Graphing Goods Imported to London Town

Did you know that the American colonists relied on imported goods? Many newspaper advertisements in the colonial period were for items that were made or grown in England, Europe and elsewhere. Through advertisements that appeared in the *Maryland Gazette* newspaper, you will be introduced to some of the things that were imported into London Town during the years 1747-1770. You will also learn how the goods available for sale were dependent on the weather and seasons.

Participants will cut out copies of the primary source (original to the time) advertisements, place them in a container, and then sort, organize, and graph them according to criterion, such as season (month) the amount (quantity), and type (like “fresh produce”), listed in ad (eg. 0-1; 2-3; 4-5; 6 and more).

**Materials:**
- 1 small paper bag or container to hold the advertisements
- 1 spinner (attached)
- 1 paper clip
- 1 die
- 1 game board sorter (attached)
- paper (or index cards) and pencil to create labels for the graph (or glue/tape ads on large construction paper)
- *Maryland Gazette* newspaper advertisements - cut out and placed in bag/container

The activity may be completed independently or in a small group.

**How to Play:**
1. When a participant spins the word “import,” select an ad from the bag/container. If a participant spins the word “export,” do not pull an ad from the bag/container.

   As each participant pulls an advertisement from the bag, arrange the information from the ad into the form of a chart or table. As you start to group/order the table, think about the title for your graph and the subtitles for each axis. Use paper or index cards to label the parts of the graph.

2. Discuss the following questions and develop your own as you evaluate the data your graph reveals:

   - What types of goods were imported to Colonial America?
   - Who were the intended buyers of the imported goods?
   - How did the time of year or season influence the type and amount of goods imported?
   - Why were many goods, especially fresh produce, not imported or exported?
   - What types of goods were sold throughout the year? What does this tell you about these items?
**Spinner**
Cut out and insert a paperclip through the center to serve as the spinner. Spin “import” and select an ad from the bag; spin “export” and wait for the next turn.
Advertisements for imports in London Town from the *Maryland Gazette* Newspaper

**Maryland Gazette, 17 March 1747**

JUST IMPORTED by the Subscriber, and to be Sold at his Store, either at Annapolis, or London-Town, very Cheap, by Wholesale, or Retail.

BEST Brown and Irish Osnabrige, a good Assortment of Irish Linens, all kinds of Nails, a large Parcel of other Iron Ware, German Steel, Sloops Anchors, and small Grapnels, Welsh Cotton, and sundry other European and India Goods.

JAMES DICK.

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**Maryland Gazette, 14 October 1747**

ADVERTISEMENTS.

JUST Imported by the Subscriber, variety of coarse and fine Irish Linens, Osnabrige, Checks, Manchester Wares and Threads, Broad Cloths, Kerseys, Half Thicks, Fizes, Bays, striped Flanc's, and Welsh Cottons, Nails and Iron Ware of all sorts, \\&c. Also a quantity of fine Salt. All to be Sold at reasonable Rates in Wholesale or Retail.

ALL Persons Indebted to the Subscriber on open Accounts, are desired to call and pay their Ballances, or give Notes for the same, on or before the first Day of January next, to save further Trouble to

JAMES DICK.
TO BE SOLD by the Subscriber, on board his Ship the Marshall, lying at London Town,
CHOICE LIVES in Cases, fine Florence Oyl
fine Devonshire Kersey, Table Linen, Ofnabrigs, Earthen Wares, and sundry other sorts of Goods, at reasonable Rates, for Paper Money or Sterling.

JOHN FEARON.

Maryland Gazette, 14 October 1747

JUST IMPORTED,
And to be Sold by the Subscriber, either at Annapolis or London-Town, very cheap.
GOOD double and single refined Lost Sugar, good Muscovado Sugar, and exceeding good Bohea Tea at Fourteen Shillings per Pound; with Allowance to any who take above Twenty Pounds.

JAMES DICK.

Maryland Gazette, 19 October 1748

JUST IMPORTED,
In the Nancy, Capt. Lloyd, from London, and to be sold by the Subscriber, at Reasonable Rates, at his Store in Annapolis,

BRITISH Sail Duck, from N°. 1 to 7, Ship Chandlery of all sorts, Anchors from 1 to 5 Hundred; fine Callicoys, Chints, Superfine Mullins, Humhums, white Callicoys, Cambricks, Laces, Edgings, black Velvet, with a variety of other European and East India Goods

Where may be had, Cordage of all sizes, of the London Town Manufacture, near as Cheap as can be Imported from London.

