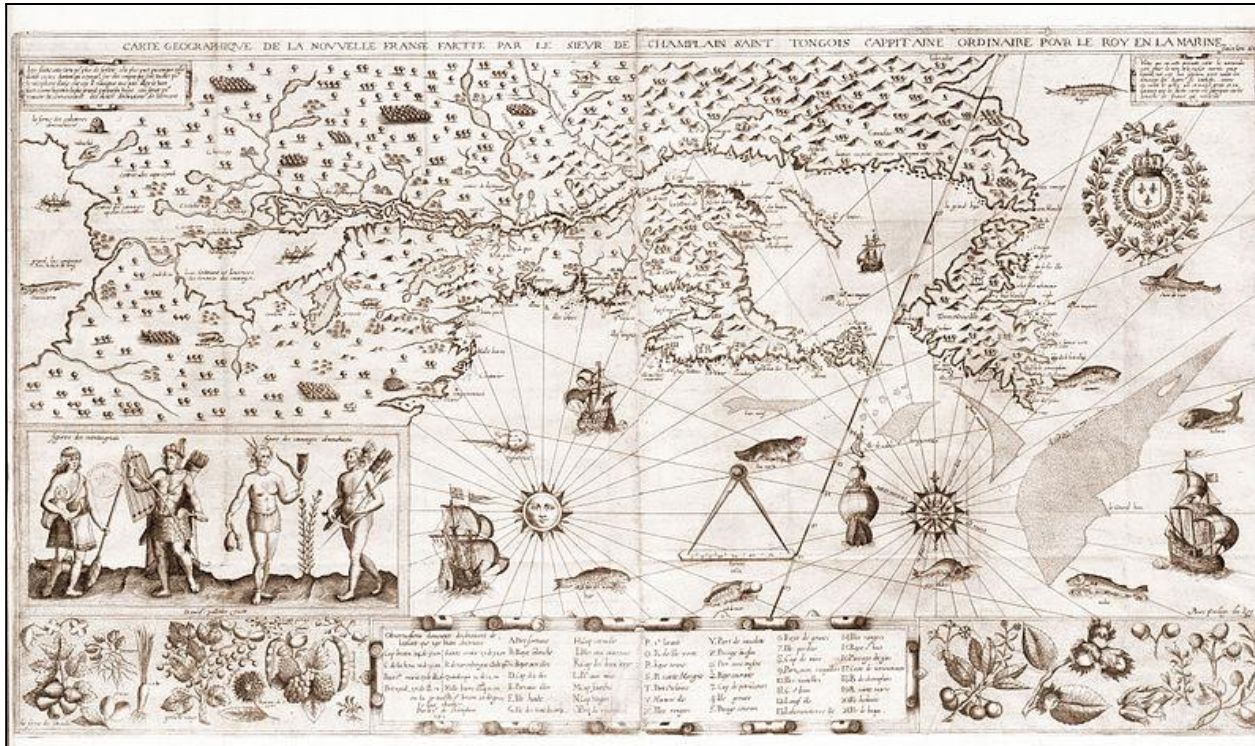




12: The Fur Trade

Document collection for period “Colonial society under French rule”.

To support an exploration of essential questions like: **Why are resources important?**



Map of New France (Champlain, 1612) Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Samuel_de_Champlain_Carte_geographique_de_la_Nouvelle_France.jpg

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.

>> OVERVIEW

Through an examination, comparison and analysis of the documents below, and the people, facts and stories around them, students will develop a response to the guiding questions

Why are resources important?

They will consider these questions in terms of life during the period of 1608-1760.

>> GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The documents below are collected to support basic learning intentions listed in various colours. These learning intentions are drawn directly from the “historical knowledge” and the specific “knowledge to be acquired” in the provincial program. These learning intentions are to be covered in one to three class periods including preparatory reading/viewing and follow up exercises. (i.e. a flipped approach could be used here where the teachers just uses these materials to prepare a content overview, video, Powerpoint, etc.)

A few sample learning strategies will be **suggested**. Occasionally learning strategies and discussion questions are also noted in the specific documents themselves.

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>> ACTIVITY Suggestion (s)

Competency 1: Characterizes a period

- Establish historical facts: Identify actors...; Identify actions...
- Establish a chronology: Establish a sequence of events
- Considers geographical features: Define territory limits... ; Define features of a territory

Competency 2: Interprets a social phenomenon

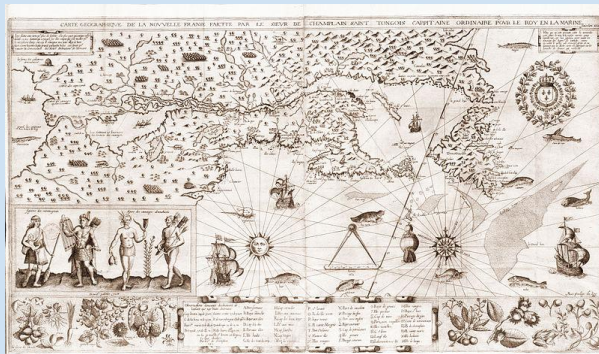
- Defines the object of interpretation: Considers aspects of society; Formulates tentative explanations
- Analyzes a social phenomenon: Identifies causes and consequences.

Intellectual Operations for evaluation:

- Determine causes and consequences
- Connections between facts.

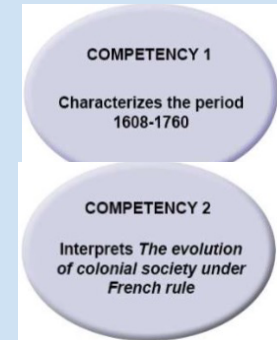
Process and activity suggestions:

Introduction activity suggestion:



Browse the largest version of this 1612 map of New France for “evidence” of the Fur Trade (or other types of commerce) in the early 1600s.

Visit: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Samuel_de_Champlain_Carte_geographique_de_la_Nouvelle_France.jpg



PART A

Competency 1: Characterizes a period

- Establish historical facts: Identify actors...; Identify actions...

Learning Intention:

Explain how the resource was exploited.

I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.

Read through the documents provided, and follow any links to confirm sources and contexts, primary vs. secondary sources, etc.

Create summary notes in the following three areas:

- Describe who was involved and how they were involved,
- Describe forms of transportation and how they were part of the fur trading process?
- Describe the method of exchange. i.e. the economic aspect, money vs. barter

Copy, add rows and expand the following table into a separate Google Document for students to use:

Reference: Document, site, image, etc (You can also paste small screen shot)	Notes for: Who was involved (groups, individuals, nations, etc.)	Notes for: Transportation (groups, individuals, nations, etc.)	Notes for: Method of exchange (groups, individuals, nations, etc.)
	- - -	- - -	- - -
	- - -	- - -	- - -
	- - -	- - -	- - -

PART B

Competency 1: Characterizes a period

- Considers geographical features: Define territory limits... ; Define features of a territory
- Establish a chronology: Establish a sequence of events

Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐
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Use a [Cartograf](#) map, to note territory scope and sequence of events in the process of the fur trade.

Create a map on Cartograf (or copy an existing map you can adapt)

Refer to the maps of early European trading territories and routes.

Task 1: Use available tools (lines and shapes) to designate territories used for trading up to around 1680, then again up to 1755.

