



# IMPACT

## CALIFORNIA SOCIAL STUDIES

# U.S. History

## Making a New Nation

**RESEARCH COMPANION**

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# Chapter 4

## The Road to War

### Lesson 1

The French and Indian War

### Lesson 2

Patriots, Loyalists, and the British

### Lesson 3

The Colonists Rebel



## Why Would a Nation Want to Become Independent?

In this chapter, you'll read about the conflicts that arose between the American colonies and Great Britain. You'll learn about how colonists were divided between wanting independence and wanting reconciliation with Great Britain, and you'll discover what ultimately led them down the road to war.

### Step into the Time Chronological Thinking

Look at the timeline. What was happening in other parts of the world while the American colonists were beginning to rebel against British rule?

#### Americas

**1754**  
The French and Indian War begins.

**1763**  
Treaty of Paris ends the French and Indian War.  
**1763**  
Proclamation of 1763 sets aside land west of the Appalachians for American Indians.

#### World Events

**1732**  
Şafavid Empire ends in Persia (modern-day Iran).

**1735**  
Qianlong becomes emperor of China.

**1740–1741**  
Cold weather and poor harvests kill more than a third of the population in Ireland.

**1760**  
George III becomes ruler of Great Britain.

HSS.5.3.3, HSS.5.4.7, HSS.5.5.1, HAS.CS.1





## North America after the French and Indian War, 1763



### Step into the Place

1. What areas were under French control before the French and Indian War?
2. What happened to that territory as a result of the French and Indian War?

**1765**  
Parliament passes the Stamp Act and the Quartering Act.

**1767**  
Parliament passes the Townshend Acts.

**1772**  
Samuel Adams forms the first Committee of Correspondence.

**1773**  
Colonists protest the Tea Act with the Boston Tea Party.

**1774**  
The First Continental Congress meets.

**1770**

**1769–1770**  
British captain James Cook explores Australia and New Zealand.

**1775**

**1774**  
Joseph Priestley of Great Britain becomes the first scientist to publish a description of the chemical element oxygen.



# People You Should Know



**James Logan**

The son of Chief Shikellamy of the Oneida people, James Logan was a respected figure in the Pennsylvania colony. His good relationship with the white settlers in the area of the Ohio River Valley lasted until 1774. At that time, a trader murdered Logan's family during the Yellow Creek Massacre. This treachery sparked the conflict that came to be called Lord Dunmore's War between the American Indians and European settlers. Later, he helped the British army during the American Revolution.



**Sarah Bradlee Fulton**

Called "Mother of the Boston Tea Party," Sarah Bradlee Fulton used her own kitchen as a meeting place for the men who dumped tea into Boston Harbor on December 16, 1773. She and other "Daughters of Liberty" showed similar resistance to the British throughout the revolution that was to come. She organized women to nurse wounded soldier after the Battle of Bunker Hill and acted as a courier, crossing enemy lines and risking her own life during the Revolutionary War.



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in the product.



## William Pitt, the Elder

A British leader, William Pitt was a mastermind of Great Britain's strategy in the Seven Years' War, which included the French and Indian War. Pitt convinced Parliament to put him in charge, to give him almost unlimited resources, and to let him completely restructure the British military in order to win the conflict. His strategies worked, and Great Britain won the war. They also left Britain with tremendous debt that Britain wanted the colonists to help pay for. Later, Pitt spoke out against Britain's taxing the colonists without allowing them to be represented in Parliament.

## Chief Pontiac

A chief of the Ottawa people of the Great Lakes region, Pontiac forged an alliance to beat back the British in the conflict known as Pontiac's War (1763–1766). His alliance included almost all of the American Indian tribes between Lake Superior and the lower Mississippi. His strategy was fairly successful at first, but years of fighting took their toll. Pontiac signed a peace treaty with the British in 1766.





# What Caused the Conflict between Great Britain, France, and the American Indians?

## Conflict in the Ohio River Valley

In the early 1700s, England and France were each creating colonial empires in North America. England, which became Great Britain in 1707, established thirteen colonies between the Atlantic Coast and the Appalachian Mountains. These British colonies had a large, growing population and a vigorous economy based on farming and trade. The colonies of New France consisted of two areas: what is now Canada and also Louisiana in the Mississippi River Valley. New France was far larger than the British colonies in total land area but much smaller in population. Most colonists in New France were involved in the fur trade.

By the mid-1700s, the British and French colonists were coming into conflict. The French fur traders wanted to preserve the forested wilderness as it was. As the British colonists needed more land for farming, the French feared that British farmers would cut down the trees, ruining the **habitat** of fur-bearing animals.



HSS.5.3.1, HSS.5.3.2, HSS.5.3.3, HSS.5.3.4, HSS.5.3.5, HSS.5.3.6, HSS.5.5.1, HAS.HI.3

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# Timeline

**1754**

War breaks out between British and French settlers in the upper Ohio River Valley.

**1763**

The Treaty of Paris ends the French and Indian War.

**1763–1764**

Ottawa leader Chief Pontiac leads resistance to the British.

**1766**

Pontiac and the British agree to a peace treaty.

