

Elizabeth section 3 – Elizabethan society and exploration

Key Dates	
1542	Vagabonds Act – really harsh laws against vagrancy
1576	Poor Relief Act – aimed to pick out the differences between the deserving poor and sturdy beggars
1577-1580	Drake circumnavigated the globe
1581	Drake knighted on the deck of the Golden Hind
1585	First colony in Virginia – they returned a year later
1587	Second attempt to colonise Roanoke – the ‘lost colony’

Key people/places	
Grammar schools	Private schools for boys
Dame schools	Schools for girls – not many went
Francis Drake	Circumnavigated the globe
Nova Albion	The place in America Drake claimed for Elizabeth
Walter Raleigh	Organised the Virginia Project
Richard Grenville	Commander of the first Virginia settlement
Roanoke	The lost colony of the second Virginia voyage



Key terms and ideas	
Education	For the rich – children of nobles would usually be tutored at home eg. Latin, Greek, History, Philosophy, horse riding
	For the quite rich – Grammar schools – over 70 were set up during this period – they were private schools for boys only
	For girls – lots did not go to school, if they did it was to a Dame School
	For the poor – there was no formal education – the majority were farmers. By the end of Elizabeth’s reign only 30% of boys and less than 10% of girls could read or write
Entertainment	Discipline – exclusion, being kept in at break time, on report, corporal punishment eg caning
	For the rich – hunting, fencing, real tennis, fishing
	For the poor – football – without rules! Leisure activities to watch – bear baiting, cock fighting , going to the theatre eg. The Red Lion or the Rose Theatre
Poverty	Population increases and inflation – prices rose when harvests were bad, wages grew slower than prices
	Sheep farming – sheep farming could make a lot of money so more people started to do it...but it meant there were fewer farmers needed and lots of crops were given only to the sheep
	Enclosure – open fields were replaced by individual fields – lots of people could not afford their own land
	Who were vagabonds? The ‘ deserving poor ’ were given help, the ‘ able bodied ’ poor were seen as vagabonds and treated harshly The treatment of vagabonds – the Vagabonds Act treated vagabonds extremely harshly eg whipped, sent to prison, executed. The Act for the Relief of the Poor helped the able bodied poor to find work
Exploration	Drake circumnavigated the globe 1577-1580- he set sailed with 5 ships and 164 sailors. He returned with one ship, 55 men but about £140,000
	Why did people explore? New technology eg. the astrolabe . New maps eg. the Mercator map . Opportunity to get rich quick and have an adventure . New ships, galleons - larger, faster and more manoeuvrable
Virginia	Why go? To have a base to attack Spain , to start an Empire , to increase trade (economic benefits)
	The first colony attempt had just 107 colonists on 5 ships
	Why did they fail ? Disease, left too late to plant crops, poor relations with Native Americans , the wrong colonists were selected, food supplies did not survive the journey, inexperience