.1B:** Map Key
- **Doc 2.1A:** Samuel de Champlain's "Carte Geographique de la Nouvelle France," 1612 (Geographic Map of New France)
- **Doc 2.1B:** John Smith's "New England Observed," 1635
- A present day map of Maine. Any current, detailed map of Maine will do.
- Highlighters or colored pencils

Timing: One to two class periods

Background Reading: Chapter Two

Procedure:

1. Pass out materials. Each student should get a copy of Maps 1 through 3, the Directions, and a Map Key. Make sure there are enough colored pencils or highlighters to go around.
2. Students should compare Maps 1 and 2 to Map 3. See the Directions and the Map Key for more details.
3. After students have filled in their keys, put Maps 1 and 2 on an overhead and ask students to share their answers. Write the present day names next to the old ones. Discuss any differences of opinion, and correct any inaccuracies.
4. Hold a discussion with the class comparing Maps 1 and 2. Use questions like the following:
 - What do you notice about these two maps? How do they differ?
 - What territory do the maps cover?
 - Which map more accurately shows the shape of Maine's coastline?
 - Where do you imagine these explorers traveled in order to make these maps? How did they travel?
 - Which map has more Native place names?*
 - How does Champlain's map differ from Smith's map?
 - Do these differences reflect differences in the ways Champlain and Smith perceived the New World? In the ways the French and the English perceived the New World?

Evaluation: Collect student map keys and evaluate them according to accuracy and completeness.

Follow-up Activities:

- Portfolio Option: Have students create a map of a place unknown to them by walking or driving around and through it (they may have a guide). What measurements can they make? What can they see? What do they have to guess about? What is challenging about making such a map?
- Portfolio Option: Have students write a research paper on mapmaking (cartography). What is involved in making an accurate map? A good place to begin is by visiting the Osher Map Library's web site at <http://www.usm.maine.edu/~maps/>.

*Both mapmakers had Native guides. Smith originally included Native place names, but was told by English royalty to remove them.

Alignment with Learning Results:

Grade Level: **9th-dipl.**

Content Area: Social Studies: **GEOGRAPHY**

Standard: **Geographic Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns**

Students understand the geography of the United States and various regions of the world and the effect of geographic influences on decisions about the present and future.

Descriptor **D1c:** Analyze local, national, and global geographic data on physical, environmental, and cultural processes that shape and change places and regions.

Name: _____

Date: _____

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS MAINE?**Directions**

Early maps of Maine reflect many differences from the way we see Maine today. Follow the instructions below to help you compare and contrast these two early maps of Maine with a present day map. What do you notice?

Directions:

1. Compare Samuel de Champlain's "Carte Geographique" with a present day map of Maine. Which part of the map actually represents what we think of as Maine? Draw a circle around the section you see as looking most like present day Maine.
2. With a highlighter or colored pencil, highlight the towns or rivers on Champlain's map that have the same names as towns and rivers on the present day map. With another color, highlight the names that are different.
3. On the attached sheets, list eight of Champlain's names next to their matching present-day names.
4. Now compare John Smith's map to the present day map of Maine. Draw a circle around the part of Smith's map that represents Maine. Repeat steps 1-3 using Smith's map.
5. After you have finished comparing both early maps to the present day map, take out a blank piece of paper, and answer the following question:

Maps represent the way we understand a place's geography. How do you think our understanding of Maine's geography has changed over time? What do you think brought about these changes? Write a 1- to 2-paragraph response.
6. Staple your map keys and your paragraphs together, and hand them in to your teacher.

