Pocahontas (1595-1617) (also known as Matoaka, her real name) was known as the Indian princess who bridged peace between Native Americans and early European settlers.

Her father, Powhatan, was the powerful chief of the Algonquian tribes in the Virginia region. When Pocahontas was 11 years old, she befriended the Jamestown colonists and brought them food. One of the colonists, Captain John Smith, claimed that Pocahontas saved his life by throwing herself over him just before he was to be killed on her father's orders.

In 1613, Captain Samuel Argall kidnapped Pocahontas to force her father to release the English colonists he held as prisoners. While being held hostage among the colonists, Pocahontas converted to Christianity and married John Rolfe, a colonist. This marriage led to several years of peace between Jamestown colonists and Powhatan's tribes.

In 1616, Pocahontas, her husband, and son traveled to England to raise money for the struggling Virginia colony. Just before returning home, she died of smallpox. Even in death, she symbolized to Europeans the possibility of peaceful relations with Native Americans.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1608</th>
<th>1613</th>
<th>1614</th>
<th>1922</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saves John Smith's life</td>
<td>Colonists take her hostage for the return of English colonists held</td>
<td>Marries John Rolfe</td>
<td>A statue of Pocahontas is erected in Jamestown, Virginia</td>
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<td>prisoner by Chief Powhatan</td>
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