Directions:

- Copy the template below, front to back, onto 8 ½ x 11" white or colored paper so that the title "The General Assembly 1619" is at the top, upside down, and the 3 groups are on the reverse side, at the bottom of the page.
- Students fold the three groups governor, governor's council, and burgesses, over and make a hotdog fold, creasing off center and leaving a tab, so that the title "The General Assembly 1619" can be seen.
- Cut on the dotted lines between the three groups, creating 3 tabs.
- Lift each tab and write details about each group underneath. Add drawings for additional meaning if desired.
- Refer to the information included below for additional background knowledge on this topic.

Answer Key:

General Assembly -1619

Governor

- Appointed by the Virginia Company officials in London.
- Wealthy person of power from England. Usually the 2nd or 3rd son of a rich landowner.

Council

- Appointed by the king
- Six prominent, wealthy citizens

Burgesses

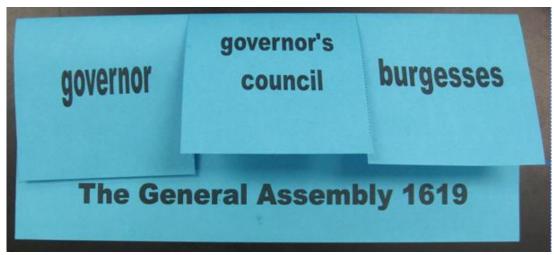
- 2 Representatives each from various settlements called "particular plantations" or "hundreds"
- Chosen by the colonists who could vote
- these Burgesses were elected
- had to be white men over age 17 that owned property

Teacher Notes:

The Information below is included to build teacher background knowledge about the General Assembly and the House of Burgesses, and to clarify page 12 of the *Curriculum Framework* as well as information found in textbooks.

The Great Charter in 1618 authorized the popular election of representatives to advise the Governor (appointed at that time by the Virginia Company and after 1625 by the King) and Council (about a dozen prominent planters who served as advisors, appointed by the king.) These representatives were called "burgesses" and they served in the General Assembly. This truly was a general assembly, with governor, councilors, and burgesses meeting together as a group. There was no separate body composed of burgesses alone. Over the years, these three entities developed institutional identities and, in 1643, that separation was recognized. The Council was the upper house in the General Assembly and the burgesses formed the lower house, or House of Burgesses. The House of Burgesses was still an advisory group with little power, but over the next 125 years, it would grow in stature and prominence.

This information was compiled by: William B. Obrochta Director of Education Virginia Historical Society



The General Assembly 1619

pnldezzez

governor's council

donernor

VS.3d The General Assembly of 1619