Refer to image at

<http://cartograf.learnquebec.ca/dl3463?display&max=580>

Refer to document below entitled “**Europeans plugged into existing trade networks, 1600-1660**”

Refer also to the atlas animations at

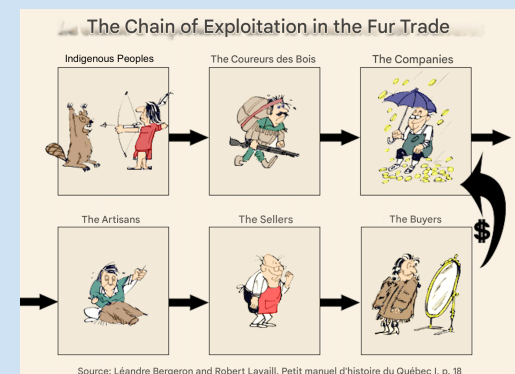
http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/atlas/themes.aspx?id=furtrade&sub=furtrade_basics_introduction&lang=En and

http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/atlas/themes.aspx?id=furtrade&sub=furtrade_french_1667-1685&lang=En

Task 2: Use available tools (point of interest markers, image uploader, descriptions) to place 5 to 10 images from the documents in this collection onto your Cartograf map. Use number icons for the markers to indicate the sequence of different elements in the fur trade chain.

An image of the fur trade chain could be used as a starting point.

(Copy this doc and expand or [download here](#))



PART C

Competency 2: Interprets a social phenomenon

- Defines the object of interpretation: Considers aspects of society; Formulates tentative explanations
- Analyzes a social phenomenon: Identifies causes and consequences.

Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	☐
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.	☐

Task suggestion 1:

View the various documents below that focus on the above two learning intentions.

Write a one page explanation of the causes and effects of the fur trade on the people, territory and economies involved.

Task suggestion 2:

View the various documents that focus on the above two learning intentions.



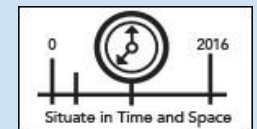
— Carte de la Nouvelle France, augmentée depuis la dernière, servant à la navigation faite en son vray meridien, 1632. Source

Zoom in and browse a largest version of Champlain's 1632 map of New France for "evidence" of the way the Fur Trade impacted on territory. (Mark up the PDF version using a tool like <https://xodo.com/app/> or another PDF editor.)

a-Visit http://www.historicalatlas.ca/website/hacolp/national_perspectives/exploration/unit_06/u06_staticmap_champlain_1632.htm for various versions.

b-Browse and download a detailed PDF of the 1632 version at <http://data2.archives.ca/e/e428/e010694118.pdf>

c-Present and explain your analyzed PDF of this map to your class.



>> DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING INDICATED LEARNING INTENTIONS:

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	☐
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.	☐

Review: A Commercial fur trade

“A commercial fur trade in North America grew out of the early contact between Indians and European fishermen who were netting cod on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland and on the Bay of Gaspé near Quebec. Indians would trade the pelts of small animals, such as mink, for knives and other iron-based products, or for textiles. Exchange at first was haphazard and it was only in the late sixteenth century, when the wearing of beaver hats became fashionable, that firms were established who dealt exclusively in furs. High quality pelts are available only where winters are severe, so the trade took place predominantly in the regions we now know as Canada, although some activity took place further south along the Mississippi River and in the Rocky Mountains. There was also a market in deer skins that predominated in the Appalachians. [...]

The fur trade was based on pelts destined either for the luxury clothing market or for the felting industries, of which hatting was the most important. This was a transatlantic trade. The animals were trapped and exchanged for goods in North America, and the pelts were transported to Europe for processing and final sale. As a result, forces operating on the demand side of the market in Europe and on the supply side in North America determined prices and volumes; while intermediaries, who linked the two geographically separated areas, determined how the trade was conducted.”

Economic History of the Fur Trade: 1670 to 1870

<https://eh.net/encyclopedia/the-economic-history-of-the-fur-trade-1670-to-1870/>



Source: <http://www.uppercanadahistory.ca/finna/finna1.html>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.	☐

New fashion: The Cavalier Hat required beaver skins !

“The Swedish army swept across Germany in the 1630s in a spectacular military campaign led by Gustavus Adolphus. The Scandinavian nation was thrust to the center of European affairs. Swedish officers wore wide-brimmed “cavalier” hats made of thick felt, manufactured from beaver fur, which was culled from the streams of Scandinavia and Russia. The hats were durable, shape-holding, and waterproof. They were also expensive, and thus status-affirming. The Swedish chapeau wasn't the first beaver headgear of history, but it ranks among the most influential. Many Europeans, including trend-setting royals, took a liking to the Swedish fashion. ... Demand for beaver hats rose in Europe in the 1600s. Hatmakers in London, Paris, Berlin, and a hundred other cities needed fresh sources of raw materials. They gazed longingly at North America, home of vast numbers of easily-catchable beaver...”

Source: <http://historyaccess.com/beavertradingand.html>

See also Beaver Hats and 17th Century English Society at:

<http://cwh.ucsc.edu/feinstein/Beaver%20Hats%20and%2017th%20Century%20English%20Society.html>



Source: Detail of Banquet of the officers of the Calivermen Civic Guard, Haarlem, 1627, by Frans Hals, showing Dutch militia officers wearing cavalier hats. Via https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Frans_Hals_-_detail_showing_Cavalier_hats.jpg



Charles I at the Hunt (or Le Roi à la chasse), Anthony van Dyck, c.1635 via https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_I_at_the_Hunt#/media/File:Charles_I_of_England_-_Van_Dyck.jpg

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐

Who was involved (overview of all the players):

"Before Europeans came to North America, trapping was an integral part of Aboriginal ways of life, providing food, clothing and shelter. The subsequent development of the fur trade, however, profoundly altered the economy. Trapping became an end in itself, to the point that extensive trapping put some species in jeopardy.

Source: <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/fur-trapping/>

"The chain of authority began with a French merchant who lived in France. He purchased and sold imported goods such... as furs. The *marchand-équipier*, or outfitter, living in [New France](#) He purchased the necessary equipment for travelling into the hinterland, hired the crew, imported trade goods, and enticed local merchants into investing in the enterprise.....The leader of the expedition was the *marchand-voyageur*, or travelling merchant, a licensed trader who did the actual buying and negotiating with the Native trappers. Next in line were the *engagés*, who worked as canoe paddlers, porters, and general labourers. Under the English regime, these men became known as *voyageurs*. At the end of the line were the most notorious and least understood players in the game, the *coureurs des bois* (known under the British regime as "freemen"), who purchased furs without a legal permit...."

Source and more texts at <http://www.historymuseum.ca/cmc/exhibitions/hist/canp1/ca12eng.shtml>

"On the other side of the contractual relationship were merchants based in Quebec, Trois-Rivières, and especially Montreal – the organizational and administrative hub of the fur trade. By the 1730s, Montreal merchants had become specialized in recruiting engagés, outfitting fur-trade expeditions, and overseeing the shipment of pelts to Quebec and thence across the Atlantic to France. The most prosperous merchants were French-born and benefited from personal and professional connections to insurers, creditors, and shipping merchants in Rouen, Bordeaux, and La Rochelle."