1750

1755

1760

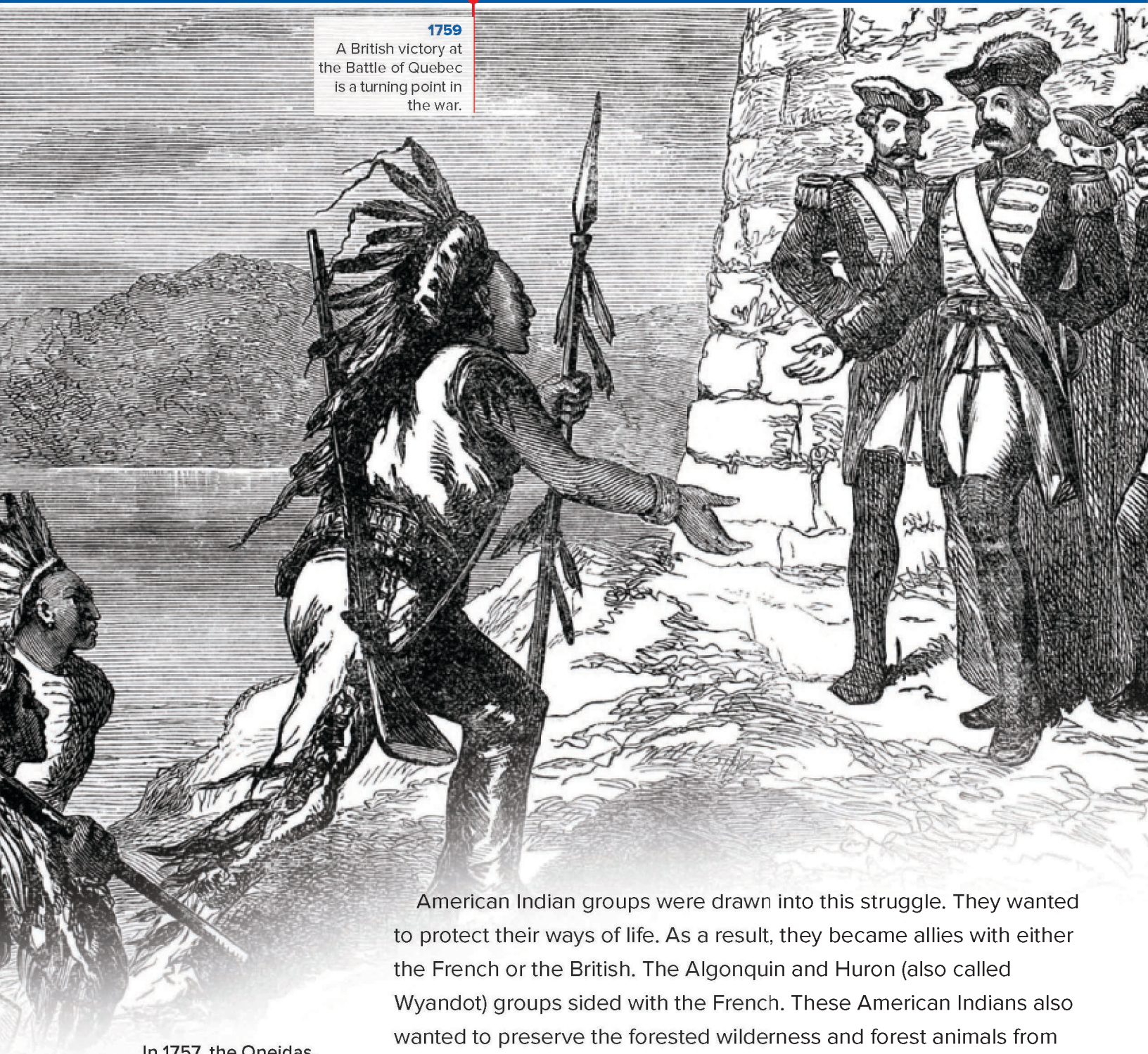
1765

1770

1775

**1759**

A British victory at the Battle of Quebec is a turning point in the war.



American Indian groups were drawn into this struggle. They wanted to protect their ways of life. As a result, they became allies with either the French or the British. The Algonquin and Huron (also called Wyandot) groups sided with the French. These American Indians also wanted to preserve the forested wilderness and forest animals from British settlers. In addition, the French had aided the Algonquin and Huron in their struggles with their traditional enemies, the Iroquois Confederacy. The Iroquois sided with the British because they were angry at the French for helping their enemies.

In 1757, the Oneidas, Senecas, and other tribes crossed Lake Champlain to aid the French.



The focus of the struggle between the French and the British, and their American Indian allies, was the upper Ohio River Valley. In firm control of the territories of New France, French settlers had spread southward into the Great Lakes region. They established a major outpost there at Detroit in 1701. By the 1750s, farmers and traders from the British colonies of Virginia and Pennsylvania had begun to cross the Appalachian Mountains, moving into the lands beyond. To halt this advance, the French built a line of forts from Lake Erie to western Pennsylvania. The British saw the forts as a threat and decided to try to drive the French out.



### Stop and Check

**Think** How did France's choice of allies among American Indians cause the Iroquois to become allies of the British?

**Find Details** As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 137 in your Inquiry Journal.



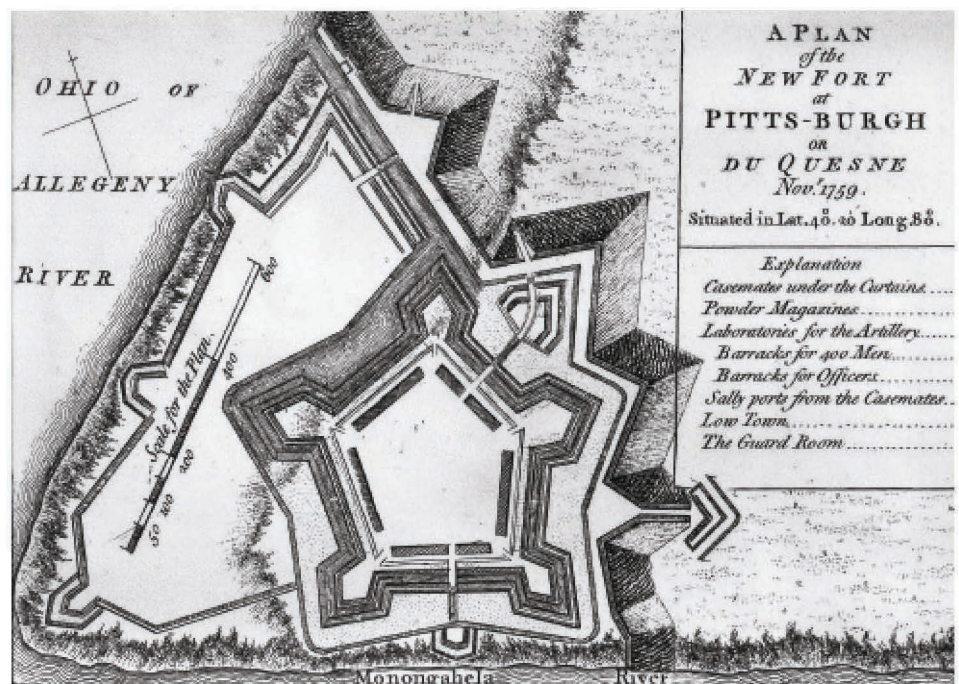
# The Battle at Fort Duquesne

Robert Dinwiddie was the lieutenant governor of the British colony of Virginia. He wanted to convince the British government in London of the seriousness of the French threat in the Ohio Valley. So, in early 1754, Dinwiddie sent 22-year-old George Washington with a small force to strengthen a British **outpost** at the site of what is now the city of Pittsburgh. As Washington neared the fort, he discovered that French troops had already seized it and renamed it Fort Duquesne (doo KAIN).

