

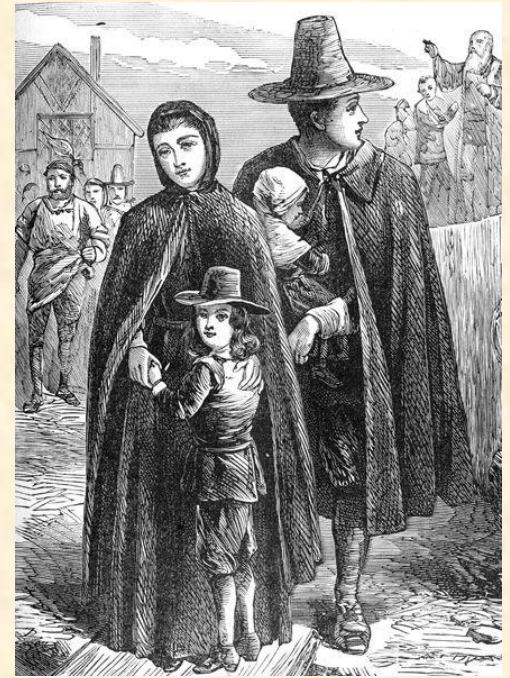
**Unit 1, part 1:
Pilgrims, Puritans,
the Settlement of the Colonies, &
Salem Witch Trials (*The Crucible*)**

Unit 1, Part 1 Readings

- From “Of Plymouth Plantation” – non-fiction writing (William Bradford)
- “To My Dear and Loving Husband” & “Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666” – poetry (Anne Bradstreet)
- From “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” – sermon (Jonathan Edwards)
- The Crucible – play (Arthur Miller)

The Puritans vs. The Separatists of England

- England was once a Catholic country, but in 1532 King Henry VIII created the Anglican Church (Church of England).
- However, over the years that followed, many became unhappy with the religion of England.
- This led to two main groups of people: the Pilgrims and Puritans.
- Both groups played a significant role in history.



Difference Between Pilgrims & Puritans

- The Puritans were a powerful religious group who wanted to reform and “purify” the church in England.
- They were different from the Pilgrims or “Separatists” who wanted to separate entirely from the English church.



Legacy of Pilgrims & Puritans

- The Pilgrims are remembered for starting Thanksgiving, a tradition that celebrates the relationship that the Pilgrims developed with the Native Americans.
- The Puritans are infamous for conducting the Salem Witch Trials.
- The trials resulted in the deaths of people on the suspicion of witchcraft or heresy.



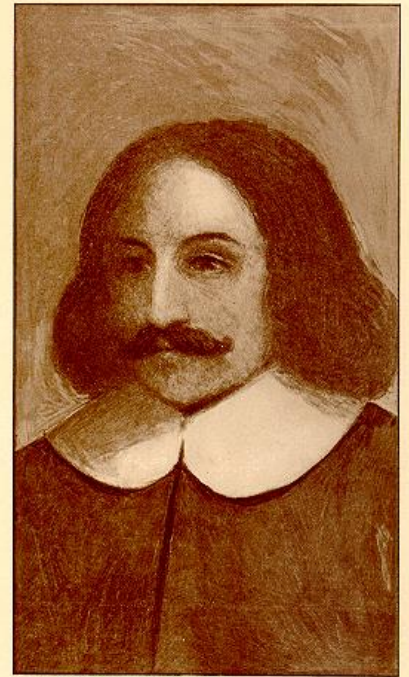
- Separatist groups were declared illegal in England, and members faced arrest for practicing their beliefs.
- The Pilgrims (one of these separatist groups) migrated to America in the hopes of practicing their own religion.
- In September 1620, this group sailed across the Atlantic on the Mayflower.



Pilgrims Leave England

On the way to America

- The Mayflower reached Cape Cod two months later in November of 1620.
- About a month later, the colonists built their first shelter at Plymouth in Massachusetts.
- William Bradford became governor of Plymouth.



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GOVERNOR WILLIAM BRADFORD



A Life of Hard Work

- New England was a difficult land for the Pilgrims. The soil was rocky and poor for farming.
- Nearly half of the Pilgrims died during the first brutal winter; however, the Pilgrims were helped by several native Americans.
- After some time and with the help of the native Americans, colonists learned how to grow Native American crops such as corn, beans and squash.
- Under Governor William Bradford's leadership, the colony not only survived but also grew to about 300 people by 1630.



