***Supporting Resources and Documents:***

***William Penn’s “Holy Experiment” Lesson Plan***

**Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701: Guided Reading Questions**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Answer the following questions in sentence form.

1. Why did some kings become absolute powers in their kingdoms after the

Protestant Reformation?

2. Why did Charles II insist that everyone in England be a member of the Church

of England?

3. The Quakers could not be considered a part of the Church of England. Why?

4. In the Anglican religion, who was in communication with God?

5. In the Quaker religion, who was in communication with God?

6. What type of people would be attracted to Pennsylvania?

**Answer Key: Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701**

Answer the following questions in sentence form.

1. Why did some kings become absolute powers in their kingdoms after the Protestant

Reformation? (The kings no longer had to share power with the Pope, the bishops, and the Catholic Church. Protestant kings held both spiritual and temporal powers in the kingdoms.)

2. Why did Charles II insist that everyone in England be a member of the Church of England?

(Charles was the head of the Church of England. To reject his spiritual power was seen as

rejecting his temporal power.)

3. The Quakers could not be considered a part of the Church of England. Why? (The Quakers rejected Charles as head of the church. They rejected ministers and the Anglican Church’s governmental structure. Additionally, they believed they were in direct communication with God through their “Inner Light.”)

4. In the Anglican religion, who was in communication with God? (For Anglicans, God communicated through the king, the Anglican bishops, and the Anglican Church.)

5. In the Quaker religion, who was in communication with God? (For Quakers, God communicated directly to the individual through the individual’s “Inner

Light.”)

6. What type of people would be attracted to Pennsylvania? (People who had been persecuted because they belonged to various religious sects in Europe would be attracted to Pennsylvania.)

**Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701: Section one, excerpt one**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“BECAUSE no People can be truly happy, though under the greatest Enjoyment of

Civil Liberties, if abridged of the Freedom of their Consciences, as to their

Religious Profession and Worship: And Almighty God being the only Lord of

Conscience, Father of Lights and Spirits; and the Author as well as Object of all

divine Knowledge, Faith and Worship, who only doth enlighten the Minds, and

persuade and convince the Understandings of People, I do hereby grant and

declare, That no Person or Persons, inhabiting in this Province or Territories, who

shall confess and acknowledge One almighty God, the Creator, Upholder and

Ruler of the World; and profess him or themselves obliged to live quietly under the

Civil Government, shall be in any Case molested or prejudiced, in his or their

Person or Estate, because of his or their conscientious Persuasion or Practice, nor

be compelled to frequent or maintain any religious Worship, Place or Ministry,

contrary to his or their Mind, or to do or super any other Act or Thing, contrary to

their religious Persuasion.”

**Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701: Homework Sheet**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Write a one-sentence answer for each question.

1. The first sentence will describe the situation regarding religion in 1681 England.
2. The second sentence will describe why King Charles believed he had to have

certain rules regarding religion in England.

1. The third sentence will describe the situation regarding religion in 1701

Pennsylvania.

1. The fourth sentence will describe why William Penn believed he had to have

certain rules regarding religion in Pennsylvania.

**Answer Key: Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701**

Write a one-sentence answer for each question.

1. One sentence will describe the situation regarding religion in 1681 England.

(The king was the head of the Church of England, and all subjects must be

members of the Church.)

2. The second sentence will describe why King Charles believed he had to have

certain rules regarding religion in England. (The king and most others believed for one to be loyal to the king and to England, one must also be loyal to his Church of England.)

3. The third sentence will describe the situation regarding religion in 1701

Pennsylvania. (William Penn had agreed to allow all settlers who believed in one God the right

of freedom of conscience.)