Washington quickly built a temporary post in the area and named it Fort Necessity. From this base, Washington's troops launched a successful attack against the French on May 28, 1754. But the French counterattacked on July 3, forcing Washington to surrender. He and his men were allowed to return to Virginia, and the French destroyed Fort Necessity. The French and Indian War had begun.

An early map of Fort Duquesne, later renamed For Pitt

Back in Virginia, Washington found his defeat had not harmed his reputation. The colonial government thanked him for his efforts, and he was named head of Virginia's militia on the frontier. Washington remarked in a letter to his brother, "I have heard the bullets whistle; and believe me, there is something charming in the sound."



## Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** How did Washington's expedition into the Ohio Valley support Robert Dinwiddie's views about the French? Discuss your opinion with a partner.



# The French Gain the Upper Hand

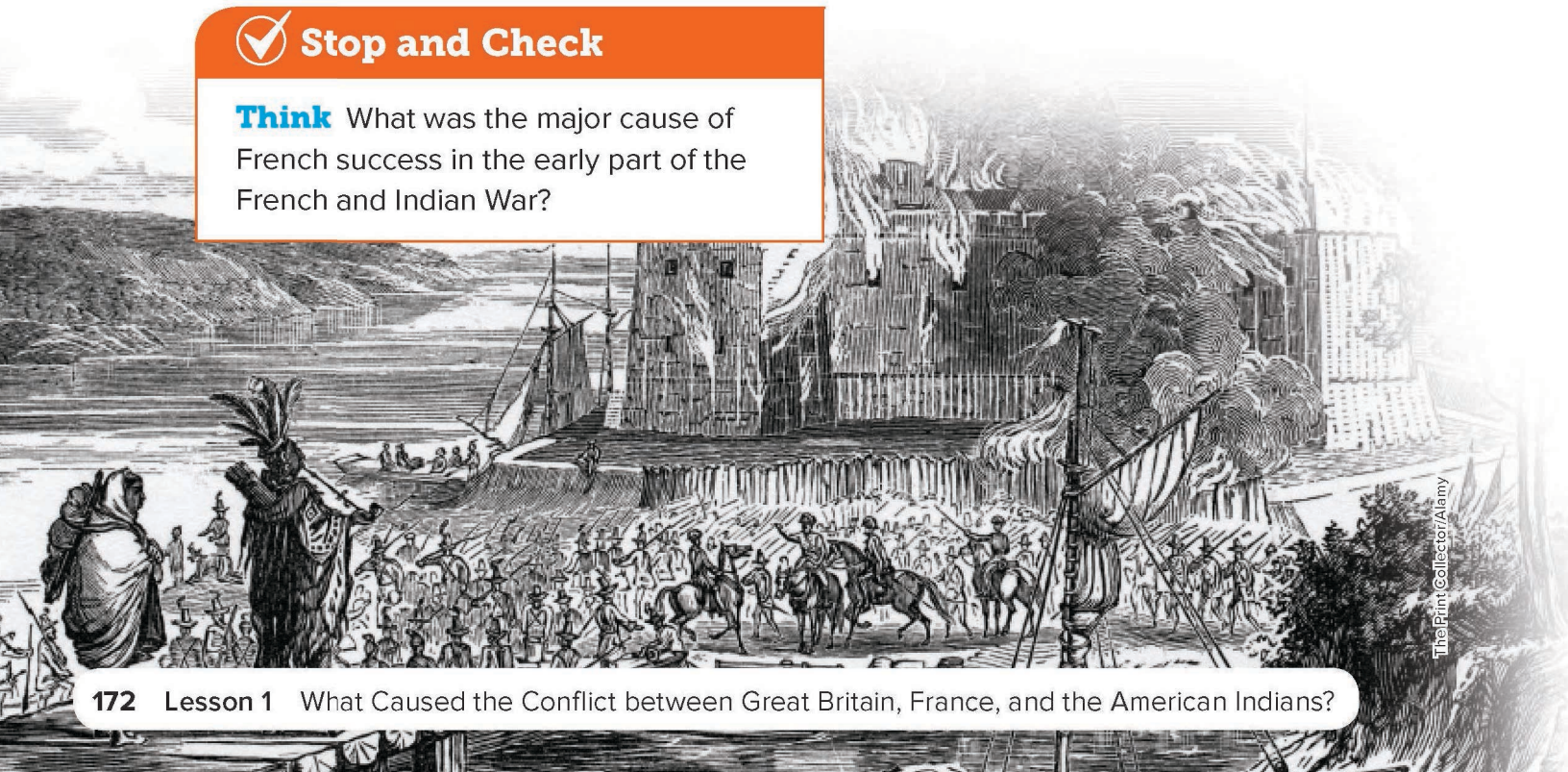
The early phase of the war was marked by French victories. Their American Indian allies taught the French how to make surprise attacks from behind trees and rocks. By contrast, British troops, who marched into battle in formation, were easy targets. Such British tactics resulted in disaster in 1755 when General Edward Braddock led another group of British troops against Fort Duquesne. Colonel George Washington rode alongside Braddock. On July 9, the French and their allies ambushed the British force in the wilderness. British losses were severe. Some 900 of their 1,400 troops were killed or wounded, including nearly all the officers. Braddock himself was fatally wounded. Now in command, Washington was able to lead the remaining British forces to safety.

The French continued to be victorious. In 1756, their commander Louis-Joseph de Montcalm led a force of French soldiers and American Indians in the capture of an important British post, Fort Oswego, in the Great Lakes region. Montcalm reported that he had taken 1,600 prisoners and seized 100 cannon, six armed vessels, and a two-year supply of food. “All this cost us only 30 men killed and wounded,” he said. Montcalm’s victory gave the French full control of Lake Ontario. The following year, he captured another British post, Fort William Henry, which was near present-day Lake George, New York.

