

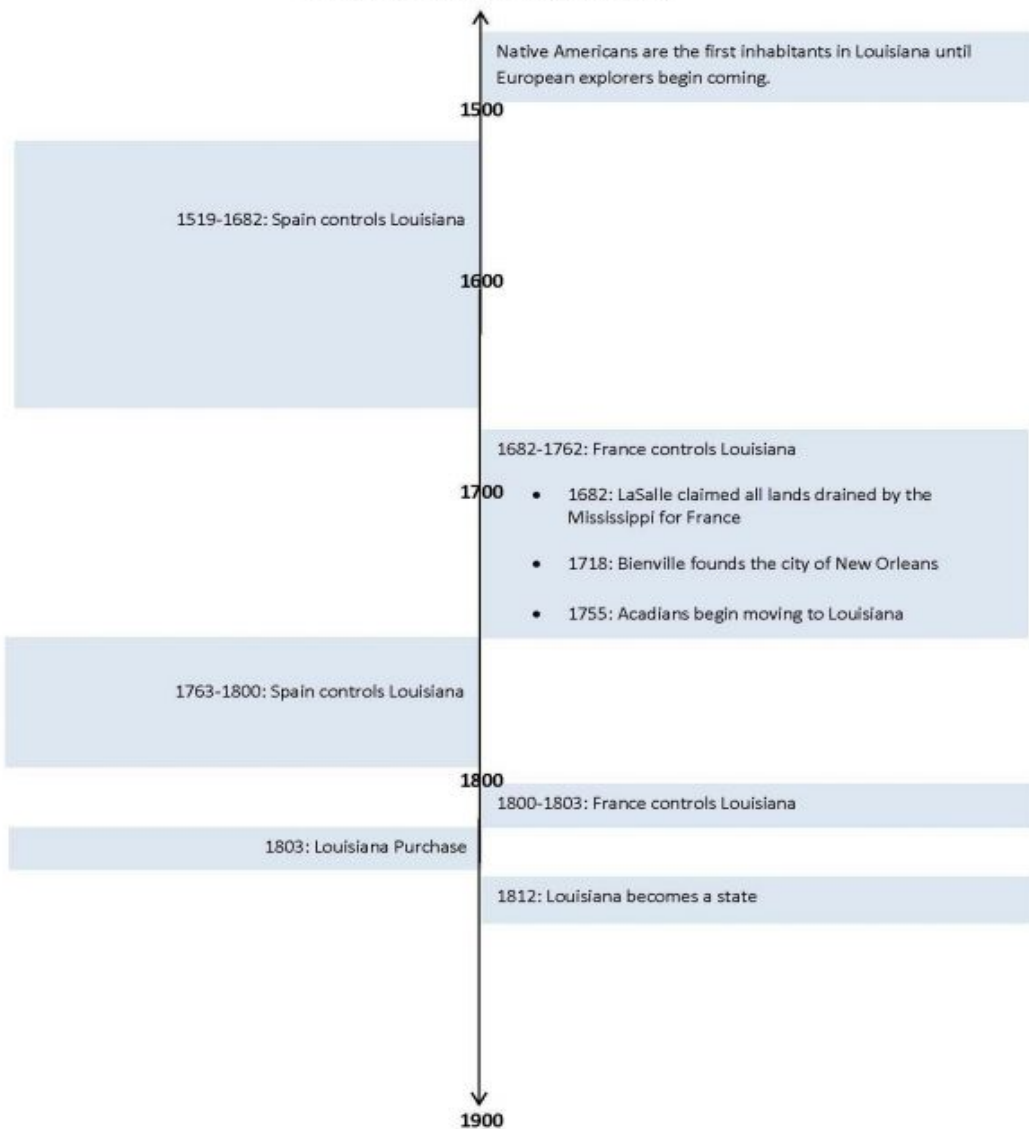
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Grade Social Studies Unit 3 Family Guide

**How to use:**

- For each item in bold, create your own test question. Write the answer, too.
- Describe the different groups of people and cultures that ended up in Louisiana and the ways the different cultures have influenced Louisiana.