Name: _____

Date: _____

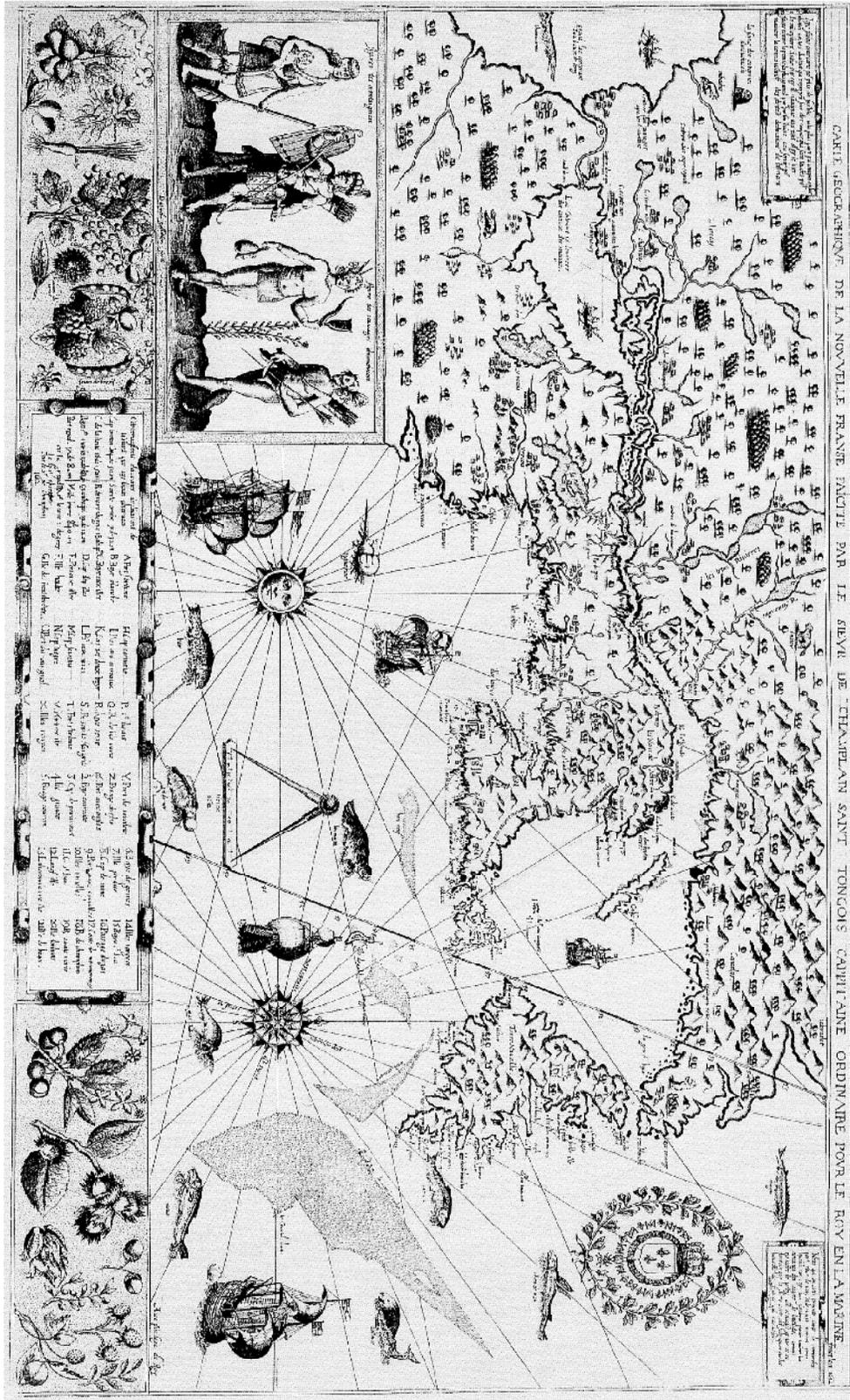
**WHAT IN THE WORLD IS MAINE?
Map Key**

Doc 2.1A: Samuel de Champlain's "Carte Geographique"

Champlain's Name	Present-Day Name
1. _____ _____	1. _____ _____
2. _____ _____	2. _____ _____
3. _____ _____	3. _____ _____
4. _____ _____	4. _____ _____
5. _____ _____	5. _____ _____
6. _____ _____	6. _____ _____
7. _____ _____	7. _____ _____
8. _____ _____	8. _____ _____

Doc 2.1B: John Smith's "New England Observed"

Smith's Name	Present-Day Name
1. _____ _____	1. _____ _____
2. _____ _____	2. _____ _____
3. _____ _____	3. _____ _____
4. _____ _____	4. _____ _____
5. _____ _____	5. _____ _____
6. _____ _____	6. _____ _____
7. _____ _____	7. _____ _____
8. _____ _____	8. _____ _____



Samuel de Champlain's "Carte Geographique de la Nouvelle France, 1612"