4. The fourth sentence will describe why William Penn believed he had to have

certain rules regarding religion in Pennsylvania. (As a Quaker, Penn believed God dealt with each person’s “Inner Light” individually, and as a victim of religious persecution, he wanted to allow others freedom to worship as they thought correct.) Lessons

**Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701: Section one, excerpt two**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“AND that all Persons who also profess to believe in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the

World, shall be capable (notwithstanding their other Persuasions and Practices in

Point of Conscience and Religion) to serve this Government in any Capacity, both

legislatively and executively, he or they solemnly promising, when lawfully

required, Allegiance to the King as Sovereign, and Fidelity to the Proprietary and

Governor, and taking the Attests as now established by the Law made at NewCastle, in the Year One Thousand and Seven Hundred, entitled, An Act directing

the Attests of several Officers and Ministers, as now amended and confirmed this

present Assembly. “

**Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania, 1701**

***Charter of Privileges Granted by William Penn, Esq. to the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania and Territories, October 28, 1701***

***(Note: This charter was granted by William Penn, with the approbation of the General Assembly, and remained in force until the Revolution.)***

“WILLIAM PENN, Proprietary and Governor of the Province of Pensilvania

and Territories thereunto belonging, To all to whom these Presents shall come,

sendeth Greeting. WHEREAS King CHARLES the Second, by His Letters Patents,

under the Great Seal of England, bearing Date the Fourth Day of March in the

Year One Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-one, was graciously pleased to give

and grant unto me, and my Heirs and Assigns for ever, this Province of

Pennsilvania, with divers great Powers and Jurisdictions for the well Government

thereof.

AND WHEREAS the King’s dearest Brother, JAMES Duke of YORK and

ALBANY, &c. by his Deeds of Feoffment, under his Hand and Seal duly perfected,

bearing Date the Twenty-Fourth Day of August, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty

and Two, did grant unto me, my Heirs and Assigns, all that Tract of Land, now

called the Territories of Pensilvania, together with Powers and Jurisdictions for the

good Government thereof.

AND WHEREAS for the Encouragement of all the Freemen and Planters, that

might be concerned in the said Province and Territories, and for the good

Government thereof, I the said WILLIAM PENN, in the Year One Thousand Six

Hundred Eighty and Three, for me, my Heirs and Assigns, did grant and confirm

unto all the Freemen Planters and Adventurers therein, divers Liberties, Franchises

and Properties, as by the said Grant, entituled, The FRAME of the Government of

the Province of Pensilvania, and Territories thereunto belonging, in America, may

appear; which Charter or Frame being found in some Parts of it, not so suitable to

the present Circumstances of the Inhabitants, was in the Third Month, in the Year

One Thousand Seven Hundred, delivered up to me, by Six Parts of Seven of the

Freemen of this Province and Territories, in General Assembly met, Provision

being made in the said Charter, for that End and Purpose.

AND WHEREAS I was then pleased to promise, That I would restore the said

Charter to them again, with necessary Alterations, or in lieu thereof, give them

another, better adapted to answer the present Circumstances and Conditions of the

said Inhabitants; which they have now, by their Representatives in General

Assembly met at Philadelphia, requested me to grant.

KNOW YE THEREFORE, That for the further Well-being and good

Government of the said Province, and Territories; and in Pursuance of the Rights

and Powers before-mentioned, I the said William Penn do declare, grant and

confirm, unto all the Freemen, Planters and Adventurers, and other Inhabitants of

this Province and Territories, these following Liberties, Franchises and Privileges,

so far as in me lieth, to be held, enjoyed and kept, by the Freemen, Planters and

Adventurers, and other Inhabitants of and in the said Province and Territories

hereunto annexed, for ever.

FIRST

BECAUSE no People can be truly happy, though under the greatest Enjoyment

of Civil Liberties, if abridged of the Freedom of their Consciences, as to their

Religious Profession and Worship: And Almighty God being the only Lord of

Conscience, Father of Lights and Spirits; and the Author as well as Object of all

divine Knowledge, Faith and Worship, who only doth enlighten the Minds, and

persuade and convince the Understandings of People, I do hereby grant and

declare, That no Person or Persons, inhabiting in this Province or Territories, who

shall confess and acknowledge One almighty God, the Creator, Upholder and Ruler

of the World; and profess him or themselves obliged to live quietly under the Civil

Government, shall be in any Case molested or prejudiced, in his or their Person or

Estate, because of his or their conscientious Persuasion or Practice, nor be

compelled to frequent or maintain any religious Worship, Place or Ministry,

contrary to his or their Mind, or to do or super any other Act or Thing, contrary to

their religious Persuasion.

