In this activity, you will hear from Native historians about epidemics that devastated the Northeast coast a few years before the *Mayflower* arrived. You also will learn that the English colonists, known as “the Pilgrims,” and Native people had different perspectives on the desolation.

***Before You Watch***

* *Class discussion*:
  1. What is colonization?
  2. What is a plague?
  3. What happens when two worlds meet? What are some of the consequences of colonization/cultural encounter? Are they all bad? Are they all good?

***While You Watch***

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

1. About how many people lived in Wampanoag territory?
2. Where did the plague begin? How far did it spread?
3. How did Native people view the desolation of the North American coast? How did the Pilgrims view it?
4. Why did Tisquantum survive the plague?

***After You Watch***

1. If 50-90% of the population of Native New England died in the plague, about how many died?
2. How do you think Tisquantum felt returning to his homeland after five years in Europe? How do you think this return home affected his relations with other Native people? With the English?
3. Why do you think the Pilgrims and Native people viewed the desolation differently?
4. How do you think this plague may have affected future relations between Native communities and the colonists at Plymouth?
5. What do you think Literary Critic Kathleen Donegan meant when she said at the end of the video:

“We need to go back to look at what’s been remembered, and let that shed light on what's been forgotten – it is an important exercise when we're thinking about something that has been so central to our national imagination.”