

Title of Lesson: *La Mobile: A Case Study of Exploration and Settlement*
(Suggested grade level: 10)

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Background Information:

- The *Encyclopedia of Alabama* provides a brief overview of [Mobile](#), [Bienville](#), and [d'Iberville](#).
- You may want to read pages 24-28 of *Alabama: The History of a Deep South State* for extensive information regarding Mobile and the LeMoyne brothers. (See bibliographic information below.)

Rogers, William W., Robert D. Ward, Leah Rawls Atkins, and Wayne Flynt. *Alabama: The History of a Deep South State*. 1st edition. Tuscaloosa, AL: The University of Alabama Press, 1994. 24-28.

Overview of Lesson: This lesson will provide insight into the settlement and exploration of the French colonial settlement of La Mobile and why it was moved farther south down the river. It will provide background on Bienville and d'Iberville and the roles they played in establishing settlements along the Gulf Coast. This lesson will also look at the geography of Alabama and analyze maps as primary sources.

Content Standards

[Alabama Course of Study: Social Studies](#) (Bulletin 2004, No. 18)

Tenth Grade: Standard 1, p. 70

[Social Studies Item Specifications for the Alabama High School Graduation Exam](#)

(Bulletin 2000, No. 49)

Standard I-The students will understand the global influence of the pre-colonial and colonial eras of the Western Hemisphere.

- Identify and evaluate America's exploration, development, and divergence.
 - Economic
 - Political
 - Social
 - Cultural
 - Geographic

National Standards for History, 1996

Era 1: Three Worlds Meet (Beginnings to 1620) p. 79

Standard 2A: The student understands the stages of European oceanic and overland exploration, amid international rivalries, from the 9th to 17th centuries.

Primary Learning Objective(s):

- The student will identify early French settlements around Mobile Bay and will examine the exploration of the area.
- The student will compare and contrast the roles of Bienville and d'Iberville in Gulf Coast settlement.
- The student will analyze early maps to understand both exploration and the reasons for the location of early Alabama settlements.

Additional Learning Objective(s):

- The student will be able to conceptualize and design a colonial settlement.

Time allotted: 50 minutes

Materials and Equipment:

- *La Mobile: A Case Study of Exploration and Settlement* PowerPoint
- Outline map of the Gulf Region (attached to lesson)
- Blank map of Alabama with River Systems labeled - <http://www.aces.edu/dept/fisheries/natural-resources/documents/rivers.pdf>
- Short biographies of Bienville and d'Iberville from Penicaut, Andre. "Annals of Louisiana 1698 to 1722." *The Alabama Historical Quarterly* 5, No. 3 (1943): 261-355. Print. Found at Alabama Department of Archives and History, <http://216.226.178.196/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/quarterly&CISOPTR=503&REC=16> (attached to lesson)
- Synopsis of Andre Penicaut's Journal (attached to lesson)
- Student-provided poster paper for assignment

Technology Resources Needed:

- Computer
- Projector screen
- LCD projector

Background/Preparation:

- The students and the teacher should be familiar with Spanish, French, and British exploration and the settlement of the North American continent.

Procedures/Activities:**Engagement/Motivation Activity:**

Ask students, "If you could move anywhere, where would you go?" Allow 2-3 minutes for reflection and then share. Students will probably not say they would want to go somewhere that had never been explored. Thus, conversation should be directed at "why not" and "would they be interested in exploration of an unknown area." Connection should be then made to early exploration of Gulf Coast.

