

Comparison Chart

| | Jamestown | Plymouth |
|---|---|---|
| Location | In what is now Virginia along the James River | In what is now Massachusetts along the bay |
| Characteristics of the region | warm climate, fertile soil | colder climate with four seasons; coastal |
| Reasons it was founded | economic – people wanted to make money | religious – people were looking for religious freedom |
| Early Setbacks | unwillingness by some to work, disease, lack of leadership; no families | hunger, disease, and cold |
| Government | House of Burgesses | Mayflower Compact |
| Interactions with Native Americans | often in conflict | peaceful for the first years |
| Successes | tobacco plantations | fishing, farming, and trading |

Similarities:

- Both chartered originally by the Virginia Company
- Both had a very difficult start
- Many deaths in each place in the beginning
- Both had a government
- Both received help from Native Americans
- Both had some good leaders
- Both had to meet many challenges

Differences:

- Jamestown started for economic reasons and Plymouth for religious reasons
- Plymouth began with families; Jamestown did not.
- African Americans part of Jamestown but not Plymouth
- Jamestown had plantations and Plymouth had small farms
- The people of Plymouth cooperated more
- The people of Plymouth got along with Native Americans better