**Timeline of Louisiana History (Completed)**

**Sample Timeline of Louisiana History**



**Describe how advancements in seafaring and navigation technology in the 16th century led to European exploration in the Americas. Describe how advances in transportation and farming allowed the Acadians, French, and Spanish to establish settlements in South Louisiana.**

Improvements in ships and navigation technology meant explorers could explore the new world for riches and resources.

Historians generally recognize three motives for European exploration and colonization in the New World: God (spreading religion), gold (acquiring wealth), and glory (fame).

Europeans also searched for optimal trade routes to lucrative Asian markets and hoped to gain global recognition for their country.

Among the many ethnic groups in colonial Louisiana were people of French, Canadian, Spanish, Latin American, Anglo, German, and African descent. These cultures, along with Native Americans, provided the first ingredients for Louisiana's famous "gumbo" of cultures. Louisiana has one of the most colorful histories and cultures in the United States. The region was colonized by France and settled by Africans, Spanish and Caribbean folks until eventually being sold to America in 1803 under the Louisiana Purchase. As such its population has large Cajun and Creole communities that greatly influence the food, language and music.

European explorers had many reasons for exploring Louisiana:

- Controlling the Mississippi River
- To build forts and areas for trading
- To find natural resources

**Explain how the French influenced Louisiana through their cultural influences of religion, education (Catholic schools), government, language, food, and music.**

In modern Louisiana, there are many ways that we see French influence in our culture. In many parts of our state, people still speak French. Some of the places in Louisiana are named after French people. Our state is named after King Louis XIV of France. La Salle, Iberville, and Bienville are examples of French explorers in Louisiana who have parishes named after them. We also have place names that come from the French language.

**Explain how the Spanish influenced Louisiana through their cultural influences of religion, education, government, architecture, language, food, and music.**

In modern Louisiana, there are many ways that we see Spanish influence in our culture. Some of the places in Louisiana are named after Spanish people; De Soto Parish is named after a Spanish explorer. We also have place names that come from the Spanish language. Two of our parishes, East and West Feliciana, for example. Feliciana means "happy land" in Spanish. Some of the foods we eat in Louisiana also reflect Spanish influence. Paella is a Spanish dish made of seasoned rice, vegetables, and meat. Jambalaya is popular Louisiana version of this traditional Spanish dish.

**Explain the positive and negative interactions between Native Americans and French and Spanish explorers, including benefits and drawbacks to each group.**

Interactions among Europeans and Native Americans varied from place to place, and members of each nation forged relationships with Indians in very different ways, depending on a variety of economic, social and political factors.

While we should be mindful of this diversity, we can still make certain generalizations. Few Europeans considered Native Americans their equals, because of differences in religion, agricultural practice, housing, dress, and other characteristics that—to Europeans—indicated Native American inferiority.

However, the French, Spanish, and Dutch sought profit through trade and exploitation of New World resources, and they knew that the native people would be important to their success. Europeans also wanted to convert Native Americans to Christianity. Therefore, economic gain and religion were the two factors that most affected the dynamics of European and indigenous American relationships.

**Explain ways in which African cultures influenced culture in Louisiana (food, language, art, music, spirituality).**

Although there is a strong focus on French and Spanish culture in Louisiana history; African traditions are just as responsible for the identity of historical and modern Louisiana. Many of Louisiana's food, language, art, music, and religious traditions are directly influenced by Africa and the Caribbean. It is important not to minimize the contributions of Africa to our state and culture.

