

Name: _____ Date: _____

WORKSHEET

Chapter 8: Exploring and Settling Western Virginia
Section 1: Early Explorers in Western Virginia

An Explorer’s Journal

Directions: Read the following excerpt from the journal of John Fontaine, one of the gentlemen who traveled with Alexander Spotswood across the mountains of western Virginia. Then, write your own journal entry as a modern-day explorer of West Virginia. Identify the area where you are as well as what you see.

Sept. 5, 1717. We crossed the river which we called Euphrates. It is very deep; the main course of water is north; it is four score yards wide in the narrowest part. We drank some healths on the other side, and returned; after which I went a swimming in it. We could not find any fordable place, except...one.... The Governor had graving irons, but could not grave anything, the stones were so hard. I graved my name on a tree by the river side; and the Governor buried a bottle with a paper inclosed, on which he writ that he took possession of this place in the name and for King George the First of England.

JOURNAL OF _____

DATE _____ AREA EXPLORED _____