An engraving depicting the evacuation of Fort Duquesne, 1758

## ✓ Stop and Check

**Think** What was the major cause of French success in the early part of the French and Indian War?





# The Turning Point

News of French victories shocked the British colonies. The colonists begged the British Prime Minister, William Pitt, for more help. Pitt believed that the war in North America was critical to the overall struggle between Great Britain and France. The two nations were also at war in Europe. Pitt convinced the British government to pour more money, troops, and other supplies into the conflict. In addition, the British navy blockaded ports in New France, cutting off shipments of food and other supplies to French colonists. Finally, both British soldiers and American colonial militias became skilled in fighting the way American Indians did in the wilderness. All of these factors changed the course of the war.

In 1758, British troops defeated the French at Louisburg, Nova Scotia. Several months later, Colonel John Bradstreet led the British to victory over the French in a battle at Fort Frontenac on Lake Ontario. In November, the British finally retook Fort Duquesne. They renamed it Fort Pitt in honor of the British prime minister. In 1759, Sir William Johnson forced the French to surrender Fort Niagara. British General Jeffery Amherst then defeated the French at Fort Ticonderoga near Lake Champlain in upstate New York.

## Then and Now

The city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was built around Fort Pitt. The land where Fort Pitt used to be is now a public park, though the brick outline of the old fort is still intact. The site is also home to the Fort Pitt Museum, which presents the story of western Pennsylvania's essential role in the French and Indian War as well as the American Revolution.

Fort Pitt in 1758 (background)  
and Fort Pitt Block House  
today (top-right)





The climax of the war came in June 1759 when the British moved against the French stronghold at Quebec. The city of Quebec is located on steep cliffs above the St. Lawrence River. Both the river's strong currents and the fortress's cannon protected it. A British assault at the end of July failed. British commander James Wolfe decided on a daring plan—a surprise attack.

During the early hours of September 13, 1759, Wolfe landed an advance force in darkness. These soldiers climbed the steep cliffs and captured a French outpost. By morning, Wolfe's entire force was assembled on the Plains of Abraham outside the city. Like Wolfe, French commander Montcalm also decided to take a risk. He attacked immediately instead of waiting for reinforcements. The two armies both numbered about 4,500 men. However, Wolfe's troops were professional soldiers, while Montcalm's were volunteers. The battlefield was not forested wilderness, but open country. The careful musket fire of Wolfe's troops halted the advance of the French and then caused them to retreat. Both Montcalm and Wolfe were fatally wounded in the battle.

On September 18, the French surrendered Quebec City. A year later, the French surrendered their last stronghold, Montreal. The British now controlled New France.

British  
troops attack  
Quebec.



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** What kinds of advantages did the land around Quebec provide to both the French and the British?



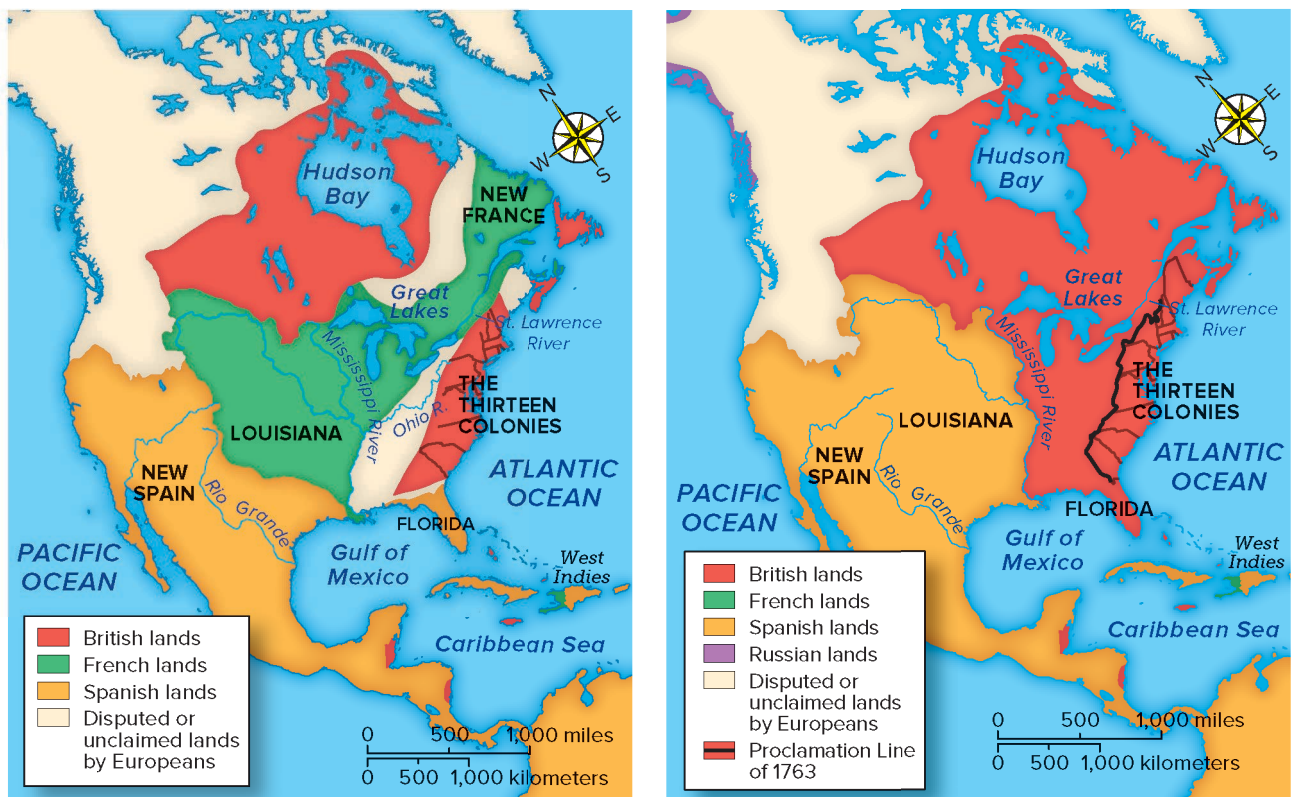
Album/Quipnoz/News.com



# Outcomes and Aftermath

The French tried to retake Quebec in 1762 but failed. In Europe, meanwhile, Great Britain and France continued their war. Spain aided the French and, in return, France agreed to give Spain much of the Louisiana Territory. By 1763, the French were ready to negotiate a peace treaty with Great Britain. The Treaty of Paris was signed on February 10, 1763.