Source and more details at

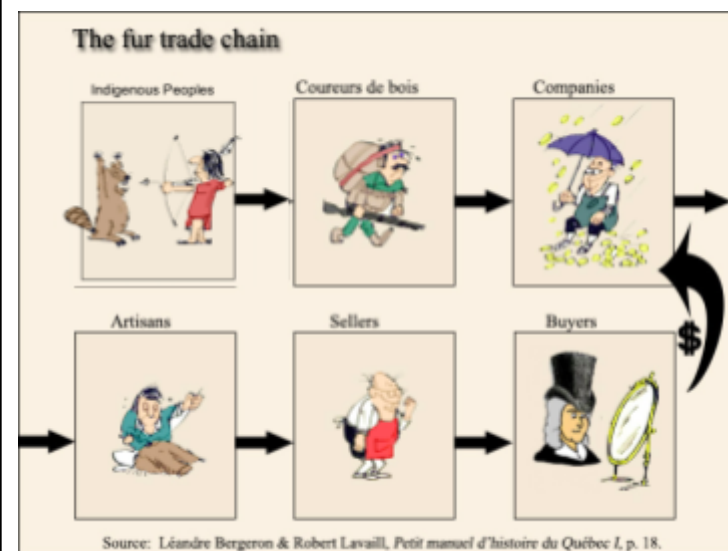
<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/>

"Felting a Beaver Hat The making of a beaver hat included three main stages of production; preparing the pelt, felting the fur, and shaping and dying the hat. This process involved a multi-step division of labor, the bulk of which was done by journeymen underneath the supervision of a master hatter. For example, in Rouen, France, 1752, 18 master hatters employed 100 journeymen, not counting the women who also participated in the manufacturing process.[1] Although there were hat making industries throughout Europe, the two prime regions for the production of beaver hats were France and England. After the severe depletion of the European beaver populations in the 16th century, the only remaining supply of beaver was located in the northern part of the North American continent."

Source: <http://cwh.ucsc.edu/feinstein/The%20process%20of%20felting%20a%20Beaver%20Hat.html>

See also The Beaver Fur Hat – The Fashion of Europe

<http://whiteoakhistoricalsociety.org/historical-library/fur-trade/the-beaver-fur-hat/>



Note: Source image from was [here](#) modified to include hat image for the buyers stage. The drawing of French aristocrat is by RECITUS.

See also View video at Beaver Pelt Trade Curriculum Services Canada
Curriculum Services Canada

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGoVlqcT6tM>

See also <http://jessicaphillips.ca/?projects=the-fur-trade>

See also

Beaver Pelt Trade <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGoVlqcT6tM>

In Europe: Beaver Hats and hatmakers!

"The depletion of European beaver stocks spurred the development of a European market for the fur of the North American beaver (*Castor canadensis*). Like its imperilled European cousin, the North American beaver had evolved in a harsh winter climate and consequently bore a thick coat that was ideal for feltmaking and hatmaking. This coat had two layers – an outer layer consisting of long, smooth, and stiff guard hairs, and an inner layer consisting of short, soft, and fluffy underfur. It was the underfur that captured the interest of European traders, as each of its strands was barbed and could therefore be linked with other strands to form a solid piece of felt. This could only be done, however, after the underfur had been separated from the guard hairs through one of two methods, both of which involved processing by Aboriginal peoples. The first method produced the so-called greasy beaver pelt, or *castor gras* – a pelt that had been sewn into a garment and worn in direct contact with an Aboriginal person's skin. After several months of continuous abrasion and exposure to human sweat, oils, and body heat, the guard hairs had loosened and fallen out of the pelt leaving only the underfur. The second method produced the so-called parchment beaver pelt, or *castor sec* – a pelt that had been sun-dried immediately after having been harvested. Removing the guard hairs from this type of pelt required specialized treatment from feltmakers in Europe."

Source:

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/>

Figure 6.6 The soft under-fur of the beaver — the felt — is what hat-makers in Europe sought. As small a change in style as an increase in brim diameter could send ripples through the whole fur trade"

Source: The Fur Trade in Global Perspective
<https://opentextbc.ca/preconfederation/chapter/6-8-the-fur-trade-in-global-perspective/> public domain at Wikipedia

Source and larger version for analysis at :
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fur_industry-hat-making,_Canadian_voyageurs._\(1858-.\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fur_industry-hat-making,_Canadian_voyageurs._(1858-.).jpg)

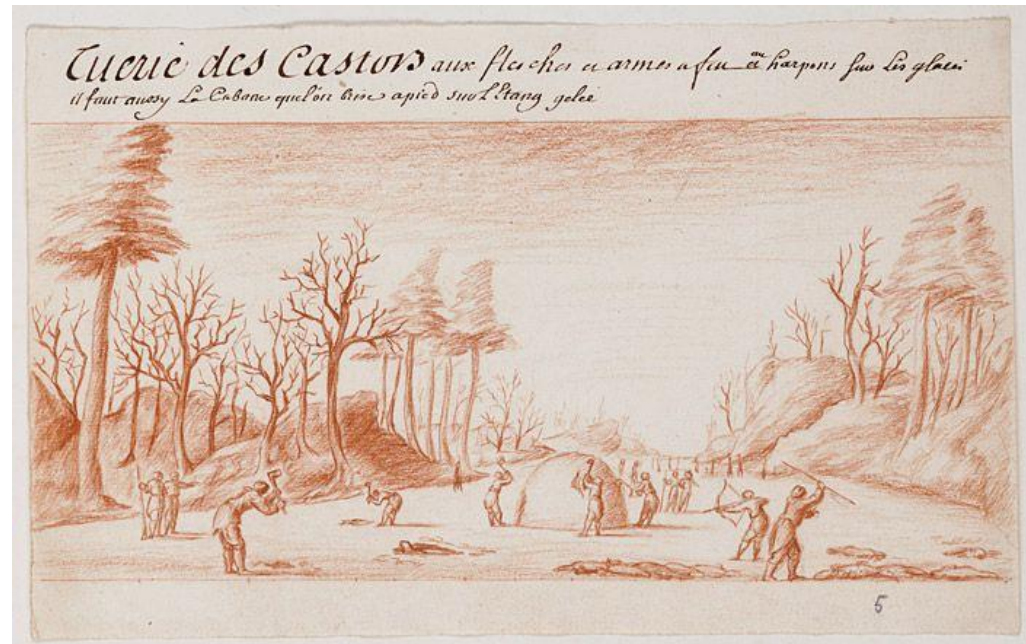
Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
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Indigenous peoples: the original trappers

Initially it was the various indigenous peoples of the area who hunted, transported and traded the furs with the Europeans: “Most critically, the fur trade drew the French into close and constant proximity to Aboriginal peoples. Lacking sufficient manpower and resources to conduct the trade alone, the French depended on Aboriginal peoples for the harvesting, processing, and transportation of furs, and also for their services as guides and intermediaries. Securing these services required the French to forge alliances with several First Nations, including the Montagnais, the Algonquins, and the Hurons in the first half of the seventeenth century, and the Saukteaux, the Potawatomis, and the Choctaws in the second. These alliances ensured that the French became deeply enmeshed in Aboriginal economies, societies, and politics, while simultaneously drawing Aboriginal peoples into a European sphere of influence.”