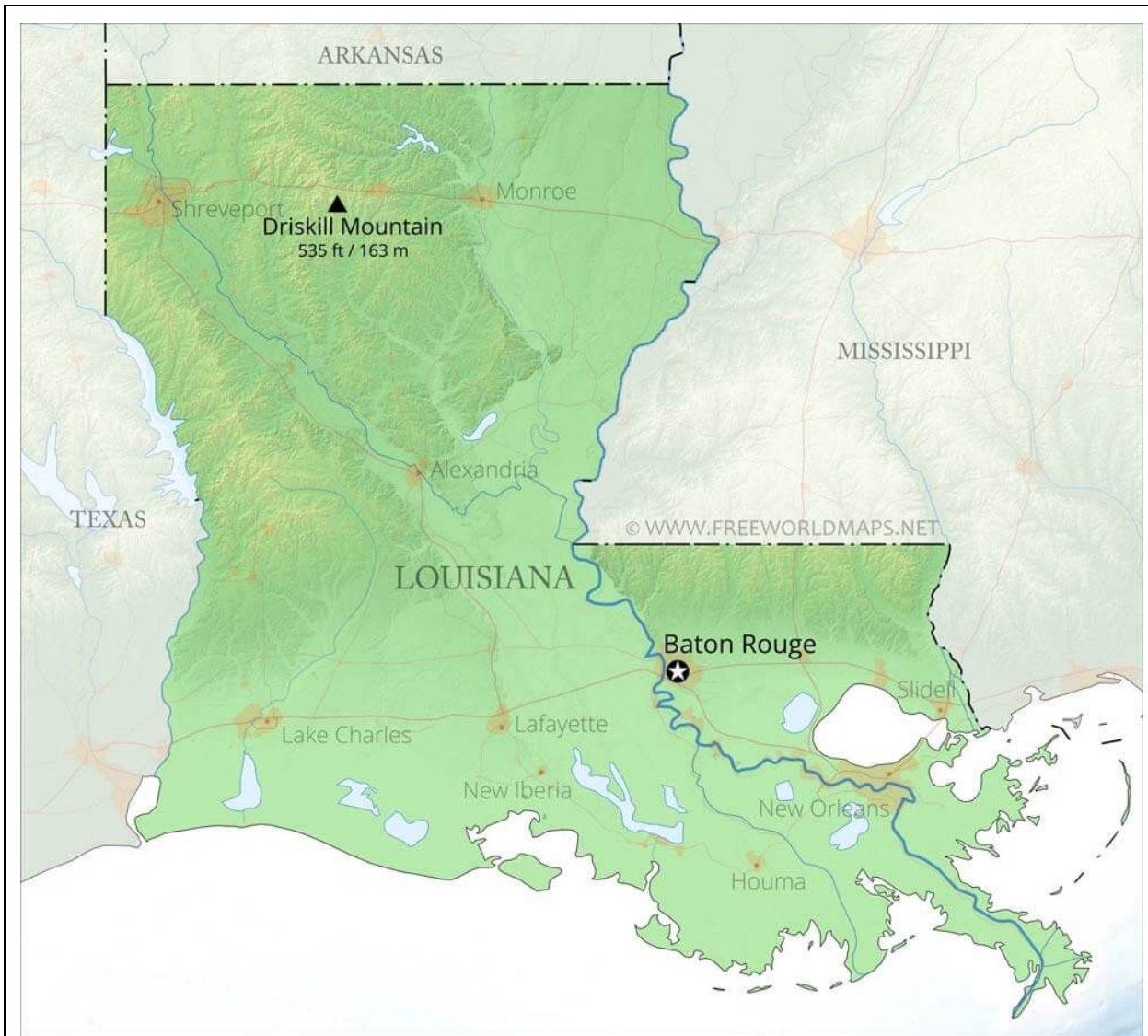
The first African slaves were brought to New Orleans in 1719, beginning the cultural heritage that led to a rich tradition of music. The slaves worked the French plantations along the Mississippi River, who controlled the entire region until it was eventually sold to the US in 1803. The largest slave revolt in American history happened in New Orleans in 1811 in the German Coast Uprising.

Voodoo, Congo Square, Jazz, and Gumbo are just a few examples of African traditions in Louisiana.

**The unique geography of Louisiana contributed to European explorers wanting to settle and control the area.**












Control of the Mississippi River for trade was the main reason Europeans wanted to colonize in Louisiana.



**Reasons for exploration in Louisiana:** acquiring natural resources, control of the Mississippi River, and strategic outposts in North America.

**Explain the reasons for French settlement using the concepts of supply and demand:** The French settled in Louisiana in order to control the supply of the furs that were in demand by Europeans.



Key	
	= oil
	= salt
	= sugarcane
	= seafood
	= rice
	= clay
	= wood
	= cotton
	= hills
	= terraces
	= marsh
	= Mississippi floodplain
	= Red River Valley
	= Mississippi River

**Explain the reasons for Desoto's exploration into North America, and its significance:**

DeSoto was looking for gold and precious metals, and he "discovered" the Mississippi River (although Native Americans had used it for generations).

