

## Life for the Loyalists in Canada

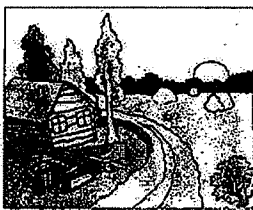
**Directions:** Read the following handout and answer the questions provided.

### **Life for the Loyalists in Nova Scotia**

By 1783, large fleets of ships were sailing from New York City carrying Loyalists to their new homes. About 30 000 came to the area of Nova Scotia. Many decided to live along the sea coast south of Halifax. One of the new towns they built was Shelburne. Others settled on the north shore of the Bay of Fundy, which separates part of Nova Scotia from New Brunswick. There was good farmland and many forests along the northern shore of the Bay of Fundy. A small, third group settled on Prince Edward Island.

The Loyalists were people from all walks of life. Some adapted well to their new homes, while others had a harder time. Some had been doctors, lawyers, and business owners. They had managed to bring much of their money and even possessions with them. They built nice homes in Shelburne. But most Loyalists brought little money and had to receive government grants of land to help them resettle.

All of the Loyalists were pioneers which meant that they had to clear the land for their homes and farms. Some found this easy. Others found it very difficult because they had never done it before. In 1784, the new colony of New Brunswick was formed on the north shore of the Bay of Fundy.



### **Life for the Loyalists in Upper Canada**

The Loyalists who came to *UPPER CANADA* came mostly from the Middle Colonies of New York and Pennsylvania. While English was commonly spoken by people in this area, there were also many Dutch, German, Swiss, and other nationalities. Some did go and settle in areas near Montreal, but most wanted to be in fresh farmland that had never been used and where English would be the first language and the language of the government.

So the governor of Quebec opened up lands that were north of Lake Ontario. Large pieces of land were called townships. These were broken up further into lots for farms. They had similar rules to the seigneurial system in Quebec. Most of the settlers wanted to live on the shores of Lake Ontario or along the rivers that flowed into it. They used boats on the river or lake for transportation. Regular roads were not built for many years.

The people also needed places where they could buy things they could not grow on their farms, and places to sell the extra food and things that they produced. For this reason, small towns began to grow up on the shores of Lake Ontario. Two important ones were York and Kingston. York (later Toronto) was named after a famous city in England, and Kingston is the short way of saying "King's Town".

As the two towns grew, more people settled into the area north of Lake Ontario. They soon wanted to have their own government, separate from the Quebec colony. This took place in 1791 when Upper Canada was created.

## Life for the Loyalists in Canada - Questions

**Directions:** Answer the following questions using your reading to help you.

1. **About 30 000 Loyalists came to the colony of Nova Scotia.**  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
2. **Some Loyalists from Pennsylvania and New York settled in Montreal.**  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
3. **Roads for transportation were very important on the shores of Lake Ontario.**  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
4. **What new town did the Loyalists build in Nova Scotia? \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Many decided to live along \_\_\_\_\_.**
5. **The third area in the Maritimes that a few Loyalists settled in was**  
\_\_\_\_\_.
6. **In your opinion, what groups of people would find clearing the land and building a house difficult and why? \_\_\_\_\_**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. **From what two colonies did most of the Loyalists settling along the shores of Lake Ontario come from? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Which religion do you think they might have practised? \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Why else might they have wanted to settle on the shores of Lake Ontario rather than in Montreal? \_\_\_\_\_**  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. **The large pieces of land were first broken up into \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**These were then broken up into \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Most people wanted to live \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Why? \_\_\_\_\_**  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. **What two towns started to grow? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_**
10. **Upper Canada was created in the year \_\_\_\_\_.**

## Who Were the Loyalists?

**Directions:** Read the following handout and answer the questions provided.

### Problems in the 13 Colonies

Not everyone in the 13 Colonies was happy with the rebellion against British rule. Many people wanted to be ruled by Britain in spite of the tax laws. These people felt that there were certain **ADVANTAGES** to being ruled by Britain. Firstly, they would have the Royal Navy and Army to protect them. Secondly, they had a market to send all of their **EXCESS** farm goods to. This was especially true of the tobacco and cotton crops. The people grew much more than they could use. Lastly, many farmers lived away from the cities and they didn't really care who ruled them.

These people called themselves Loyalists since they were loyal to the king of England. They were also called Tories which means a person who does not like change and will resist it.

One-third to one-half of all people living in the 13 Colonies were loyal to the British king. The people who were rebelling against the king were very unhappy with the Loyalists. The rebels attacked the Loyalists in different ways. They would take warm sticky tar and paint it all over their bodies and then throw feathers onto them which would stick to the tar. This is called "tar and feathering".

Sometimes, they hung the Loyalist. They would also take their homes away from them and force them to leave town, or burn the home. The picture shows a Loyalist being hung up by his belt. Events like this were very common all through the American Revolution.



### The Loyalists Leave the USA

The American Revolution lasted from 1775 to 1783. During this time, the Loyalists became more and more unhappy with living in the 13 Colonies. At the end of the war, many of the governments in the colonies (which now called themselves states) took away all of their rights. Anyone helping a Loyalist could be thrown in jail. In all, about 100 000 Loyalists left the Colonies for other places.

Some started to leave the Colonies before the Revolution ended. If they had close relatives in Britain, some went back. This group of Loyalists were often the richest or the best educated. If they were used to farming, some of them went to the British sugar islands like Jamaica in the Caribbean Sea.



About 30 000 came to Nova Scotia and Quebec not only because these places were close, but also because the people could not afford to go elsewhere. The picture shows them coming ashore in Nova Scotia. They were only allowed to leave the USA with what they could carry in suitcases. Many Black slaves also came to Nova Scotia.

## Who Were the Loyalists? - Questions

**Directions:** Answer the following questions using your reading to help you.

1. Loyalists were treated with respect by the rebels in the Revolution.  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
2. All of the Loyalists wanted to return to Britain.  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
3. Loyalists were tarred and feathered because of their beliefs.  
(Circle) TRUE FALSE
4. The three reasons that Loyalists gave to remain loyal to Britain were :
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
5. A Tory is a person who \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Three things that the rebels did to the Loyalists were :
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The dates of the American Revolution were : \_\_\_\_\_  
How many years did the Revolution last? \_\_\_\_\_
8. The three places that a Loyalist could go to were :  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
9. In your opinion, why was it only the richest and best educated people who returned to Britain? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How many Loyalists came to Canada? \_\_\_\_\_. What were the two places that most of them settled? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
11. Black slaves also came to Canada. In your opinion, why did they do this?  
\_\_\_\_\_