Source: Economic Activities: The Fur Trade at

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/>



Source (we think) is

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/colonies-and-empires/colonial-expansion-and-alliances/> but cannot find original page. Origins are unknown.

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐

Native Barter for goods

It was the Native people who provided the French with furs. They were the ones who hunted the animals. The native people bartered; in other words, they exchanged the furs for European products. Native people especially valued metal objects such as pots, knives and axes. They also liked European wool clothing because it offered more advantages than leather. Clothes made of wool protected from the cold better and dried faster after it rained.”

Source:

<http://blogdev.learnequebec.ca/societies/societies/new-france-around-1645/the-fur-trade/>

Author: Service national du Récit de l'univers social

Exchanged Items

“Canada's Aboriginal peoples exchanged furs against guns, gunpowder, liquor, tobacco, pots and pans, wool blankets and tools. They were also keen consumers of various European products such as clothes, flint lighters and sewing needles. The most highly prized fur was that of the beaver, used to make felt for hats, but the range of animal skins traded was wide. Each skin had a clearly established value measured in *plues* or made beaver. A *plue* - a prime adult beaver pelt - was actually used as a monetary standard.”

Source: McCord Thematic Tours -New France (1600-1763)

http://www.musee-mccord.qc.ca/scripts/explore.php?Lang=1&tableid=11&tablename=theme&elementid=66_true



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Fur_traders_in_canada_1777.jpg



Source: <http://www.musee-mccord.qc.ca/en/collection/artifacts/M10944>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐

Aboriginals Hunted Beaver

Marc Lescarbot (1570 – 1629), a historian who lived in early New France, wrote this description of how the First Nations trapped Beaver: “When they wish to catch the beaver, [the First Nations] break the ice of a frozen lake. Then one thrusts his arm into the hole, waiting for the beaver, while another goes out on the ice and beats it with a stick to frighten the beaver back to his lodging. Then one must be nimble to seize him by the neck.”

Beaver Pelts (HBC teacher resources) at

<http://www.hbcheritage.ca/teacher-resources/TG-HBC-Beaver-ENG.pdf>

Beaver now suddenly worth more!

"The Indians say that it is the animal most liked by the French, the English and the Basques, in sum, by all Europeans. One day, I heard an Indian say that beaver makes all things perfectly well, that it makes kettles, axes, swords, knives, bread, in brief, everything. He mocks Europeans who are passionate for the skin of this animal. My Indian host told me one day, showing me a very handy knife: the English do not think right; they give us 20 knives like this one for one beaver skin." (Jesuit Paul Le Jeune, in Jesuit Relations, vol 6: 296-98)

Source: <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/nwc/history/01.htm>



Source and larger image at

<http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/nwc/history/01.htm>

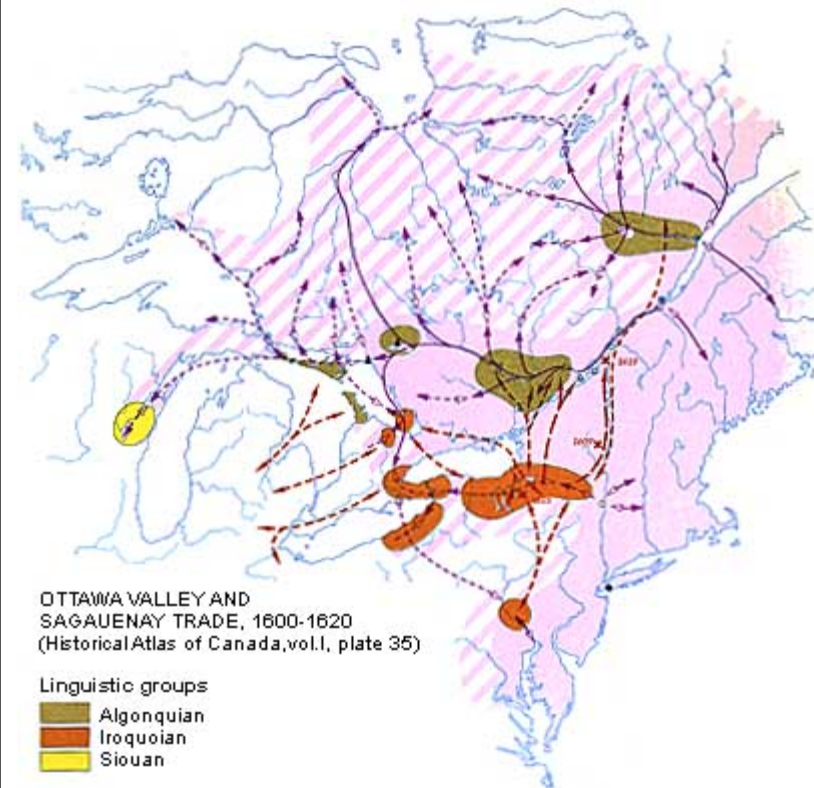
Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
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Europeans plugged into existing trade networks, 1600-1660

“By establishing settlements along the St. Lawrence River, the French inserted themselves into networks that conveyed trade goods – including pelts – over vast distances. At Tadoussac, they plugged into a network that stretched northwestward along the Saguenay River and through hundreds of kilometres of boreal forest to James Bay. At Quebec and Trois-Rivières, they plugged into networks that stretched westward to the Great Lakes and northwestward along the St. Maurice and Ottawa Rivers. Each of these outlets was situated in the territory of a particular Aboriginal group that controlled the flow of goods into and out of the St. Lawrence River – the Montagnais at Tadoussac, the Algonquians at Quebec, and the Atikamekw north of Trois-Rivières. As a rule, these groups traded only with close political and military allies. Thus, in order to gain access to the pelts that moved through the networks, the French were compelled to negotiate a series of strategic alliances with the Aboriginal peoples of the St. Lawrence River Valley.”

Source:

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/>



Source: <http://www.lowensteyn.com/iroquois/>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
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Companies worked together with missionary groups

“In 1627 Cardinal Richelieu, first minister of Louis XIII, organized the Compagnie des Cent-Associés to put French territorial claims and the missionary drive on a firmer footing. Missionaries were sent out: in 1615, four Récollets, and in 1625 the first members of the powerful Society of Jesus (Jesuits), arrived at Québec. A mission base, Ste Marie Among the Hurons, was established among the Huron near Georgian Bay, but the Huron were more interested in the trade goods of the French than in their religion. And it was fur-trade profits that sustained the missionaries and allowed the company to send hundreds of settlers to the colony. In 1642 Ville-Marie [Montréal] was founded as a mission centre. In 1645 the company ceded control of the fur trade and the colony's administration to the colonists. (see Communauté des habitants). Unfortunately, they proved to be inept administrators, and fur-trade returns fluctuated wildly. Finally, after a desperate appeal by the colonial authorities to Louis XIV, in 1663 the Crown took over the colony.