DeSoto, a Spanish explorer, was the first European to come into contact with the Mississippi River. The first Europeans to explore Louisiana were the Spanish who followed the Mississippi River inland in 1528. They were unimpressed and the territory remained unsettled until the 17th century when the French arrived and claimed the region as part of New France in 1682. They named it Louisiana in honor of the French king.



**Desoto discovers the Mississippi.**

**Explain the reasons why LaSalle explored Louisiana and claimed the land.**

La Salle, a French explorer, claimed the Mississippi Drainage Basin for King Louis of France, hence the name, "Louisiana". Claiming the land meant 'owning' the Mississippi for trade purposes which led to an economic gain (more money) for France.

**Explain why d'Iberville is important to Louisiana (founded the first permanent French settlement in Louisiana).**

D'Iberville founded the first permanent settle in French Louisiana. The French built many settlements in and around the Gulf of Mexico before settling in New Orleans in 1718

## Early Louisiana settlements



**Explain the importance of Bienville and the city of New Orleans' to Louisiana (port access, control of the Mississippi for the French).**

Bienville chose New Orleans as the site of the Louisiana colony so that France could control the Mississippi River and prevented the British from colonizing Louisiana, preserving the French culture.

**Explain why the major explorers DeSoto, LaSalle, d'Iberville, and Bienville were important to Louisiana.**

DeSoto: "discovered" Mississippi River

LaSalle: claimed land for France and King Louis (Louisiana means Louis' land)

d'Iberville: founded earliest French sites in Louisiana

Bienville: founded New Orleans and was the first governor of Louisiana

**Explain how the Cajuns resettled in Louisiana from Canada (what caused the Great Upheaval, why they settled near the Atchafalaya Basin).**

**The Great Upheaval:** Acadians were forced out of French Canada because of the religion they practiced. They were exiled from Nova Scotia (an area of present day Canada) by the British. The surplus of food and resources in the Atchafalaya basin was a reason for Cajuns settling in South Louisiana.



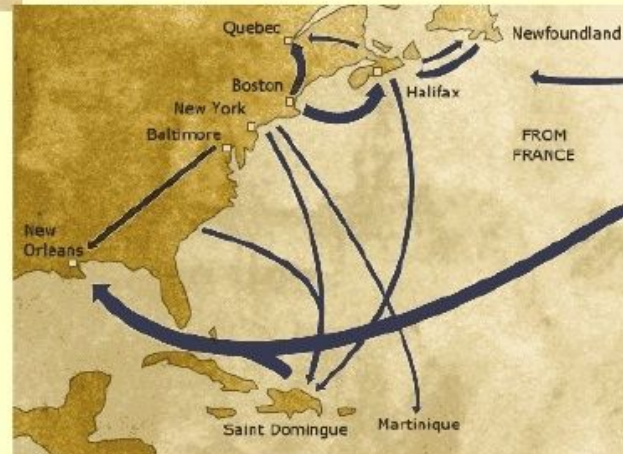


The Acadians were forced out of French Canada and migrated to Louisiana.



Map of Acadian Expulsion 1755

Map of Acadian Resettlement 1764



<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com>

**Explain how the Cajuns influenced Louisiana through their cultural elements of food, language, and music.**

Cajuns are one of the most unique cultures and ethnic groups in the United States. Primarily located in rural Southern Louisiana, the culture is defined by its French roots which are easily seen in their own distinct Cajun French dialect (the way they speak), music (like Zydeco), and food (Crawfish, shrimp, and andouille sausage are staple meats used in a variety of dishes. The aromatic vegetables green bell pepper (poivron), onion, and celery are called the holy trinity by **Cajun** chefs in **Cajun** and Louisiana Creole cuisines).

**Map of Acadian Settlement**



**Explain what Creole means, and how Creoles continued the French and Spanish cultural traditions in Louisiana.**

The mingling of cultures in South Louisiana is called "creolization." Creole, from the Portuguese *crioulo* (native to a region), originally referred to the European French/Spanish colonial population in South Louisiana and the Caribbean region. Prior to the Civil War, the word came to refer to the *gens libres de couleur* (free people of color) in Louisiana, who were of mixed African European descent. Today in Southwest Louisiana, the term usually refers to people of mingled Black, Spanish, French, and Indian descent. In South Louisiana plantation regions and New Orleans, the association of Creole with European ancestry and culture is stronger.