Step 1	Have students draw a graphic organizer with two columns labeled “d’Iberville” and “Bienville” on their own paper. Give each student a copy of the short biographies of Bienville and d’Iberville (attached) or have them read the article “ Le Moyne Brothers ” from the <i>Encyclopedia of Alabama</i> . Show slides one through three on the <i>PowerPoint</i> as students record information about each man in their graphic organizers. Show slide four; have students write answers on the back of their graphic organizers. Lead a classroom discussion of answers.
Step 2	Show map on slide five. Show map drawn in 1700 (roughly one year after landing on Massacre Island) by d’Iberville. Ask the questions noted on <i>PowerPoint</i> leading students to understand that Europeans believed that the North American continent was much smaller than it actually is and to understand that the lack of map detail shows lack of exploration.
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give each student an outline map of Gulf Region and a copy of Synopsis of Andre Penicaut’s Journal (attached). • Show <i>PowerPoint</i> slides six and seven and discuss. • The students will trace the journeys of d’Iberville and Bienville by labeling and dating each location mentioned on the <i>PowerPoint</i>. • Have students discuss why Mobile was moved. • Emphasize the role of rivers in the location of early colonial settlements. (The map showing the river systems of Alabama may be utilized at this point.) • Emphasize the role disease played in necessitating relocation of early colonial settlements. • Culminate by asking the question, “Who was more important in the successful settlement of La Mobile: Bienville or d’Iberville?”
Step 4	Show slide eight. Ask the questions in teacher notes.
Step 5	Show slide nine. Share teacher notes with students.
Step 6	Show slide ten. Lead class discussion based on the questions.
Step 7	Show slides eleven and twelve which gives the assignment. This is a project assignment. The amount of time allowed for completion depends on the student population. (Rubric attached.)

Assessment Strategies:

- Formative Assessment: (Students will respond to the questions below.)

Who explored the Gulf Coast region? Who founded Mobile? Why was Mobile moved towards the coast? What are the two phases of creating a new colony as demonstrated by Bienville and d’Iberville?

- Summative Assessment: Students will complete the attached assignment and present it to the class.

Accommodation/Modification:

- Provide a hard copy of the *PowerPoint*.
- Allow peer interaction as needed.
- Review Individualized Education Plans, Gifted Plans, 504 Plans, ELL Plans for instructional and assessment accommodations or modifications.
- Identify appropriate objectives specific to individual student needs as indicated by Individualized Education Plans, Gifted Plans, 504 Plans, ELL Plans.
- Students may work with a partner to complete the assignment.

The LeMoyne Brothers



PIERRE LeMOYNE, SIEUR de IBERVILLE, a French Canadian explorer, the first Governor of the Province of Louisiana, was born July 16, 1661 and died in 1706. He joined the French Navy at the age of fourteen and was regarded as the most skillful officer in that navy; was entrusted with the project of establishing trade between France and Mississippi; reached Mobile Bay January 31, 1699, anchoring near Dauphin Island; established a colony at Fort Biloxi and later entered the Mississippi River. He made frequent trips to France, bringing additional soldiers, workmen and supplies and died at sea from yellow fever which he had contracted at Havana, Cuba, but was survived by a wife and children in Paris.



JEAN BAPTISTE LeMOYNE, SIEUR de BIENVILLE, explorer and colonist, was born February 23, 1680, at the family home in Montreal, Canada, and died March 7, 1768, in France. He was the younger brother of Iberville and came with him to Mobile as a mid-shipman in his command, having served previously both in the Army and Navy. After the death of Iberville, he succeeded him as Governor of the Province, a position interrupted from time to time through intrigues on the part of rivals for authority, necessitating several visits to France to defend himself against charges preferred by them and always returning with higher honors. He was given the Cross of St. Louis by the king in recognition of his faithful work for king and country and in 1743, after forty-four years of devoted service in the Province which he had assisted in establishing, he returned to Paris, where he died at the age of eighty-eight. Efforts have been made by the Alabama State Department of Archives and History to locate his grave in Montmartre Cemetery, Paris, where he was buried, but without success. He was responsible for the establishment of Mobile, Ala.; Biloxi and Natchez, Miss.; and New Orleans, La.

Synopsis of Andre Penicaut's Journal

1698

Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville was chosen to lead a French expedition charged with establishing a fort at the mouth of the Mississippi River

1699

D'Iberville, along with his brother Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne Sieur de Bienville, sailed into Pensacola Bay on January 27 and found the Spanish had already arrived.

The French expedition sailed on to the mouth of Mobile Bay and explored an island which d'Iberville named Massacre Island (Dauphin Island) due to the large number of bones they found there.

Sailing on, they stopped at Biloxi and then continued to the mouth of the Mississippi River. D'Iberville found the land there to be too marshy for settlement and returned to Biloxi where they built a crude fort.

The fort at Biloxi was named Fort Maurepas, and it became the center of French exploration and settlement until the founding of Mobile.