Source:

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/en/article/fur-trade/>



Source: Library and Archives Canada / C-028332 via “The Catholic religion” by RECITUS via LEARN at <http://blogdev.learnquebec.ca/societies/societies/new-france-around-1645/the-catholic-religion/>

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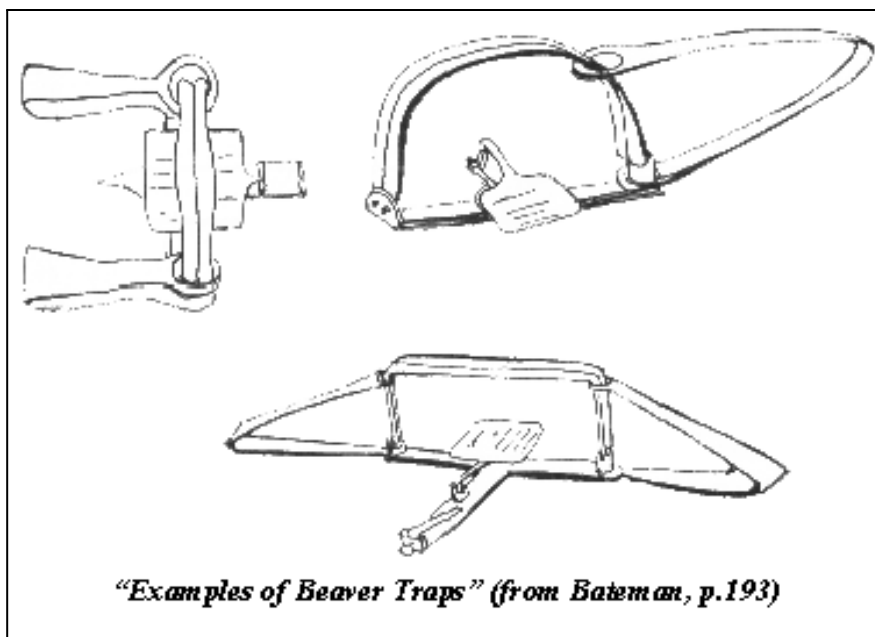
Coueurs des bois

Many of the fur traders in New France had no intention of settling. Some of the colonists found it too hard to settle and clear the land and plant crops. They left the colony and headed west to trade for furs. They were called "coueurs des bois". These "runners of the woods" came to know the Native people, especially the Wendat (Huron) and the Algonquin. They learned Aboriginal ways of hunting, trapping and canoeing, as well as how to use plants as medicine. Often the French coureurs de bois married Aboriginal women and had families. The children of these matches became known as Métis.

Source: <https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/settlement/kids/021013-2051.4-e.html>

Coureurs des bois were itinerant, unlicensed fur traders of New France known as "wood-runners" to the English on Hudson Bay and "bush-lopers" to the Anglo-Dutch of Albany (NY). Few French colonists had ventured west of the Ottawa River until the mid-1660s, when a sudden drop in the price of beaver, the arrival of some 3000 indentured servants and soldiers, and peace with the Iroquois made the change both necessary and feasible. By 1680, despite repeated prohibitions from both the church and colonial authorities, some 500 coureurs des bois were in the Lake Superior country attempting to outdistance the Aboriginal middlemen. As a result, fewer Aboriginals brought furs to trade at Montréal and Trois-Rivières, inducing colonial merchants to hire some coureurs des bois in order to remain in business.

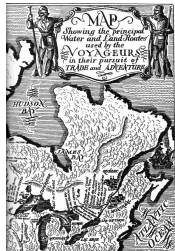
Source: Coureurs des bois <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/coureurs-de-bois/>



Source: <https://www.lib.umn.edu/bell/tradeproducts/beaver>

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The Voyageurs



“Unlike the HBC with its monolithic structure staffed by paid servants, in New France the trade was carried on into the early 18th century by scores of small partnerships. As costs rose with distance, the trade came to be controlled by a small number of bourgeois, who hired hundreds of wage-earning voyageurs. Most

companies consisted of three or four men who obtained from the authorities the lease on the trade at a specific post for three years; all members shared profits or losses proportional to the capital subscribed. Trade goods were usually obtained on credit, at 30 per cent interest, from a small number of Montréal merchants who also marketed the furs through their agents in France. The voyageurs' wages varied from 200 to 500 livres if they wintered in the West. For those who paddled the canoes westward in the spring and returned with the autumn convoy, the usual wage was 100-200 livres plus their keep (about double what a labourer or artisan would earn in the colony).”

Source: Fur Trade www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/fur-trade/



Section of larger poster map found at:
http://msquesnel.blogspot.ca/2011_02_01_archive.html
 Source/author of image unknown

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
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Trading Licensed Voyageurs vs Coureur des bois

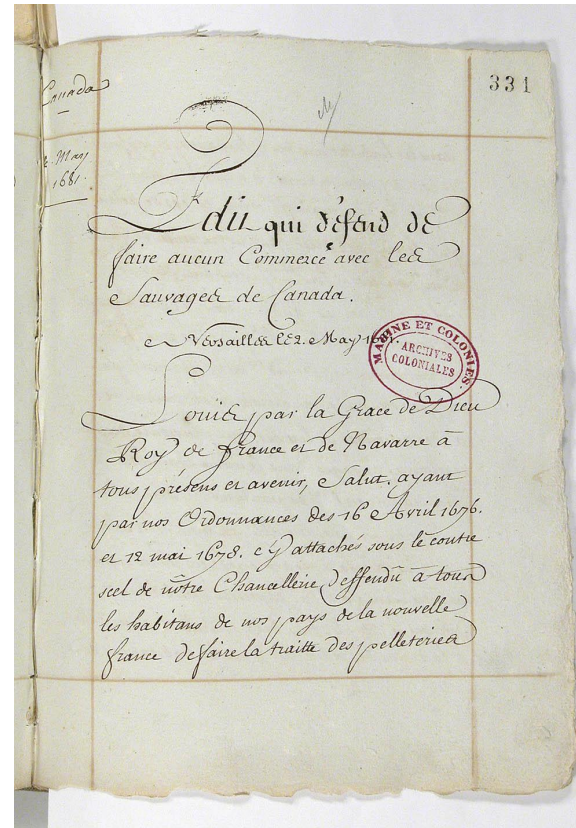
Licensing was eventually introduced by the authorities to control the seasonal exodus into the hinterland. Thus professional, "respectable" voyageurs, usually associated with particular interior posts, came into being. Renegade traders persisted, becoming the primary bearers of the designation "coureur des bois" after the emergence of New Orleans as an alternative focus of the trade in the 18th century. The independent coureurs des bois played an important role in the European exploration of the continent and in establishing trading contacts with the Indians.

