

**Mark Catesby, *A Map of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands with the Adjacent Parts from his Natural History of the Carolinas, Florida and the Bahama Islands: Containing the Figures of Birds, Beasts, Fishes, Serpents, Insects and Plants: Particularly the Forest-Trees, Shrubs, and the other Plants, not hitherto described...*, 2nd ed. (London, 1754). Colored copper-engraving.**

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This map is a stunning example of the growing fascination of the flora and fauna in the New World. Englishman Mark Catesby accompanied his sister, who married the secretary of the governor of Virginia, to America where he spent the next seven years travelling through the southeastern United States. Catesby again returned to the New World in 1722 to seek out plants that had economic potential and might be acclimatized in England – he also travelled to the Bahamas in 1725. This map, found in the 1754 second edition of his *Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* features a charming cartouche, in which the title is entwined with local shells and corals (upper right).

### **Essential Questions**

How is a map readers desire to study a map encouraged by artistic embellishment?

What do artistic embellishments teach us about the places found on maps?