AND that all Persons who also profess to believe in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of

the World, shall be capable (notwithstanding their other Persuasions and Practices

in Point of Conscience and Religion) to serve this Government in any Capacity,

both legislatively and executively, he or they solemnly promising, when lawfully

required, Allegiance to the King as Sovereign, and Fidelity to the Proprietary and

Governor, and taking the Attests as now established by the Law made at NewCastle, in the Year One Thousand and Seven Hundred, entitled, An Act directing

the Attests of several Officers and Ministers, as now amended and confirmed this

present Assembly.

II

FOR the well governing of this Province and Territories, there shall be an

Assembly yearly chosen, by the Freemen thereof, to consist of Four Persons out of

each County, of most Note for Virtue, Wisdom and Ability, (or of a greater number

at any Time, as the Governor and Assembly shall agree) upon the First Day of Lessons October for ever; and shall sit on the Fourteenth Day of the same Month, at

Philadelphia, unless the Governor and Council for the Time being, shall see Clause

to appoint another Place within the said Province or Territories: Which Assembly

shall have Power to chuse a Speaker and other their Officers; and shall be Judges

of the Qualifications and Elections of their own Members; sit upon their own

Adjournments; appoint (committees; prepare Bills in order to pass into Laws;

impeach Criminals, and redress Grievances; and shall have all other Powers and

Privileges of an Assembly, according to the Rights of the free-born Subjects of

England, and as is usual in any of the King’s Plantations in America.

AND if any County or Counties, shall refuse or neglect to chuse their respective

Representatives as aforesaid, or if chosen, do not meet to serve in Assembly, those

who are so chosen and met, shall have the full Power of an Assembly, in as ample

Manner as if all the Representatives had been chosen and met, provided they are

not less than Two Thirds of the whole Number that ought to meet.

AND that the Qualifications of Electors and Elected, and all other Matters and

Things relating to Elections of Representatives to serve in Assemblies, though not

herein particularly expressed, shall be and remain as by a Law of this Government,

made at New-Castle in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred, entitled, An Act to

ascertain the Number of Members of Assembly, and to regulate the Elections.

III

THAT the Freemen in each respective County at the Time and Place of Meeting

for Electing their Representatives to serve in Assembly, may as often as there shall

be Occasion, chuse a double Number of Persons to present to the Governor for

Sheriffs and Coroners to serve for Three Years, if so long they behave themselves

well; out of which respective Elections and Presentments, the Governor shall

nominate and commissionate one for each of the said Offices, the Third Day after

such Presentment, or else the First named in such Presentment, for each Office as

aforesaid, shall stand and serve in that Office for the Time before respectively

limited; and in Case of Death or Default, such Vacancies shall be supplied by the

Governor, to serve to the End of the said Term.

PROVIDED ALWAYS, That if the said Freemen shall at any Time neglect or

decline to chuse a Person or Persons for either or both the aforesaid Offices then

and in such Case, the Persons that are or shall be in the respective Offices of

Sheriffs or Coroners, at the Time of Election, shall remain therein, until they shall

be removed by another Election as aforesaid. Lessons

AND that the Justices of the respective Counties shall or may nominate and

present to the Governor Three Persons, to serve for Clerk of the Peace for the said

County, when there is a Vacancy, one of which the Governor shall commissionate

within Ten Days after such Presentment, or else the First nominated shall serve in

the said Office during good Behavior.

IV

THAT the Laws of this Government shall be in this Stile, viz. By the Governor,

with the Consent and Approbations of the Freemen in General Assembly Met; and

shall be, after Confirmation bv the Governor, forthwith recorded in the Rolls

Office, and kept at Philadelphia, unless the Governor and Assembly shall agree to

appoint another Place.

V

THAT all Criminals shall have the same Privileges of Witnesses and Council as

their Prosecutors.

VI

THAT no Person or Persons shall or may, at any Time hereafter, be obliged to

answer any Complaint, Matter or Thing whatsoever, relating to Property, before the

Governor and Council, or in any other Place, but in ordinary Course of Justice,

unless Appeals thereunto shall be hereafter by Law appointed.

VII

THAT no Person within this Government, shall be licensed by the Governor to

keep an Ordinary, Tavern or House of Publick Entertainment, but such who are

first recommended to him, under the Hands of the Justices of the respective

Counties, signed in open Court; which Justices are and shall be hereby impowered,

to suppress and forbid any Person, keeping such Publick-House as aforesaid, upon

their Misbehaviour, on such Penalties as the Law doth or shall direct; and to

recommend others from time to time, as they shall see Occasion.

