Dutch Exploration and Settlement in North America

Just like the French, the Dutch also wanted to look for new ways to reach the riches of Asia. Dutch people are from The Netherlands in Europe.

In 1609, the English explorer Henry Hudson sailed for the Dutch. His ship, the *Half Moon*, entered present-day New York harbor. Hudson continued to sail some 150 miles up the river that today bears his name. Even though he failed to find a northwest passage, he did map and explore this area.

We will watch a brief video about Dutch New York. Answer the questions below based on information from the video. [https://www.thirteen.org/dutchny/video/video-dutch-new-york/](https://www.thirteen.org/dutchny/video/video-dutch-new-york/) (stop the video at 11:40)

1. What would Manhattan have looked like when Hudson landed in 1609? (Describe the land, water, animals, landscape)

2. Describe relations between the early Dutch settlers and Native Americans.

3. Write one more interesting fact you learn from the video.

In 1626, Peter Minuit led a group of Dutch settlers to the mouth of the Hudson River. There, he bought Manhattan Island from local Indians. Minuit called the settlement *New Amsterdam*. Other colonists settled farther up the Hudson River. The entire colony was known as New Netherland (later becomes New York)
New Amsterdam grew into a busy trading port. The Dutch welcomed people of many nations and religions to their colony.

"On the island of Manhattan…there may well be four or five hundred men of different…nations…men of eighteen different languages…"

-Father Isaac Jogues, 1609

After reading Father Jogues quote, why might someone consider New Amsterdam as a “multicultural” settlement? ______________________________________________

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The Dutch and French soon became rivals in the fur trade. Both wanted alliances with Native Americans. An alliance is an agreement between nations to aid and protect one another. The Dutch made friends with the Iroquois and the Hurons became allies with the French. Fighting raged for many years among the Europeans and their Indian allies.

**Dutch Influence in New York**

Try to match the modern-day place name in the left column with the Dutch origin in the right.

| _____1. Wall Street | A. New Netherlander settler Jonas Bronck built a farm on this land in 1639 near the Aquahung River. The Aquahung became known as “Bronck’s River” and the area took its name from the river. |
| _____2. The Bronx | B. Conyne Eylandt, or “rabbit island” |
| _____3. Harlem | C. This section of New York City takes its name from the farm, or bouwerij in Dutch, owned by Peter Stuyvesant that was located in this area. It is the oldest thoroughfare in Manhattan. |
| _____4. Flushing | D. This neighborhood and street name is from the Dutch word greenwyck, or “pine area.” |
| _____5. Coney Island | E. Built in the 1600’s by the Dutch, this was the location of a 12 foot high wall to protect the Dutch against attacks from pirates and various Native American tribes. |
| _____6. Greenwich Village | F. This neighborhood is named for the city in The Netherlands known as Haarlem |
| _____7. The Bowery | G. The Dutch began settling this area in 1643. It is named for the Dutch city of Vlissingen. |

See the website below for more facts, videos, and interactive maps relating to the Dutch influence in New York: [http://www.thirteen.org/dutchny/](http://www.thirteen.org/dutchny/)