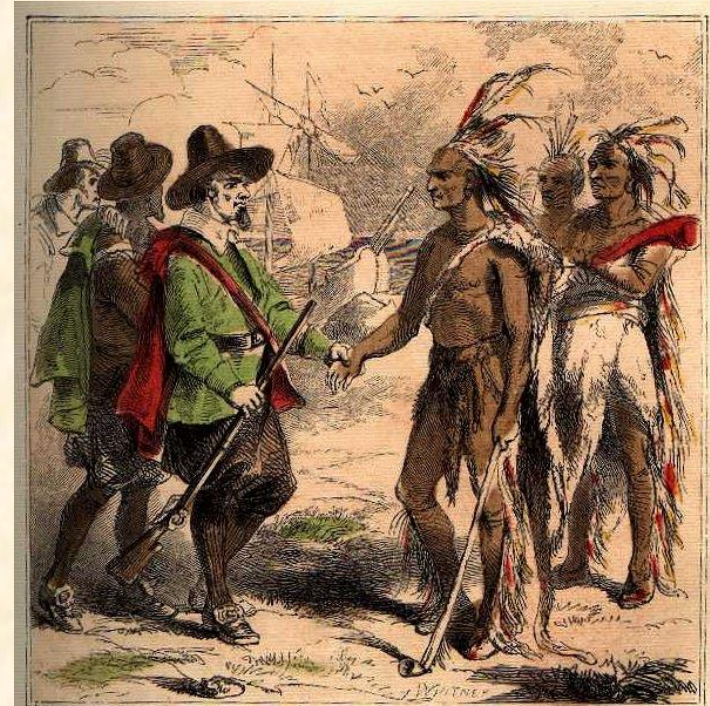
Native Americans Affected

- The arrival of the European settlers had a deadly impact on Native Americans.
- The ancestors of American Indians probably crossed the ancient land bridge from Asia to North America during the Ice Age.
- Therefore, their descendants weren't exposed to the diseases that had plagued Europe over the centuries.



Native Americans Affected

- When European settlers made contact with Native Americans, the settlers exposed them to diseases to which they had no immunity.
- These diseases, especially smallpox, sometimes killed off a village's entire population.
- Bradford wrote about the Pilgrims' long journey, their settlement in Plymouth, and the horrors of smallpox visited upon the American Indians in "*from Of Plymouth Plantation.*"



“Of Plymouth Plantation”

- **Bradford’s writing is considered to be a “primary source.”**
- **Primary sources are written or created by people who observed or participated in an historical event.**
- **Primary sources include letters, diaries, speeches, newspaper articles, and eyewitness accounts.**
- **Not only will Bradford’s writing will include factual information about the time period, but it will also include his opinions, biases, assumptions, and point of view.**



The Puritans Disagree with The Church of England

- The Puritans, unlike the Pilgrims, did not want to completely separate from the Church of England.
- However, they wanted a simpler form of worship and wanted to cleanse their religion of any remnants of Roman Catholicism.
- They believed that religion was a personal, inner experience.
- They did not believe that the government should come between the individual and God (separation of church and state).



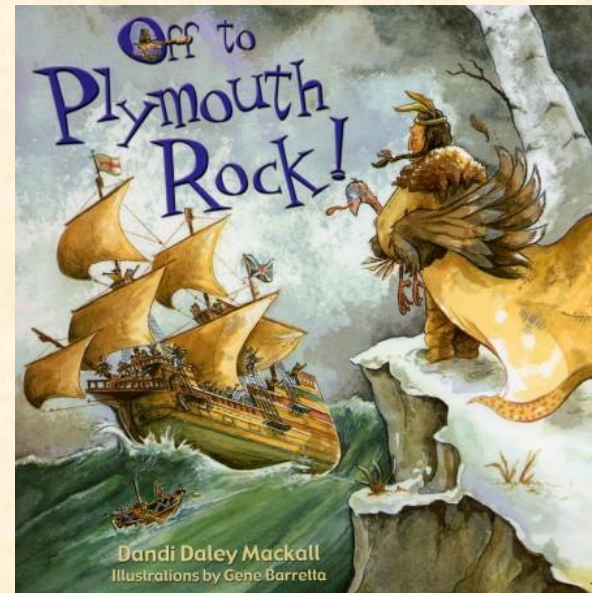
The Puritans leave England

- Puritans were blocked from changing the established church from within.
- They were severely restricted in England by laws controlling the practice of religion.
- These were some of the reasons that prompted them to leave England for the Americas.



Puritans Come to America

- In 1629, 17 ships with 1000 people settled where Boston is today.
- The Puritans wanted to purify America and then return to England to “save her.”
- When the Puritans settled in Massachusetts, they were prepared.
- They did not suffer the hardships that the Pilgrims faced a few years earlier.
- The years of the 1630’s - 1640's were called “The Great Migration.”
- 20,000 Puritans fled England to Massachusetts during this time.