In October 1763, news of the Treaty of Paris reached North America. The defeated French could no longer aid American Indians in their resistance to British settlers. However, Great Britain wanted to keep down the cost of defending its American colonies. To stop British settlements in the Ohio River Valley, British King George III issued the Proclamation of 1763. This official order set aside all British land west of the Appalachian Mountains for American Indians. This decision satisfied the native peoples but angered American colonists hungry for land.



## North America, 1750 and 1763



### Map Skills

Which European power lost the most land in North America from 1750 to 1763? Which two European powers gained the most land?



By 1760, although the British were defeating the French in North America, their control over the lands was not firm. Some of the American Indian allies of the French decided to resist British rule. The most important leader of this resistance was Pontiac. He was a member of the Ottawa, an Algonquin-speaking group whose homeland was in what is now northern Michigan and parts of Canada. As French outposts in Ottawa territory were surrendered to the British, Pontiac agreed not to attack British troops if they treated him with respect. His experience with the British convinced Pontiac, however, that they were a threat. Soon, settlers would follow these troops, Pontiac correctly believed. The settlers would want to turn Ottawa hunting grounds into farms.

In 1762, Pontiac organized almost every American Indian group from Lake Superior to the lower Mississippi River Valley. The plan, which Pontiac announced in early 1763, was for each group to attack the nearest British outpost. Then, all the American Indians would combine in a general attack on the British settlements. Pontiac himself was to attack Detroit. Although his attack on Detroit failed, the American Indians were successful in seizing many other British outposts and destroying frontier settlements. British troops struck back, though, and by 1764 American Indian resistance to the British in the Great Lakes region had ended.

As a result of the French and Indian War, British colonists saw themselves in a new way. They had helped fight a powerful enemy and had won. They also proved that they had strong leaders, such as George Washington. They had learned that the British colonies could unite in a common effort. This gave them a feeling of strength.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... Pontiac

It is important for us, my brothers, that we exterminate from our lands this nation which seeks only to destroy us. You see as well as I that we can no longer supply our needs, as we have done from our brothers, the French.

—from a speech by Pontiac to the Ottawa people in May 1763



TEXT: Pontiac. 5 May 1763. Quoted in Michigan Society of the Colonial Wars, M. Agnes Burton, ed., *Journal of Pontiac's Conspiracy, 1763* (Detroit, MI: Clarence Monroe Burton, 1912), 38.  
PHOTO: North Wind Picture Archives/Alamy



The colonists also saw their relationship with Great Britain in a new light. They were angry with the British government for the Proclamation of 1763. Many colonists ignored the order and continued to cross the Appalachians to settle in the lands reserved for American Indians. The colonists knew that they could rely very little on British protection from American Indian attacks. In the end, the effect of the French and Indian War

would be to unite the colonists in opposition to British government policy. Soon, this would lead them to fight for their own independence.



George Washington leads an attack on a French encampment.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... George Washington

The Virginia troops showed a good deal of bravery, and were nearly all killed; for I believe, out of three companies that were there, scarcely thirty men are left alive. ... I luckily escaped without a wound, though I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me.

—from George Washington's letter to his mother about Braddock's defeat, July 18, 1755



## Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** Why didn't the British colonists obey the Proclamation of 1763? Were they right or wrong to disobey it?





# What Were the Views of the Patriots, Loyalists, and the British?

## New Taxes

Great Britain's 1763 victory in the French and Indian War came at a great cost. The war doubled Britain's debt, which reached 122 million pounds in 1763. Adding to the cost were the British troops left behind to protect the colonies from further conflict. King George III, who had been on the throne for only three years, struggled to find ways to pay the massive debt.

George III was a young king determined to make his mark as a strong ruler. He surrounded himself with advisors who agreed he should rule the colonies with a firm hand. British citizens already paid high taxes. The advisors argued that it was only fair to tax colonists to help pay for Britain's protection during and after the war.

Parliament, the British legislature, passed the Sugar Act in 1764. It forced the colonists to pay a tax on all sugar products. An older British tax on sugar products already existed, but the British government had never enforced it. With the new Sugar Act, any colonist who refused to pay was arrested and fined. However, the Sugar Act did not bring in enough money to make a significant impact on Britain's debt.

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**Timeline**

- 1763 February** Treaty of Paris ends the French and Indian War.
- 1763 October** Proclamation of 1763 sets aside land west of the Appalachians for American Indians.
- 1764** Parliament passes the Sugar Act.
- 1765** Parliament passes the Stamp Act.

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One year later, Parliament passed the Stamp Act. It forced colonists to buy stamps for all printed documents. This included everyday paper products such as letters, newspapers, pamphlets, and even playing cards.

Many colonists were furious. They disagreed with Britain's **imposing** the tax on them. Colonists complained that Parliament passed the new tax laws without colonists' consent, or agreement. One strong opponent of the tax laws was Samuel Adams of Massachusetts. Adams sent protest letters to newspapers and addressed delegates from the colony's assembly. In one letter, he stated, "If our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? Why not . . . everything we possess or use?"



A British stamp used on printed documents

## Chart Skills

GDP is the Gross Domestic Product, the total value of all goods and services a country produces in a year. When a country owes more in debt than it produces in a year, it can take a long time for the country to pay down its debt.

Source: [ukpublicspending.co.uk](http://ukpublicspending.co.uk)

The Growth of Britain's Debt

Year	British Debt as a Percentage of GDP
1700	23
1710	34
1720	83
1730	76
1740	68
1750	107
1760	132
1770	126



### Stop and Check

**Talk** How did Britain plan on paying the war debt?

**Find Details** As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 145 in your Inquiry Journal.



# The Colonies Respond

Colonists were still British citizens. Since the British government had spent money to protect these citizens, Parliament believed that the colonists should pay for the French and Indian War in the form of taxes. Many colonists saw the Stamp Act as taxation without representation. That meant they were forced to pay taxes approved by officials they had not elected. Colonists who demanded that Americans have more control of their government were known as Patriots.

Before these tax laws, only colonial legislatures had taxed colonists. Colonists had accepted those taxes because they had elected the officials. These officials, they argued, were the only ones who should be allowed to tax goods. To make matters worse, the tax money collected from the colonists went to Britain instead of the colonial governments.