VIII

IF any person, through Temptation or Melancholy, shall destroy himself; his

Estate, real and personal, shall notwithstanding descend to his Wife and Children,

or Relations, as if he had died a natural Death; and if any Person shall be destroyed

or killed by Casualty or Accident, there shall be no Forfeiture to the Governor by

reason thereof.

AND no Act, Law or Ordinance whatsoever, shall at any Time hereafter, be Lessons made or done, to alter, change or diminish the Form or Effect of this Charter, or of

any Part or Clause therein, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, without

the Consent of the Governor for the Time being, and Six Parts of Seven of the

Assembly met.

BUT because the Happiness of Mankind depends so much upon the Enjoying of

Liberty of their Consciences as aforesaid, I do hereby solemnly declare, promise

and grant, for me, my Heirs and Assigns, That the First Article of this Charter

relating to Liberty of Conscience, and every Part and Clause therein, according to

the true Intent and Meaning thereof, shall be kept and remain, without any

Alteration, inviolably for ever.

AND LASTLY, I the said William Penn, Proprietary and Governor of the

Province of Pensilvania, and Territories thereunto belonging, for myself, my Heirs

and Assigns, have solemnly declared, granted and confirmed, and do hereby

solemnly declare, grant and confirm, That neither I, my Heirs or Assigns, shall

procure or do any Thing or Things whereby the Liberties In this Charter contained

and expressed, nor any Part thereof, shall be infringed or broken: And if any thing

shall be procured or done, by any Person or Persons, contrary to these Presents, it

shall be held of no Force or Eflect.

IN WITNESS whereof, I the said William Penn, at Philadelphia in Pensilvania,

have unto this present Charter of Liberties, set my Hand and broad Seal, this

Twenty-Eighth Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven

Hundred and One, being the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of King William the

Third, over England, Scotland, France and Ireland, &c. and the Twenty-First Year

of my Government.

AND NOTWITHSTANDING the Closure and Test of this present Charter as

aforesaid, I think fit to add this following Proviso thereunto, as Part of the same,

That is to say, That notwithstanding any Clause or Clauses in the above-mentioned

Charter, obliging the Province and Territories to join together in Legislation, I am

content, and do hereby declare, that if the Representatives of the Province and

Territories shall not hereafter agree to join together in Legislation, and that the

same shall be signified unto me, or my Deputy, in open Assembly, or otherwise

from under the Hands and Seals of the Representatives, for the Time being, of the

Province and Territories, or the major Part of either of them, at any Time within

Three Years from the Date hereof, that in such Case, the Inhabitants of each of the

Three Counties of this Province, shall not have less than Eight Persons to represent

them in Assembly, for the Province; and the Inhabitants of the Town of Lessons Philadelphia (when the said Town is incorporated) Two Persons to represent them

in Assembly; and the Inhabitants of each County in the Territories, shall have as

many Persons to represent them in a distinct Assembly for the Territories, as shall

be by them requested as aforesaid.

NOTWITHSTANDING which Separation of the Province and Territories, in

Respect of Legislation, I do hereby promise, grant and declare, That the Inhabitants

of both Province and Territories, shall separately enjoy all other Liberties,

Privileges and Benefits, granted jointly to them in this Charter, any Law, Usage or

Custom of this Government heretofore made and practiced, or any Law made and

passed by this General Assembly, to the Contrary hereof, notwithstanding.

*William Penn*

THIS CHARTER of PRIVILEGES being distinctly read in Assembly; and the

whole and every Part thereof, being approved of and agreed to, by Us, we do

thankfully receive the same from, our Proprietary and Governor, at Philadelphia,

this Twenty-Eighth Day of October, One Thousand Seven Hundred and One.

Signed on Behalf, and by Order of the Assembly,

per JOSEPH GROWDON, Speaker.

EDWARD SHIPPEN,

PHINEAS PEMBERTON,

SAMUEL CARPENTER,

GRIFFITH OWEN,

CALEB PUSEY,

THOMAS STORY,

Proprietary and Governor’s Council.”