Basic Beliefs of the Puritans

- (1) Human beings are inherently evil (belief in the original sin) and so must struggle to overcome their sinful nature.
- (2) Personal salvation depends solely on the grace of God, not an individual effort. (Belief in predestination – that God determined who would go to Heaven).
- (3) The Bible is the supreme authority on earth. (The Bible not only governs the church, but governs society as well).



Characteristics of Puritan Writing

- The Bible provided a model for Puritan writing.
- Puritans looked for direct connections between biblical events and events in their own lives.
- Diaries and histories were the most common forms of literary expression in Puritan society; in them writers described the workings of God.



Characteristics of Puritan Writing

- Puritans favored a plain style of writing.
- They admired clarity of expression and avoided complicated figures of speech.
- This “plain style” differed greatly from the ornate “high style” that was in fashion in England at the time.



The Poems of Anne Bradstreet: “To My Dear and Loving Husband” & “Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666

- Anne Bradstreet is recognized as being the first notable American woman poet.
- She is also essentially the first notable American poet.
- In these two poems, she expresses her intense feelings about her husband and about the loss of her home in a destructive fire.
- Poetry during this time period was almost exclusively devotional in nature and was recommended reading for the Puritan community.



Jonathan Edwards's "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"

- One hundred years after the Puritans sailed to America for religious freedom, some Puritans felt that their congregations had grown too complacent, or self-satisfied.
- To rekindle the fervor that the early settlers had, Jonathan Edwards and other Puritan ministers led the Great Awakening.
- This was a religious revival that swept through New England from 1734 to 1750.



Jonathan Edwards's "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"

- Edwards's most famous sermon was delivered in Enfield, Connecticut, in 1674.
- In it he warned his congregation that being church members would not automatically save them from hell.
- He tried to persuade them that they had to personally experience conversion, a transforming moment in which they felt God's grace.



Salem Witch Trials Begin

- In January of 1692, the settlement of Salem, Massachusetts was gripped by panic.
- A group of adolescent girls suffered mysterious symptoms such as convulsive fits, hallucinations, loss of appetite, and the temporary loss of hearing, sight, and speech.
- Reverend Parris' daughter Elizabeth, age 9, niece Abigail Williams, age 11, and another girl, Ann Putnam, age 11, experienced similar episodes.
- They screamed, threw things, uttered peculiar sounds and contorted themselves into strange positions.



It's Witchcraft!

- When the conditions of the girls failed to improve, the village doctor, William Griggs, was called in.
- With only rudimentary knowledge of biology, medicine, or psychology, Griggs concluded the girls must have been bewitched, blaming the supernatural.
- A month later the village began praying and fasting in order to rid itself of the devil's influence.



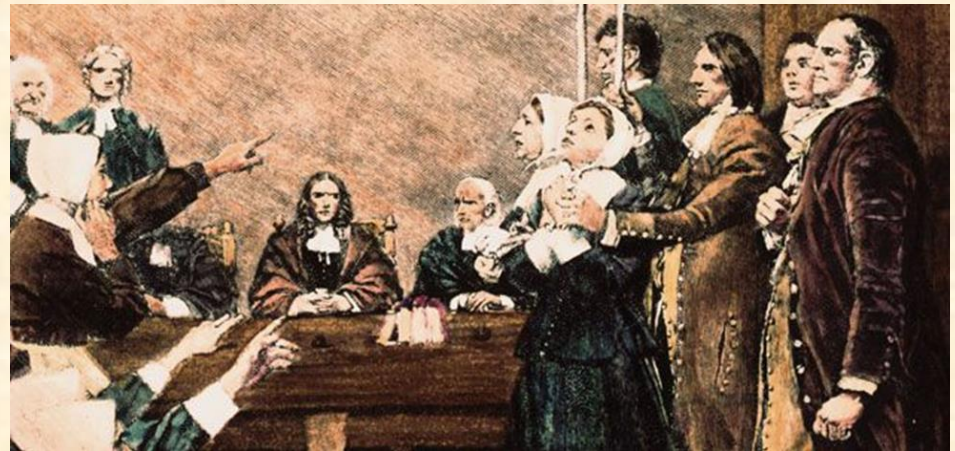
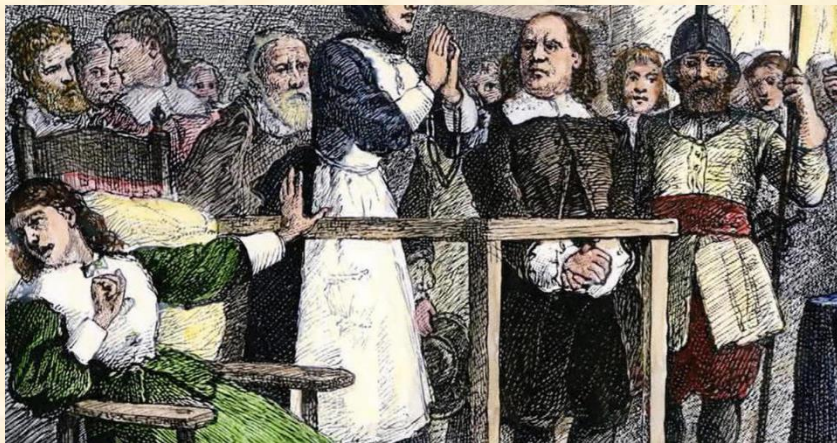
Accusations Begin