**origin:**

Descendants of French-Canadians who relocated from Nova Scotia to Louisiana.

**location:**

Originally settled in rural southern Louisiana but overtime has spread through out the state.

# The Difference Between Cajun & Creole

**cuisine:**

Smoked, stewed, and spicy dishes of meat, seafood, and rice

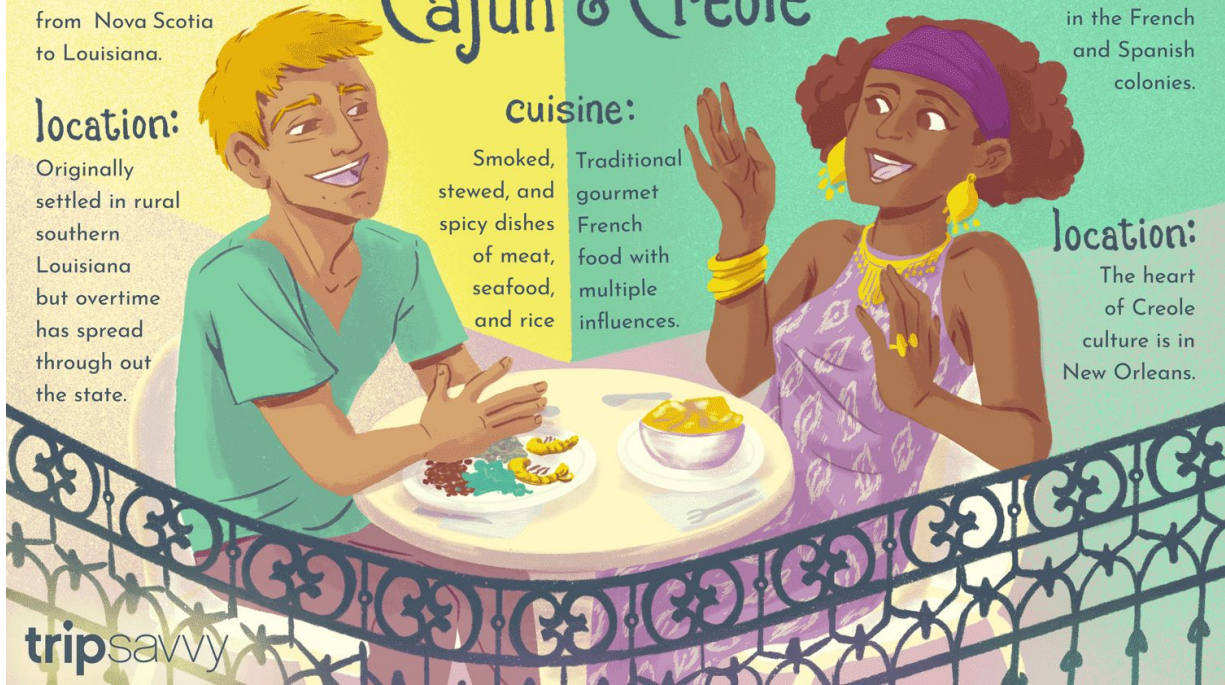
Traditional gourmet French food with multiple influences.

**origin:**

Those of European descent who were born in the French and Spanish colonies.

**location:**

The heart of Creole culture is in New Orleans.



**trip**savvy

**Compare similarities and differences between the land known as Louisiana through French and Spanish ownership and settlement using maps.**

**French Louisiana: 1699-1763**



Spanish Louisiana (1763-1800):



1800-1803:



**Identify long-lasting cultural influences of the Spanish, French, African, Native American, and Cajun in Louisiana through language, religion, education, and food.**

Louisiana is home to some of America's most colorful culture, including a huge Creole and Cajun population. The Spanish, French, African, and Native American influences are visible in every conceivable way. They speak their own language, have their own style of music and a uniquely delectable cuisine. While Cajun country only covers around 30 percent of the state, it's traditions have a hand just about everywhere.

In many parts of Louisiana, French and Creole are just as common as English. The farther off the beaten path you venture, the more the state starts to look and feel like a whole other country. In general, the residents take pride in their relaxed lifestyle and rich traditions. Festivals like Mardi Gras are taken as seriously as religion, and music never seems far removed from any household.

