In this activity, you will be asked to think about why people might choose to start a new life far away from their place of birth. A video will introduce you to John Howland, a *Mayflower* passenger and indentured servant, whose numerous descendants include U.S. presidents and Hollywood actors.

***Before You Watch***

* *Think about*:
  + What might convince you and your family to decide to make a major change in your life, such as moving to a new place?
* *Group discussion*:

1. What do you think conditions were like for passengers aboard a ship in the 1600s? What do you think conditions were like for sailors aboard a ship in the 1600s? Why would it be dangerous for passengers to come above deck?
2. What do you think would be the risks of coming to America in the 1600s? What would be the rewards? Would you risk coming to America?

***While You Watch***

* *Look for answers to these questions while watching the video. Watch the video more than once, as needed.*

1. Why was John Howland onboard the Mayflower?
2. How many children did John Howland and his wife, Elizabeth (Tilley) Howland, have? How many grandchildren did they have?
3. How many centuries did it take for John and Elizabeth Howland’s descendants to number approximately two million?

***After You Watch***

1. Why did John and Elizabeth Howland have so many more grandchildren than children?
2. Passengers aboard the *Mayflower* usually stayed down below or between decks. They were not accustomed to being at sea and above deck, and risked being in the way of the sailors at work or, even worse, falling overboard. Can you think of some reasons why John Howland would have gone above deck during a storm?
3. Considering the dangers of ocean travel, what reasons might make a person decide to cross the Atlantic?