Source: Coureurs des bois

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/coureurs-de-bois/>

The **voyageurs** were French Canadian indentured servants who engaged in the transporting of furs by canoe during the fur trade years. *Voyageur* is a French word, meaning "traveler". ... Being a voyageur also included being a part of a licensed, organized effort, one of the distinctions that set them apart from the *coureurs des bois*. Additionally, they were set apart from engagés, who were much smaller merchants and general laborers.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voyageurs>



Source: Photo of the Edict that the King Louis XIV passed limiting who could participate in the fur trade from

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voyageurs#/media/File:Edict_of_King_making_selling_fur_illegal.jpg

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐

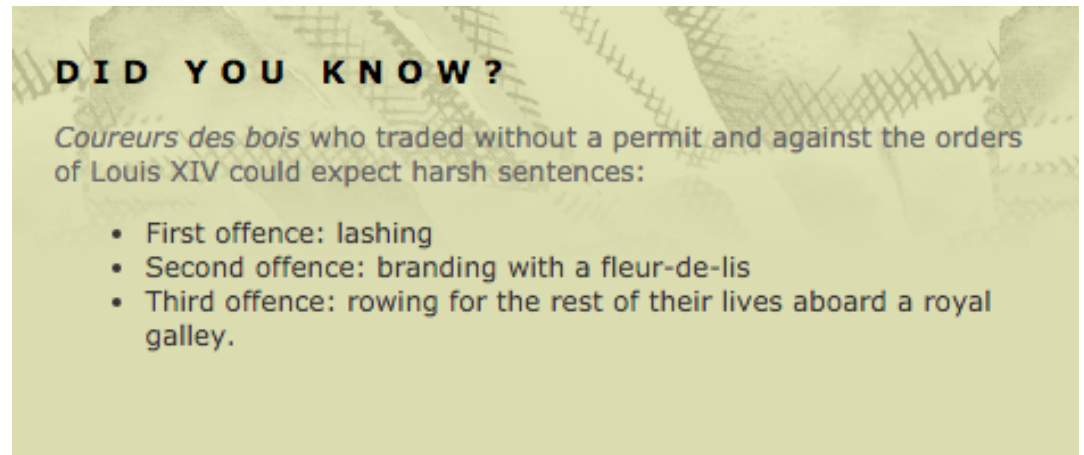
From hero to outlaw

The *congé* system of permissions enabled the authorities to control the fur trade. It created two groups of individuals: those with a permit, who would soon be dubbed "[Voyageurs](#)", and the *Coueurs des bois*, seen as criminals. In 1681, Louis XIV offered amnesty to all *Coueurs des bois* to encourage them to return to the colony. From that point, only 25 *congés* per year were approved. Life in the woods continued to attract many men, causing problems for the colony. Governors and stewards claimed this life led to moral corruption, debauchery and an independent spirit!

At the end of the 17th century, a surplus of furs led King Louis XIV to put an end to the *congé* system. In 1696, he outlawed the trade of *coureur des bois*. The king restricted fur trading to posts along the [Saint-Lawrence River](#). The first generation of *Coureur des bois* was over.

Source:

<http://www.rendezvousvoyageurs.ca/en/world/context/fromcoureur.html>



Screenshot from source: <http://www.rendezvousvoyageurs.ca/en/world/context/fromcoureur.html>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain how the resource was exploited.	I can explain how the process of the exploiting fur occurred, including the different roles of people involved, transportation, and method of exchange.	☐

Alcohol

The coureurs des bois (French traders) gave alcohol to the Indians in exchange for their furs. Alcohol was one of the most important commodities in the fur trade - and it had devastating effects on native people. (As portrayed in Canada: A People's History) Alcohol was one of the most important commodities in the fur trade - and it had devastating effects on native people. (As portrayed in Canada: A People's History) Alcohol increased their profits. The colony was divided into two camps: those who supported the trade in alcohol with the Indians and those who denounced it as dishonourable. Alcohol had a devastating effect on those who believed in illusions and spirits. François de Laval, Bishop of Quebec, described the effects in his Pastoral Letter of February 24, 1662:

"The village or the cabin where savages drink spirits is an image of hell: fire is flickering about on all sides: they hack away with axes and knives, spilling blood everywhere; everywhere are heard dreadful yells and howling. They are at each others' throats, they rip each others' ears off. The father and mother throw their little children onto hot coals or into boiling caldrons."

Read more and clip reference at source:

<http://www.cbc.ca/history/EPCONTENTSE1EP3CH1PA2LE.html>

See also Effects of the Fur Trade

www.canadahistoryproject.ca/1500/1500-13-effects-fur-trade.html



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Fur_traders_in_canada_1777.jpg

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	

Interpreters, Traders and Missionaries... pushing west.

"In 1608 Samuel de Champlain, considered the founder of New France, erected a habitation (building) at Québec. He continued Cartier's dream of finding an opening to the Indies, pursued the commercial interests of businessmen in France, his sponsors, and followed the king's wishes. The settlement responded to economic demands: go out to the fur-rich areas, forge close contact with suppliers and try to obtain the right of exploitation."

Source: www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/new-france/

"Étienne Brûlé 1615-1621 played an essential role in the first documented journeys of exploration in New France by going ahead of Samuel de Champlain, Gabriel Sagard, Jean Nicolet, Nicolas Perrot and others of their ilk along the route to the Great Lakes. He appears to have been the first European to set eyes on the Ottawa Valley, Georgian Bay, Pennsylvania and four of the Great Lakes, and to give at least an oral description of them."

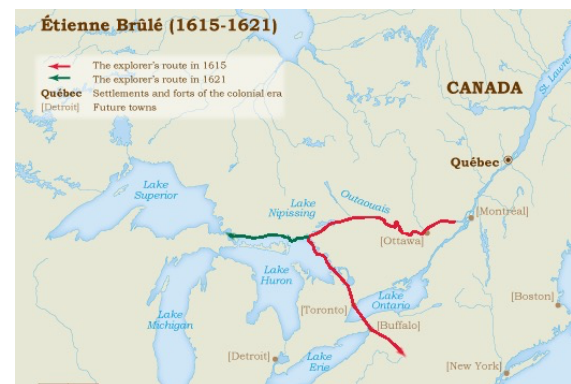
Source:

www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/the-explorers/etienne-brule-1615-1621/

Jean Nicollet 1634 " was sent to winter with the Algonquins" of Allumette Island. It was at this strategic location on the Ottawa River that Nicollet was introduced to the language of his hosts and to the miseries of life in the forest. He also acted as a peacemaker: "he accompanied four hundred Algonquins at that time on a mission to make peace with the Huron, which came to a happy end." Peace having been assured between the two great nations, Nicollet Nicollet "went to live for eight or nine years with the nation of the Nipissirians (Nipissing)" on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay.....Accompanied by seven guides, Nicollet departed from Huronia, moving southeast on the French River, which empties into Lake Huron. He then skirted the north shore of this lake to Sault Sainte-Marie, which took him into Lake Superior where he found what he was looking for: the Winnebago."

Source:

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/the-explorers/jean-nicollet-1634/>



Source: Screenshot from animation available at

<http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/the-explorers/etienne-brule-1615-1621/>



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Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	

New “settlements” growing in Quebec

“Ville-Marie, Catholic utopian colony founded on 17 May 1642 on Île de Montréal by the Société Notre-Dame de Montréal, under the governorship of Paul de Chomeday de **MAISONNEUVE**, to bring Christianity to the native people; but located in a key region for the development of agriculture and the **FUR TRADE**. Assisted by recruits sent in 1653 and again in 1659, the little colony sank its roots and withstood Iroquois incursions. In 1663 it was taken over by the Seminary of St Sulpice in Paris, which already supplied its priests. The settlers, from the first preoccupied with the fur trade, lived to see the Roman Catholic ideal of Ville-Marie fade before the realization of a commercial **MONTREAL**.”