JAMES DICK.

Maryland Gazette, 5 December 1750
Children's Lives at Colonial London Town: The Stories of Three Families

Maryland Gazette, 2 January 1752

Maryland Gazette, 23 April 1752
Children's Lives at Colonial London Town: The Stories of Three Families

Maryland Gazette, 25 June 1752
Children's Lives at Colonial London Town: The Stories of Three Families

JUST IMPORTED,
In the Ship Wilson, Capt. Coolidge, from
London, and to be SOLD by the Subscribers,
in Annapolis.

VARIETY of European and
East India GOODS: Also, all Kinds of
Cables, Cordage, Twine, Log Lines, deep Sea
Lines, Houfeline and Marline, Compasses, Sand
Glases, and Variety of Ship Chandlery, at reason-
able Rates.

Stephen West.

Maryland Gazette, 28 September 1752

JUST IMPORTED from London, in the Sally,
Captain Smith, and to be sold cheap, Wholesale,
and Retail, for ready Money, or short Credit, by
JAMES DICK & STEWART,
At their Store in Annapolis, and London-Town,
An Assortment of EUROPEAN and EAST-
INDIA GOODS, suitable for the Seafon,
amongst which are Hylton and Bohica Tea. London
double and single refined Sugar.

They have likewise for Sale, good Madeira Wine,
of the New-York Quality, by the Pipe, Hoghead,
or Quarter-Cask, of Jamaica, Muscovado Sugar, by
the Hoghead, Barrel, or Hundred, Jamaica Coffee,
Philadelphia Loaf Sugar, Spermaceti and Tallow
Candles, by the Box, best hard Soap, by the Box,
Chocolate, and best Cocos, Rice, Window Glass,
Sib y 10, and q by s, fine West-India Cotton, and
a few blocks of good Mahogany. Also Cordage of
all Sizes, made at Navigating Rope-Walk, Sail-Duck,
large and small Anchors, Grapnels, Hadley
and Davis’s Quadrants, Benton’s Draughts, and all Sorts of
Ship-Chandlery. And, as there is always a large
Quantity of tarr’d Yarns on Hand, Rigging for a
Ship of any Size may be completed in a few Days’
Notice. As the very best Materials are provided for
carrying on the Rope-making Business, and all due
Pains taken in the Execution of the Work, the
Dentists have themselves, they can turn out Cordage,
its like, not inferior to any imported from Great-Bri-

Maryland Gazette, 9 June 1768
JAMES DICK & STEWART,
Have just imported, in the Betsey, Capt. Hannah, from London, and the Patuxent, Capt. Luke, from Chincoteague, and have for Sale at their Stores, in Annapolis and London Town,

A GENERAL Assortment of European and East-India Goods.
Likewise, Spermaceti Candles, Mould and Tallow ditto, by the Box; Castile and Hard Soap, by the Box; Linseed Oil, by the Barrel; Window Glass, 12 by 10, 11 by 10, and 10 by 8, by the Half Box; Madeira Wine, by the Pipe, Hoghead, or Quarter Cask; Wejl-India Rum, by the Hoghead; single and double refined Sugar; coarse Salt; Pork, and Beef, by the Barrel.

Also, Sail-Ducks, Anchors; Oakum; all Sorts of Ship Chandlery; and all Sizes of Cordage, made at Newington Rope-Walk, where Orders are comply with in the most speedy Manner.

Maryland Gazette, 8 June 1769

JAMES DICK and STEWART,
Have just imported from London, in the Ship Betsey, Captain James Buchanan, and have for Sale a Reasonable Rate, Wholesale and Retail, at their Store in Annapolis and London Town.

A LARGE Assortment of GOODS, including the Association, consisting of coarse Woolens of all Sorts, Linen, Gingham, Rug and Blankets, Match-Cloth Blankets, Foreign Linen, Gunpowder, Shot and Lead, Sail-Cloth of all Numbers, Anchors from 1 to 50, and all Sorts of Ship Chandlery, Oakum, Seine Twine, Grind-Stones, and Hand Mill Sticks, Corks, Seize-Cerks and Leads, Felt Hats, Wax and Cotton Cards, &c.

They have likewise for Sale, old Madeira Wine, by the Pipe, Hoghead, or Quarter Cask, and fine Salt by the Bushel, Rice, and a few Barrels of Castile Soap, and barrel'd Pork.

All Sorts of Cordage made at Newington Rope-Walk: Where Orders will be comply with, as much Expedition as possible.

Maryland Gazette, 4 October 1770

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