- The girls were pressured to reveal who in the community controlled their behavior.
- They began pointing fingers at misfit women around them, and three women were identified and examined.
- One confessed to seeing the devil who appeared to her "sometimes like a hog and sometimes like a great dog."
- Even more troubling, one of the accused confessed that a conspiracy of witches was plotting to take over Salem Village.



The Results of the Trials

- As a wave of hysteria spread throughout Massachusetts, a special court convened in Salem to hear the cases.
- The first convicted witch was hanged that June.
- By September 1692, the hysteria started to die down as Puritan leaders began to doubt the accusers and their evidence.
- Public opinion turned against the trials, and they finally ended.
- Between 1692 and 1693, more than 400 people in Salem and nearby towns were accused of being witches.
- Ultimately, Puritans executed 20 men and women for being “witches” in Salem.



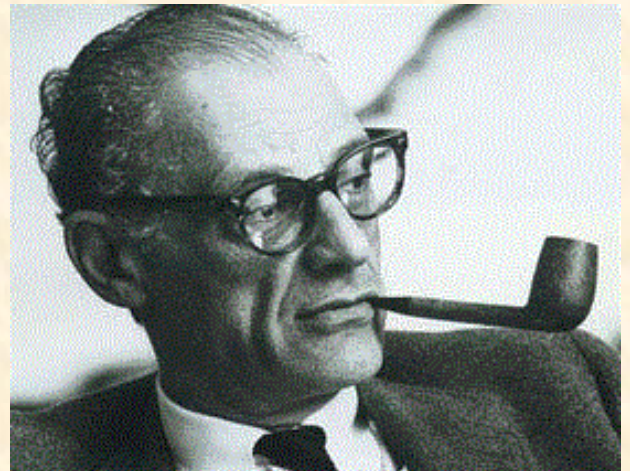
Arthur Miller's inspiration for *The Crucible*

- Arthur Miller's play dramatizes the tragic Salem witch trials of 1692, although he actually wrote the play in 1952.
- The play is an allegory of the Communist witch hunts of the 1950s.
- "McCarthyism" was the name given to a movement led by Senator Joseph McCarthy and the HUAC (House of Un-American Activities Committee).
- The "McCarthyism" movement involved the hunting down and exposing of people suspected of having communist sympathies or connections.



Arthur Miller's inspiration for *The Crucible*

- In 1947 the committee held nine days of hearings into alleged communist propaganda and influence in the Hollywood motion picture industry.
- Eventually, more than 300 artists - including directors, radio commentators, actors, and particularly screenwriters - were boycotted by the studios.
- The HUAC later summoned Miller in 1956 to testify and name fellow Hollywood actors and writers for their Communist beliefs, but he refused.



Arthur Miller's inspiration for *The Crucible*

- Miller's play uses the historical events of the Salem Witch Trials to criticize...
 - 1) the moments in humankind's history when reason and fact became clouded by irrational fears,
 - 2) the extreme behavior that can result from dark desires and hidden agendas, *and*
 - 3) the desire to place the blame for society's problems on others



The End

The Scarlet Letter

- ***The Scarlet Letter*** was written in 1850 by [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#).
- The story takes place in Boston between the years 1642 to 1649.
- It tells the story of [Hester Prynne](#), who had thought that her husband had died and has an affair with the town's minister, Arthur Dimmesdale.
- The brief affair produces a child, and because Hester will not publicly name the father of her child, she is forced to wear the letter "A" on her clothing at all times to repent for her sins.
- Hester's husband returns, but he changes his name so that he can find out the father of Pearl, Hester's daughter.
- Throughout the book, Hawthorne explores themes of sin, and guilt.