Every colony protested the new tax law. In Boston, some colonists formed a group to protest the Stamp Act. They called themselves the Sons of Liberty. Samuel Adams actively participated in this group. The Sons of Liberty met under an elm tree that Adams called "The Liberty Tree." As tensions continued between the colonies and Great Britain, many Patriots began talking about breaking away from Great Britain and becoming independent.

Colonists protesting  
in the streets





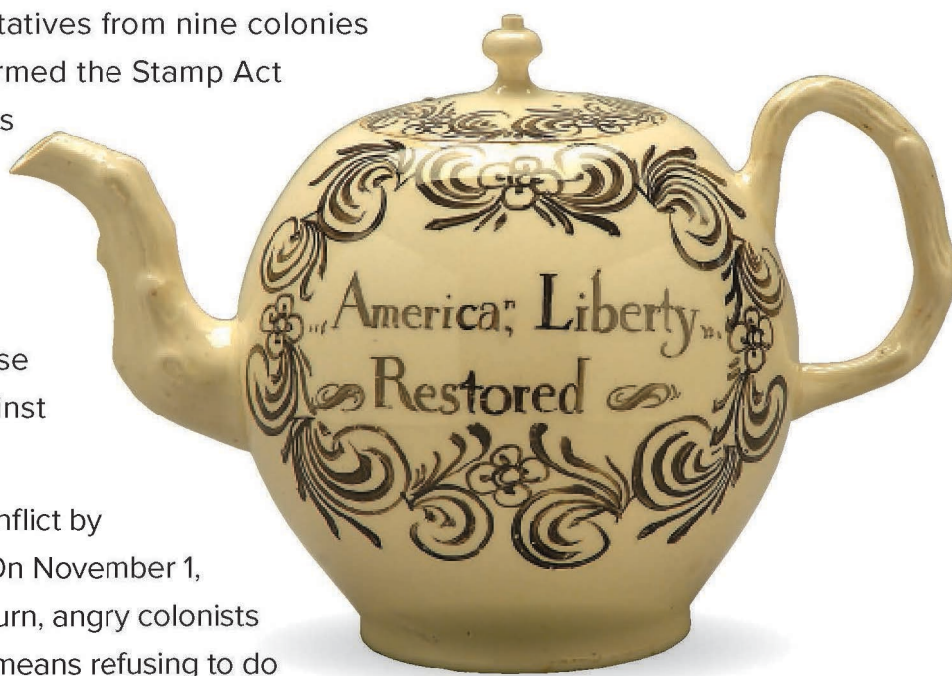
Not all colonists were Patriots, however. A third of all colonists remained loyal to King George III. These people were called Loyalists. Many of them were wealthy, but others were ordinary people. Some business leaders were Loyalists. Philadelphia merchant Thomas Clifford complained that independence would “assuredly prove unprofitable.” Many Loyalists wished to remain British citizens or were fearful that independence would lead to chaos.

In October 1765, representatives from nine colonies met in New York City and formed the Stamp Act Congress. The representatives declared that Parliament had no right to tax the colonists, since colonists were not allowed to vote for members of Parliament. These laws, they argued, were against British legal traditions.

Parliament created more conflict by ignoring colonists’ concerns. On November 1, the Stamp Act took effect. In turn, angry colonists staged a **boycott**. Boycotting means refusing to do business with—or to buy goods from—a person, group, or country. Colonists refused to use the new stamps.

Colonial women joined the protest. They formed a group called the “Daughters of Liberty.” They made a kind of cloth known as “homespun” and found other ways to replace British goods with homemade items.

Colonists refused to purchase British goods, such as tea. The boycott began to hurt British merchants. Because of the boycott, Parliament in 1766 voted to cancel the Stamp Act.



This teapot was made for sale in the colonies to celebrate the cancellation of the Stamp Act.



## Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** Why were colonists’ different types of protests effective?

## Perspectives

# Views from a Patriot and a Loyalist

Colonists who demanded that Americans have more control of their government were known as Patriots. Colonists who wanted to remain loyal to the British government were called Loyalists. The following quotations show the points of view of George Mason, a Patriot, and Joseph Galloway, a Loyalist.

“We claim nothing but the liberty and privileges of Englishmen, in the same degree, as if we had still continued among our brethren in Great Britain: these rights have not been forfeited by any act of ours, we can not be deprived of them without our consent, but by violence and injustice.”

—George Mason, to the Committee of Merchants in London, June 6, 1766



George Mason



Joseph Galloway

“The protection of America has, in no small degree, contributed to this burden of the mother country. To the large sums of money that have been expended from the English treasury and the parental care of a British Parliament, we in a great measure owe our present freedom....”

—Americanus (pseudonym for Joseph Galloway), letter to the *New York Gazette*, 15 August 1765, reprinted two weeks later in the *Pennsylvania Journal* (29 August 1765)

**What Do You Think?** Whose argument do you think is more convincing? Why?

TEXT: (i) Mason, George. George Mason to the Committee of Merchants in London, 6 June 1766. In *The Life of George Mason*, 1725-1792, Volume 1, ed. Kate Mason Rowland, no. 3. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1892. (b) Galloway, Joseph. “Americanus.” Letter to *The New-York Gazette*, 15 August 1765. PHOTO: (i) McGraw-Hill Education, (r) Bettmann/Getty Images



# The Townshend Acts

Parliament gave in to colonial pressure when it **repealed** the Stamp Act in 1766, but the break from taxes did not last long. In 1767, Parliament found another way to raise taxes. It passed the Townshend Acts, which were named for the treasurer of the British government, Charles Townshend. Parliament believed colonists would be more accepting of a tax on factory-made goods imported from Great Britain. These included common imports such as tea, paper, glass, lead, and paint. Again, colonists were angry. They demanded Britain cancel the Townshend Acts. They also organized a boycott of the newly taxed items as well as any colonial businesses that continued to sell or use taxed goods.

After the passage of the Townshend Acts, a Pennsylvania farmer named John Dickinson began writing a series of letters to the people of Great Britain. Although he was a Patriot, Dickinson was against independence and argued in favor of peaceful protest of Britain's taxes. Some other Patriots agreed with him. In fact, there were many among the British, Patriots, and Loyalists who did not wish to go to war. But in the coming years, relations between the colonists and Great Britain would become only more tense.

