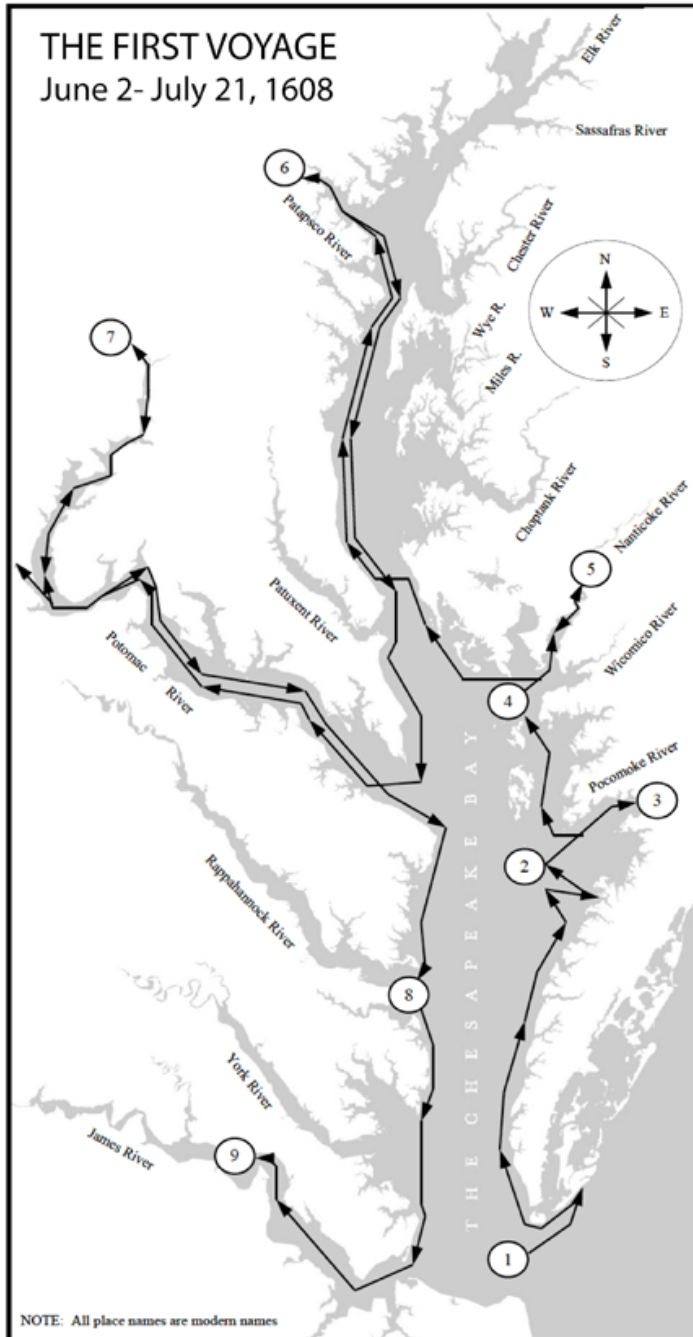




Captain John Smith's First Voyage

June 2 – July 21, 1608



1. JUNE 2, 1608

The voyage begins at the mouth of the Bay.

2. JUNE 4, 1608

While trying to sail to Tangier Island, Smith's small boat is caught in a storm and nearly sinks. The men are forced to turn back to the Eastern Shore.

3. JUNE 5, 1608

The crew explores the Pocomoke River. They have a hard time finding fresh water to drink, so they turn back towards the Bay.

4. JUNE 6 - 8, 1608

The explorers are caught in another storm. This time, the mast blows overboard and one of the sails gets ripped. The men are stuck on present-day Bloodsworth Island for two days making repairs and waiting for calm weather.

5. JUNE 9 - 10, 1608

While exploring the Nanticoke River, the crew is met by hundreds of Indians lining the shore. Smith makes signs to show that the English are friendly, and the two sides meet to trade. Smith calls the Nanticokes "the best merchants" of all the Indians.

6. JUNE 13 - 14, 1608

The men explore the Patapsco River and find no Indians at all. In fact, most of the Upper Bay is deserted due to raids from tribes to the north and west. The tired and hungry men beg Captain Smith to turn back to Jamestown.

7. JUNE 16 - JULY 16, 1608

On their way back to Jamestown, the men see the mouth of the Potomac River for the first time. Thinking that it might contain gold or an all water route to the Pacific Ocean, they spend one month exploring this large tributary. At the mouth of the river, Smith's men are attacked by Indians. They fire their muskets into the water, and the loud noise causes the Natives to retreat.

8. JULY 17, 1608

Smith is stung on the wrist by a stingray while spearing fish with his sword at the mouth of the Rappahannock River. He is in so much pain that he orders the men to dig his grave. Smith survives and eats the stingray for supper! The men head back to Jamestown.

9. JULY 21, 1608

Smith returns safely to Jamestown. He rests for three days, then sets out to finish exploring the Bay.



Captain John Smith's First Voyage

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS: Look at the map and read "Smith Explores the Lower Eastern Shore and the Patapsco and Potomac Rivers" on the previous page, then answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. When did Captain John Smith's first voyage on the Bay take place?

2. What two rivers on the Eastern Shore were visited during this voyage?

3. What was the northernmost river that John Smith explored during this voyage?

4. Why do you think the explorers spent so much time on the Potomac River?

5. What happened when John Smith tried to explore the Rappahannock River?

6. Name four rivers that John Smith *did not* explore during this voyage.