



SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

## ***WILLIAM PENN: LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL***

By Janet and Geoff Benge

### **Authority**

- On page 50, two books read by William Penn are briefly described. In both books, who exercised authority?
- Why was William intrigued by this idea of authority?
- What are some examples of abuse of authority described in this book?

### **Responsibility**

- What were some responsibilities taken on by the Quakers when the Plague struck London?
- What were the benefits of taking on these responsibilities? The costs?
- Using the “Intellectual Tool Chart For Deciding Among Responsibilities” on page 144 in the middle school *Foundations of Democracy* text, analyze the decision faced by William regarding providing a militia from his Pennsylvania colony to fight against the French.

### **Justice**

- What role did distributive justice play in how land grants were determined when settlers first arrived in what was to become Pennsylvania?
- What are some examples of how procedural justice was abused in the trial of William Penn and William Meade? (pp. 95–106)
- Using the “Intellectual Tool Chart For Issues of Corrective Justice” on pp. 209–210 in the middle school *Foundations of Democracy* text, analyze the actions of Philip Ford when he betrayed his friend William Penn.

### **Privacy**

- What values and interests were in conflict with the need for Quakers to meet in secret?
- What are some examples in this book of isolation, exclusion and confidentiality?

### ***We the People: Project Citizen***

- Connections to text
  1. What ideals of William Penn about liberty, justice, fairness and tolerance guided the thinking of the Framers of our United States Constitution?
  2. What actions taken by various kings and queens in this book are prohibited by the First Amendment?
  3. How was William’s decision to open Quaker schools in Pennsylvania to all children, including girls and Indians, an example of *public policy*?

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**Informational Writing Prompt**

**Planning**

Before you write,

1. read the prompt carefully so you understand exactly what you are being asked to do;
2. consider topic, task, and audience;
3. think about what you want to write;
4. use scratch paper to organize your thoughts. Use strategies like mapping or outlining.

**Informational writing prompt**

William Penn called his new colony in America the Holy Experiment. Write to inform the reader what goals and dreams William had for this experiment and how he went about organizing the settlement of Pennsylvania.

**Writing**

As you write,

- maintain a clear and consistent position or claim;
- include specific details; use examples and reasons to support your ideas;
- use a variety of well-constructed, complete sentences;
- use a logical organization with an obvious introduction, body, and conclusion.

**Proofreading**

After you write,

- check if you supported your ideas with specific details;
- Check if the point of view and tone of the essay remain consistent;
- check for capitalization, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, and usage errors.