Britain feared the boycotts could lead to violence, and so they acted on these fears. Britain sent troops to Boston, which was the center of colonial protests. What happened next would push the two sides even closer to war.



## Stop and Check

**Think** Based on what you have read about colonists' protests, do you think Britain was justified in sending troops to Boston?



Colonial boycotts affected the economy in Britain as well as in the colonies.

## Around the World

### How Did the Boycott Hurt Britain's Economy?

The French and Indian War had left Britain not only with debt but also with an economic **recession**. Colonists' boycott of British goods weakened trade in a struggling British economy. British businesses and factories suffered losses from fewer products being exported to the colonies. So, like the colonists, British merchants began organizing to pressure Parliament to end the Stamp Act. Parliament took the merchants' concerns more seriously than the colonists' concerns. It canceled the Stamp Act.

**What Do You Think?** What was similar about colonists' and British merchants' organizing efforts? What was different about them?



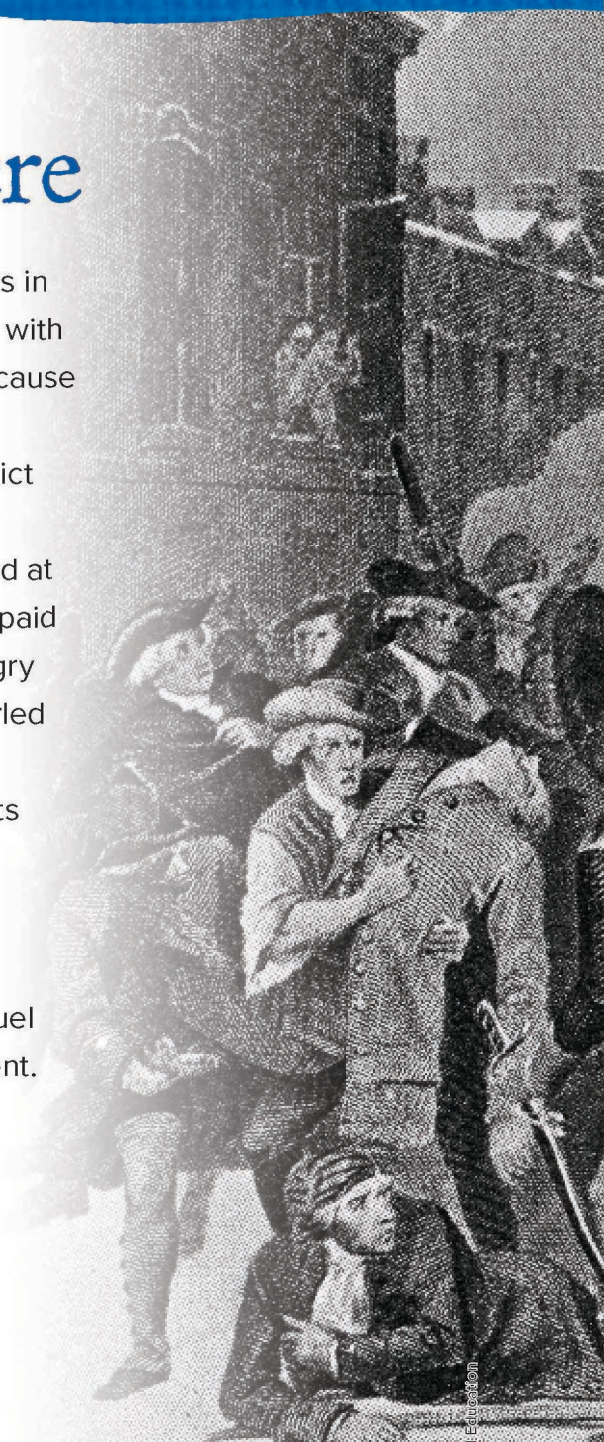


# What Increased Tensions Between Great Britain and the Colonists?

## The Boston Massacre

Tensions were high between colonists and British soldiers in Boston in early 1770. The people of Boston were not happy with the increase in the number of British soldiers in the city. Because of the Quartering Act, some residents were forced to allow British officers to stay in their homes. On March 5, the conflict turned deadly. Historians debate the specific details, but all accounts begin the same way. A group of colonists gathered at the Customs House, where taxes on imported goods were paid to Great Britain. British soldiers arrived. An exchange of angry words and insults quickly turned physical. The colonists hurled snowballs and ice at the soldiers. Some of the soldiers lost control and fired their **muskets** into the crowd. Five colonists were killed as a result of these actions. Among them was Crispus Attucks, a man who had escaped from slavery.

The incident became known as the Boston Massacre. Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty used the event as fuel to add to the growing movement for colonial self-government.





Parliament passes the Stamp Act and the Quartering Act.

Parliament  
passes the  
Townshend  
Acts.

Samuel Adams forms  
the first Committee  
of Correspondence.

Parliament  
passes the  
Tea Act.

The First Continental Congress meets.

1760 | | | | | | | 1765 | | | | | | | 1770 | | | | | | | 1775 | | | | | | |



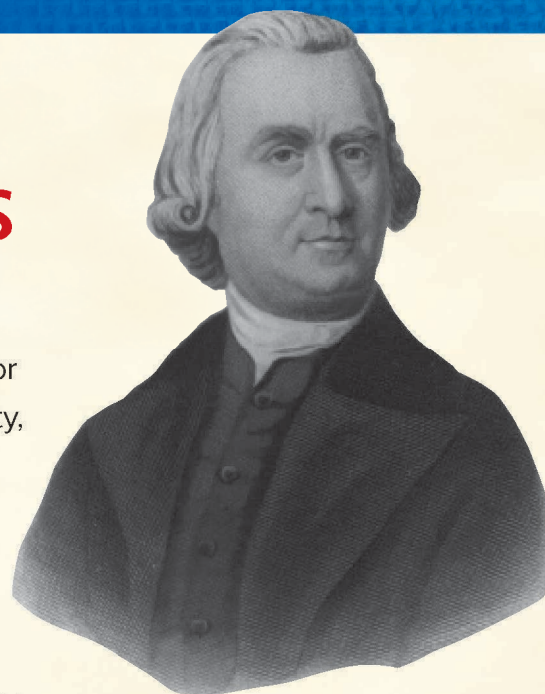
Lesson 3 187



# Samuel Adams

## AND THE COMMITTEES OF CORRESPONDENCE

Samuel Adams was a key figure in the colonists' quest for freedom. He was among the founders of the Sons of Liberty, a group that was organized to protest the Stamp Act. It continued to speak out against British rule. Anti-British feeling spread slowly throughout the colonies. Adams realized that the colonists needed a way to communicate. Having previously written letters to newspapers to protest the Stamp Act, Adams knew that the fastest and most reliable way to communicate was through letters. In 1772, he formed a 21-person committee to communicate the Patriots' plans and progress. He adapted this idea from a committee that was formed in 1764 to protest new British rules about currency and customs.