1701

D'Iberville took two long boats and thirty men back to Massacre Island and discovered the harbor on the north side of the island. From there, the expedition sailed into Mobile Bay where they came upon a settlement of Mobilian Indians. After exploring the bay and finding an elevated piece of land that was suitable for settlement located at present-day Mount Vernon, the group returned to Biloxi. As sickness had descended on the Biloxi settlement, d'Iberville set in motion the building of a new settlement in Mobile Bay. D'Iberville left for France leaving his brother behind at a fort on the Mississippi River.

After d'Iberville left Biloxi, a group of sixty men went to Mobile to build the fort. At the same time, the commander of Fort Maurepas became sick and died. Believing that the lack of fresh water was the reason for the cause of sickness at Fort Maurepas, Bienville sailed down the Mississippi to take command of the fort. He then moved all of the munitions and supplies to the fort at Mobile and became commander. At Mobile he began to build residences and strengthen the fort. The fort was three hundred and sixty feet square and contained six cannons at each of the corners. There were four buildings in the fort which served as the chapel, the governor's house, and officers' quarters. The soldiers' barracks were built outside the fort on the banks of the Mobile River.

1702

D'Iberville returned to Massacre Island from France and began the construction of an off-loading port, so that goods could be transferred from ships to smaller vessels for resupplying Mobile.

Detachments of soldiers were sent from Mobile with Mobilian Indian guides to meet with chiefs of surrounding tribes. The chiefs of the Alibamons, Choctaws, Chicasaws (sic), Mobilians, Thomez, and the Forks came to the fort to make a peace treaty. Bienville gave them gifts before sending them away.

1709

The land on which Fort Louis de la Mobile was built flooded and the settlement was inundated by the rising river. The ensuing disease led Bienville to seek a more suitable location for the settlement. He selected the present-day site of Mobile and purchased the land from the Indians who were living there. Construction began on Fort Conde and the surrounding settlement.

1710-1711

The settlers and soldiers dismantled and moved the old fort to the location selected by Bienville. During this time, the settlers and soldiers had to depend on the Indians for subsistence.

1712

The transfer to the new settlement was completed by the middle of the year.

Taken from:

“Annals of Louisiana 1698 to 1722.” *The Alabama Historical Quarterly* 5, No. 3 (1943): 261-355. Print.

Found at Alabama Department of Archives and History,

<http://216.226.178.196/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/quarterly&CISOPTR=503&REC=16>.

Design your settlement!

Based on what we have studied, do the following:

1. Identify a location in Alabama which would have been ideal as an early-1700s settlement of 300-400 settlers. Be prepared to defend your layout in your presentation.
2. Sketch the layout of your town on a poster. Include the following:
 - a. Blacksmith Shop
 - b. Carpenter
 - c. Doctor
 - d. Market/Town Square
 - e. Church
 - f. Fur Traders
 - g. Merchants
 - h. Fort
 - i. Government Offices
 - j. Farming and Animals
 - k. Streets and Blocks
 - l. Residences

Colonial Settlement Map and Presentation

Name: _____

Date: _____

CATEGORY	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point	Score
Title of Map	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, is clearly distinguishable as the title (e.g. larger letters, underlined, etc), and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, but is not located at the top of the map.	Purpose/content of the map is not clear from the title.	
Scale of Map	All features on map are drawn to scale and the scale used is clearly indicated on the map.	Most features on map are drawn to scale and the scale used is clearly indicated on the map.	Many features of the map are NOT drawn to scale even though a scale is clearly indicated on the map.	Many features of the map are NOT drawn to scale AND/OR there is no scale marker on the map.	
Labels, Compass Rose & Features - Neatness	90-100% of the labels/features can be read easily.	89-80% of the labels/features can be read easily.	79-70% of the labels/features can be read easily.	Less than 70% of the labels/features can be read easily.	
Presentation of Layout	Logical rationale for the location of every place on list is given.	Logical rationale for most locations is given.	Logical rationale for some locations is given.	Few if any rationales were given.	
Content	90-100% of the required elements are present on the layout.	89-80% of the required elements are present on the layout.	79-70% of the required elements are present on the layout.	Less than 70% of the required elements are present on the layout.	

Total _____