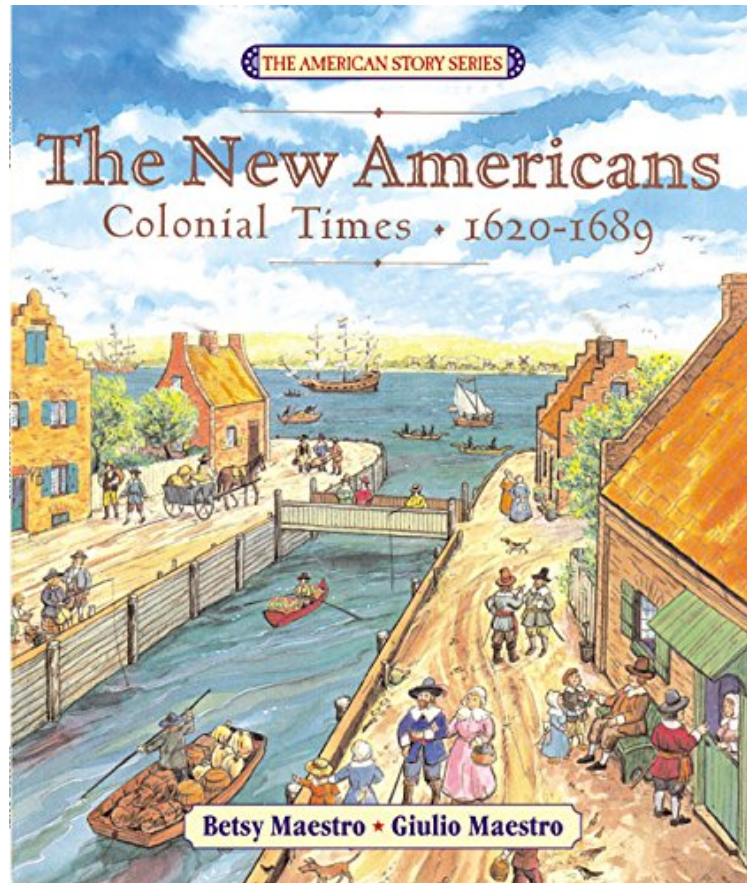


[Free] The New Americans: Colonial Times: 1620-1689 (The American Story)

The New Americans: Colonial Times: 1620-1689 (The American Story)

Betsy Maestro

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Betsy Maestro : The New Americans: Colonial Times: 1620-1689 (The American Story) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New Americans: Colonial Times: 1620-1689 (The American Story):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Covers an Era Usually Ignored in American History By Marco Antonio Abarca For most school children, American Colonial history starts with the founding of Plymouth in 1620 and then fast forwards to 1775 and the beginning of the American Revolution. That is 155 years of important American history that is usually ignored. Fortunately, Betsy Maestro covers this formative period in two books, "The New Americans" and "Struggle for a Continent: The French and Indian Wars". Betsy Maestro is a very clear writer and tells what could be a complicated story in a manner appropriate for young children. In addition, she is as "unbiased" as you could hope for in a book like this. The only downside with this book are the illustrations. I found Giulio Maestro's illustrations to be amateurish and out of scale. But having said that, my nine year old son was fine with Maestro's illustrations. Betsy Maestro's "The American Story" series is really well written. I will be purchasing all of the books in

the series. This series does a great job of introducing American history to young children in a thoughtful and measured manner. My sense is that in time, this series will become a classic of children's historical non-fiction. Highly recommended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very Informative, Beautiful Illustrations. By Jaclyn I bought this book for the Wolf Scout - Duty to God Adventure requirement: Read a story about people or groups of people who came to America to enjoy religious freedom. The book was fairly long, so I only read a section of it to my scouts at our den meeting, but it was very informative and age appropriate for wolf scouts (7-8 years old). They enjoyed it and asked for me to read more of it. 24 of 25 people found the following review helpful. I like it, but with a caveat. By JRI got this book for my 8 year old son. The graphics are beautiful and the story is thorough in its telling of the American story, perhaps too thorough for his age group. My son is still learning the details of what happened to form this country on a grand scale. He wasn't quite ready for the details that are included in this book. Other children who already have a good grasp on American history would be ready for more details, however, and may not agree with this assessment. So all in all it is a very good book. I think the "picture book" quality of the book is beguiling. I'm thinking now that the text is great for my 11 year old, while the art work is a feast for the eyes for my younger children.

This ongoing series introduces our country's history to young readers in an appealing picture-book format. Clear, simple texts combine with informative, accurate illustrations to help young people develop an understanding of America's past and present. The New Americans is the story of the colonists -- the more than two hundred thousand new Americans -- who came over from Europe and struggled to build a home for themselves in a new world.

From School Library Journal Grade 2-5? An excellent, evenhanded account of European immigration to North America during Colonial times. In clear language, the Maestros explain this often confusing part of American history. They take readers from the French explorers of the early 1600s, to the arrival of the Pilgrims in 1620, to 1689, when the European population here numbered over 200,000. With beautifully rendered full-color illustrations that are well labeled, this book will leave students with a glimpse of how greedy some settlers were, how religious intolerance played an important role in establishing certain settlements, how hostilities were bound to grow between Europeans and natives, and how the struggle for this continent had only just begun. An "Additional Information" page includes historical tidbits (such as information on the first woman lawyer in the colonies and the founding of Harvard College) and is followed by a fact sheet on "Exploration and Explorers: 1634-1685." This is a fine work that will be well used and create a lot of interest. Other titles to be used in conjunction with it include Sarah Howarth's Colonial People and Colonial Places (both Millbrook, 1994) and Lucille Recht Penner's The Pilgrims at Plymouth (Random, 1996).? Anne Chapman Callaghan, Racine Public Library, WI Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Gr. 3^5, younger for reading aloud. From the Maestro's American Story series, which began with The Discovery of the Americas (1991), this volume discusses the colonial era up to 1680. As in the first book, large-scale illustrations in watercolor and colored pencil provide panoramic views of places as well as pictures of people and their activities. The easily digestible text describes the development of the colonies, particularly in New England and New France, and the interaction of colonialists with Native Americans. The book devotes several double-page spreads to the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonies; other areas receive more cursory treatment. For instance, Jamestown's only significant mention is in conjunction with the arrival of slaves. That lapse aside, this attractive oversize book will still have plenty of appeal for youngsters, especially given the dearth of well-illustrated American history books on school and public library shelves. Carolyn Phelan From Kirkus s This entry, fourth in The American Story series (third chronologically), covers colonization by the English, Dutch, French, and Spanish, as well as the displacement of the Native Americans, brings in the Pilgrims, Puritans, the beginnings of the Triangle Trade, and comments on the shifting patterns of alliances and warfare between Europeans and native peoples. The author, perhaps inevitably, has to jump around to cover such complex subjects in the limited space of (essentially) a picture-book format, but she is aided by the illustrator's gorgeous maps and illustrations. Also compensating for the lack of narrative flow is the warts-and-all coverage, which puts all cultures on an equal historical footing. As a starting point for research, the quick explanations of many different topics will be useful, and the index and additional back matter will give readers direction in pursuing fuller coverage on a variety of topics. (maps, index) (Nonfiction. 6-10) -- Copyright 1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.