Source: <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/ville-marie-colony/>

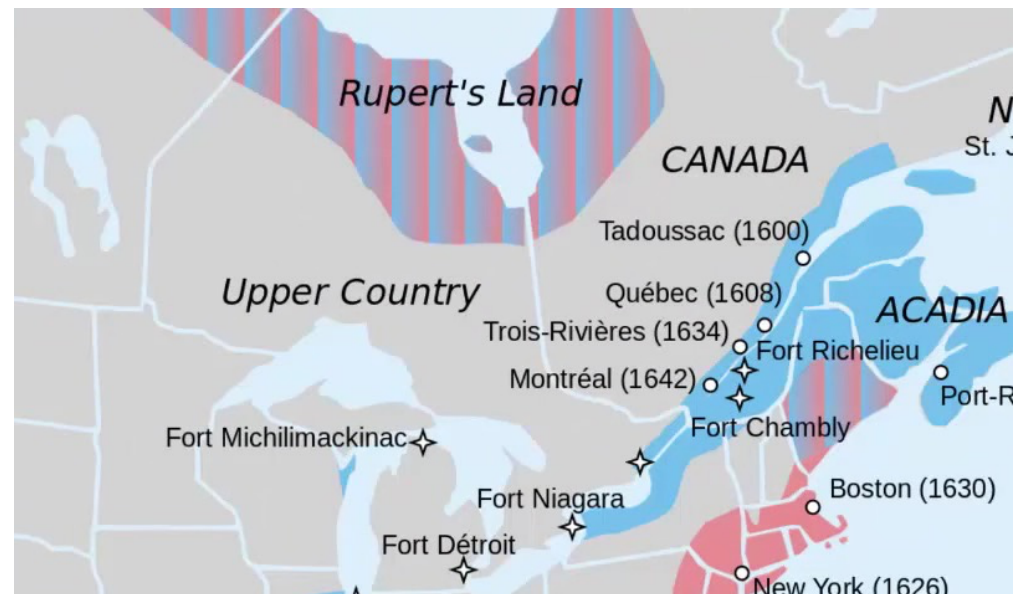
"Between 1615 and 1649, the Hurons hauled French trade goods into the western interior and sent flotillas laden with furs downriver to Quebec and later to Trois-Rivières. These two settlements were subsequently eclipsed by Montreal as the destination for Aboriginal trade flotillas. Although founded as a religious enterprise in 1642, Montreal quickly emerged as the centre of New France's fur trade because of its strategic location at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers. Every summer in the 1650s and 60s, the settlement held a trade fair that drew large convoys of Aboriginal intermediaries bearing pelts to exchange for knives, kettles, blankets, and other French goods."

Source: "Logistics and organization of the trade at www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/

See also

Early French settlements (1605 to 1691)

www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/98-187-x/4064812-eng.htm



New “settlements” after trade areas expanding west

“The work of carrying the French trade into the pays d’en haut was undertaken by independent pedlars known as coureurs de bois – literally “runners of the woods”. Outfitted for the most part by Montreal merchants, the coureurs de bois transported French goods into the interior by birchbark canoe and traded directly with Aboriginal fur suppliers in villages, camps, and hunting grounds. Their range of travel expanded rapidly, taking in Lakes Ontario, Michigan, and Huron as well as the Upper Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois River Valleys by the mid 1670s and thus drawing far-flung Aboriginal groups into the French commercial orbit.”

Source: "Logistics and organization of the trade at
www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/

From chaos to structure: the expansion and reorganization of the fur trade, 1715-1760

"The fate of the coureurs de bois was determined less by royal decree than by the dictates of economics. Already by the 1690s, traders had felt the need for additional capital as they expanded their operations over greater distances. Some had even begun working as wage-earning canoemen – or engagés – for merchants based in the St. Lawrence River Valley settlements. This type of salaried employment became increasingly common after 1715," [...]“After the spring thaw, they assembled in brigades at Lachine – above the treacherous rapids between the island of Montreal and the south shore – and boarded canoes laden with hundreds of kilograms of merchandise. Those aboard the spacious canots de maître transported goods and supplies to the posts of Detroit (at the narrows between Lakes Erie and St. Clair) and Michilimackinac (at the junction of Lakes Huron and Michigan), and carried furs from these posts back to Lachine in the late summer or autumn.”

Source: From chaos to structure: the expansion and reorganization of the fur trade, 1715-1760 at
www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/economic-activities/fur-trade/

A map of eastern North America titled 'Les explorations de René Robert Cavalier de La Salle'. It shows the coastline from Baie D'Hudson down to the Gulf of Mexico. A green line indicates the route of explorations from 1679 to 1682, starting at Quebec, passing through Montreal, Detroit, and ending at Nouvelle-Orléans. A legend box labeled 'Légende' states 'Explorations de 1679 à 1682'. There is also a small portrait of René Robert Cavalier de La Salle in the top right corner.

Source: René-Robert Cavalier de La Salle. RECITUS map via
<http://blogdev.learnquebec.ca/societies/societies/new-france-around-1745/rene-robert-cavelier-de-la-salle/>

A detailed map titled 'Fur Trade Routes, 1755' showing the extensive network of trade routes across the Great Lakes and Mississippi River regions. Red arrows indicate British trade flows, primarily along the coast and into the Great Lakes. Green arrows indicate French trade flows, which branch out deep into the interior, reaching the Mississippi River and beyond. Various forts are marked with dots and labeled, such as Ft. Frontenac, Ft. Michilicott, Ft. Ste. Joseph, and Ft. de la Rivière. An inset map shows the location of Ft. Ste. Joseph relative to other nearby forts.

Original source <https://wmich.edu/fortstjoseph/docs/fur-trade2012.pdf> (also available at
<https://timetravelfieldtrips.com/from-revulsion-to-excitement/>)

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	

Closer alliances with Huron (Wendat) meant access to territory

"The Wendat had close trading, political and social relations with the Petun, Neutral, Odawa (Ottawa), Nipissing and the Algonquin nations of Georgian Bay and the Ottawa Valley. With these nations they exchanged surplus corn, beans and cord made of "Indian hemp" (*Apocynum cannabinum*), for tobacco and exotic items like native copper, catlinite, seashells and wampum. In 1609 they joined the military/trading alliance that the Innu (then known as the Montagnais) and Algonquin had forged with the French by participating in a raid against the Mohawk, a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy."

Source: www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/huron/

"Accepting missionaries and French trade was bound up in consolidating commercial primacy and acquiring European goods with the continuance and expansion of gift-giving diplomacy and influence; conversion was motivated by a desire to keep kin together in the afterlife or to gain better access to French weaponry."

