

JOHN SMITH WRITES ABOUT NEW ENGLAND

When the explorer John Smith left America and returned to England, he wrote a book about what he had seen in the New World. The book was called *A General History of Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Isles*, and it was published in 1624. Smith wrote about how many natural resources there were in America and how much potential it had for people to build new lives for themselves. The book was very popular, and it convinced many people to come to the New World.

Smith wrote about the area that would one day be called New Hampshire,

“It is a Country rather to frighten people than please them. The land is very plain and barren, yet they have good Woods, Rivers, Fruits, Fish and Fowl, and the Sea the strangest Fish-pond I ever saw, that it makes me think, though the coast be rocky and thus scary, the Valleys and Plains and interior parts may be very lush and full of plants and animals. *New-England* is great enough to make many Kingdoms and Countries if people lived there.”

*This text has been edited to make it easier to read.



Notice & Wonder

1. Look up in a dictionary any words you don't know.
2. What natural resources does John Smith mention?
3. Why would this description make you want to come to the New World?

