

**Card 6**  
**The First Charter of Virginia, April 10, 1606**

Original Charter:

...shall and lawfully may.... from time to time, without any Interruption of Us, our Heirs or Successors, give and take Order, to dig, mine, and search for all Manner of Mines of Gold, Silver, and Copper, as well within any Part of their said several Colonies, ... And to HAVE and enjoy the Gold, Silver, and Copper, to be gotten thereof, to the Use and Behoof of the same Colonies...YIELDING therefore to Us, our Heirs and Successors, the fifth Part only of all the same Gold and Silver, and the fifteenth Part of all the same Copper...

Text Dependent Question

- 1) What legal right does this section of the First Charter of Virginia give the colonists? Provide evidence from the text.

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Modern Translation

Without interference from us, or our descendants, colonists can lawfully mine for gold, silver, and copper within the colony's lands. Colonists can keep the gold, silver and copper after giving us 1/5 of the gold and silver and 1/15 of the copper they find.

Text Dependent Question

- 1) Confirm the prediction you made on the other side of this sheet. What legal right does this section of the First Charter of Virginia give the colonists? Provide evidence from the text.
- 2) How much of the gold, silver and copper colonists find must be given to the businessmen back in England who paid for the colony?
- 3) How would this law help the colonists survive and thrive?