Source:

<https://opentextbc.ca/preconfederation/chapter/5-6-belief-and-culture-the-wendat-experience/>

See also Bruce Trigger text in "Huron-Wendat: The Heritage of the Circle By Georges F. Sioui" at

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=XQEsfXMXKwC&pg=PA167&lpg=PA167&dq=wendat+gift+giving+french&source=bl&ots=aNiGqQAr3t&sig=M5qjF7UZIoDv2cKrcKcNiN9Qdg4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwif-M-T29LMahVKIZAKHV90AIYQ6AEIHjAB#v=onepage&q=wendat%20gift%20giving%20french&f=false>

And for discussion ideas Episode 2: Adventurers and Mystics
www.cbc.ca/history/LESSONSSE4EP2CH2PA1LE.html

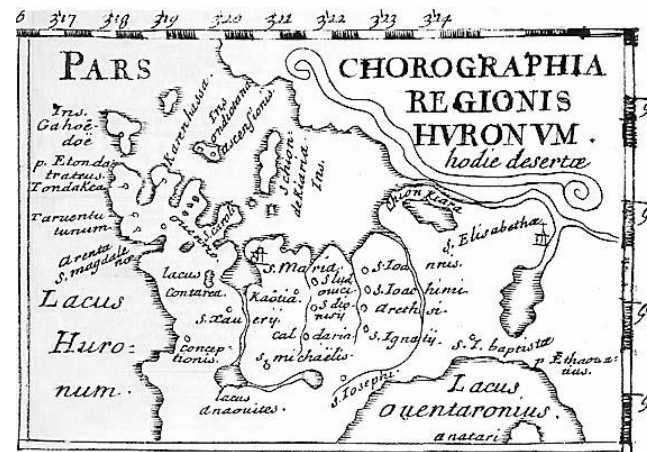


Figure 5.9 A ca. 1660 map of Wendake (Huronion), now dotted with missions and Christian place names. From the *Historia Canadensis*. Source:

<https://opentextbc.ca/preconfederation/chapter/5-6-belief-and-culture-the-wendat-experience/>



Etienne Brule visited both Algonquin tribes and Huron ones.

Image source: <http://www.ontarioparks.com/parksblog/remembering-french-explorer-etienne-brule/>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.	☐

The Fur Trade was part of a system that

... sent raw materials to Europe so they could gain wealth by selling manufactured goods

"During the European Age of Exploration, the nations of Europe adopted a new economic policy called mercantilism. The theory of mercantilism (shown above) held that a country's power depended mainly on its wealth. Wealth, after all, allowed nations to build strong navies and purchase vital goods. As a result, the goal of every nation became the attainment of as much wealth as possible.

According to the theory of mercantilism, a nation could increase its wealth and power in two ways. First, it could obtain as much gold and silver as possible. Second, it could establish a favorable balance of trade, in which it sold more goods than it bought. A nation's ultimate goal under mercantilism was to become self-sufficient, not dependent on other countries for goods.

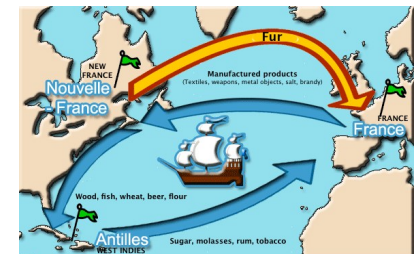
Mercantilism went hand in hand with colonization, for colonies played a vital role in this new economic practice. Aside from providing silver and gold, colonies provided raw materials that could not be found in the home country, such as wood or furs. In addition to playing the role of the supplier, the colonies also provided a market. The home country could sell its goods to its colonies."

Source: <https://sites.google.com/site/economicsandageofexploration/d-mercantilism>

Wealth = lots and lots of gold!

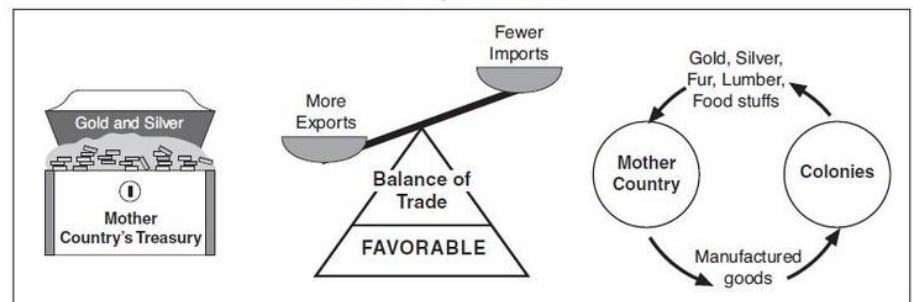


Colony's role... sends raw materials to mother country
Mother country's role: manufactures goods and sends back to colonies.



See also Document package:
[1608-1760 # 10: Colonial society under French rule: A turning point? First Settlements, Mercantilism and Champlain](#)

A European View



Source: <https://sites.google.com/site/economicsandageofexploration/d-mercantilism>

Learning Intentions	Success Criteria	
Explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory.	I can explain the consequences of the fur trade on the territory claimed by the French.	☐
Describe the policy of Mercantilism	I can describe the policy of Mercantilism by defining the role of colonies and the differences between a settlement colony and a trading colony.	☐

The Fur Trade part of process that ...encouraged the growth of both trading posts and later settlement colonies

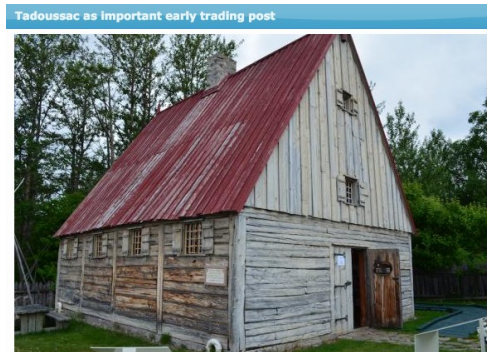
Generally there were two types of colonies.

Trading colonies were small, basically just a trading post. Here only a small number of people would inhabit the post, and often for a relatively short time. Once profits were made many people would return to the mother country. There were many such French trading posts, far into the interior of what is now Canada and even south to the United States.

Settlement colonies had larger populations. And people who moved there did so to stay there, and not to return to their mother country. Some would be farmers, others artisans, merchants and later soldiers. And of course many would be involved in the fur trade.

Both types of colonies participated in the mercantilist system, whereby the local economy still primarily functioned by sending raw materials back to Europe.

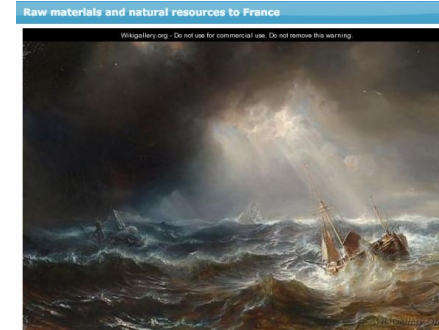
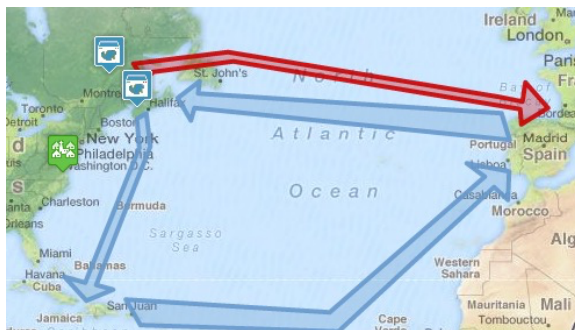
For more information and to map out settlement colonies, try the Cartograf scenario "Mercantilism, Triangular trade and Key Players" at <http://cartograf.learnquebec.ca/PublicMercantilism>



Tadoussac as important early trading post



Port Royal



Raw materials and natural resources to France

For sources see "Mercantilism, Triangular trade and Key Players" at <http://cartograf.learnquebec.ca/PublicMercantilism>