A portrait of Samuel Adams

By forming the committee, Adams—and other Sons of Liberty—could stay up-to-date with the events in the colonies. Thus, the Committee of Correspondence was born. Within a few months, more than 80 similar Committees of Correspondence formed throughout the colonies. A few years later, a volunteer rider for the Boston Committee of Correspondence would also make history. His name was Paul Revere.

Samuel Adams continued to be an influential figure during the Revolutionary War and in the early republic. In 1776, he signed the Declaration of Independence. Later, he was elected governor of Massachusetts. During his time in government, he fought for the rights of boys and girls to receive free and equal education.



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** What did Samuel Adams do to show his opposition to the way Britain was ruling the colonies? How did his actions help the colonists?

**Find Details** As you read, add new information to the graphic organizer on page 153 in your Inquiry Journal.



# The Boston Tea Party

Some of the colonists' protests worked. Parliament repealed the Townshend Acts. However, it also passed the Tea Act in 1773. The Tea Act gave the British East India Company the exclusive right to sell tea in the colonies without paying export taxes. This allowed the company to sell its tea at a price cheaper than that of other merchants' tea. Colonial tea merchants could no longer compete. Further, colonists still had to pay taxes when they bought the tea. This upset Samuel Adams, the Sons of Liberty, and other colonists for two reasons. First, it was another tax that they had not voted to approve. Second, it hurt local businesses because it gave a British company a **monopoly** on tea.

In late November 1773, three ships from the East India Company landed in Boston Harbor. Some Boston residents decided to protest the Tea Act by refusing to let the ships unload their cargo. Governor Thomas Hutchinson wanted to honor the new law and decided that the ships were to remain in the harbor until the tea was sold.



The angry colonists threw British tea into Boston Harbor.





The Sons of Liberty broke open 342 tea chests.

A few weeks later, on the night of December 16, 1773, the Sons of Liberty took action. About 50 members, some dressed as Mohawk Indians, boarded the ships. They broke open the tea chests and dumped the contents of the chests into the harbor. This act of **vandalism** became known as the Boston Tea Party. Similar protests happened in New York and in Annapolis, Maryland, but only the city of Boston would face immediate consequences.

Parliament wanted to punish the colonists for their actions. It closed Boston Harbor until the colonists paid for the tea they had destroyed. It also banned town meetings and sent more soldiers to live in the city. This series of acts was known as the Coercive Acts. The Patriots called them the Intolerable Acts, because they found the actions hard to tolerate, or live with. Instead of breaking the protestors' spirits, these acts unified the anti-British colonists in their struggle. Representatives from the colonies decided to meet to discuss what to do next. Their meeting would be called the First Continental Congress.



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** How did the passage of laws after the Boston Tea Party motivate the colonists to take action?



# The First Continental Congress

On September 5, 1774, representatives from the colonies met in Philadelphia to discuss the Coercive Acts. Their goal was to plan a response to these laws. Fifty-six men represented 12 of the 13 colonies. Each colony was granted one vote. After rejecting a plan to **reconcile** with the British government, the First Continental Congress decided to write a petition, or written request, to King George III. In the document, members of the congress outlined complaints about the way the British government had been treating them. They reminded the king of their status as British citizens. They demanded that they be given the same rights—including the right to representation—that were granted to other British citizens. Then they asked the king to repeal the Coercive Acts and other laws they felt were unfair to the colonists. Lastly, they proposed an end to trade with Britain until their demands were met.



Attendees of the First Continental Congress met at Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... The First Continental Congress

The foundation of English liberty, and of all free government, is a right in the people to participate in their legislative council: and as the English colonists are not represented, and from their local and other circumstances, cannot properly be represented in the British parliament, they are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved, in all cases of taxation and internal polity, subject only to the negative of their sovereign, in such manner as has been heretofore used and accustomed.

—from the *Declaration of Rights and Grievances*, October 14, 1774



## Stop and Check

**Think** How does having a common goal unite a large group of people?





# Connections in Action!

## Back to the EQ

Think about the Chapter EQ, “**Why Would a Nation Want to Become Independent?**”

- **Talk** with a partner about what you learned in the chapter. Take sides. One of you should make the case for independence. The other should make the case against it.
- If you are for independence, which important events convinced you that independence was necessary? If you are against independence, which events prove that the colonies should remain part of Great Britain?
- **Share** your ideas with the class. Then have a class discussion about why a nation would want to become independent or not.



(t)North Wind Picture Archives/Alamy, (c)The Print Collector/Alamy, (c)traveler1116/iStock/Getty Images, (b)Album/Oronoz/Newscom



# More to Explore

## How Can You Make an IMPACT?

### Television Interview

Work with a partner. One of you will play the part of someone who witnessed the Boston Tea Party. The other will play a television interviewer. Together, develop questions that give your viewers answers about *who was involved*, as well as *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* the Boston Tea Party happened. Act out the interview for your class.

### Letter to the Editor

Imagine you are a colonist in New England. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper about how Parliament's taxes affect your daily life. Your letter should persuade readers to take some kind of action. Use evidence from the text to support your claims.

### Word Play

Choose three words from the chapter Word Bank. Write a short story in which each of the terms is a key word. Keep in mind that you can use different forms of a word as needed to fit your story—for example, *vandal* in place of *vandalism* and *boycotted* instead of *boycott*.



# Chapter 5

## The American Revolution

### Lesson 1

The Revolution Begins

### Lesson 2

The Declaration of Independence

### Lesson 3

Defining Moments of the American Revolution

### Lesson 4

Life During the Revolution

### Lesson 5

Outcomes of the Revolution

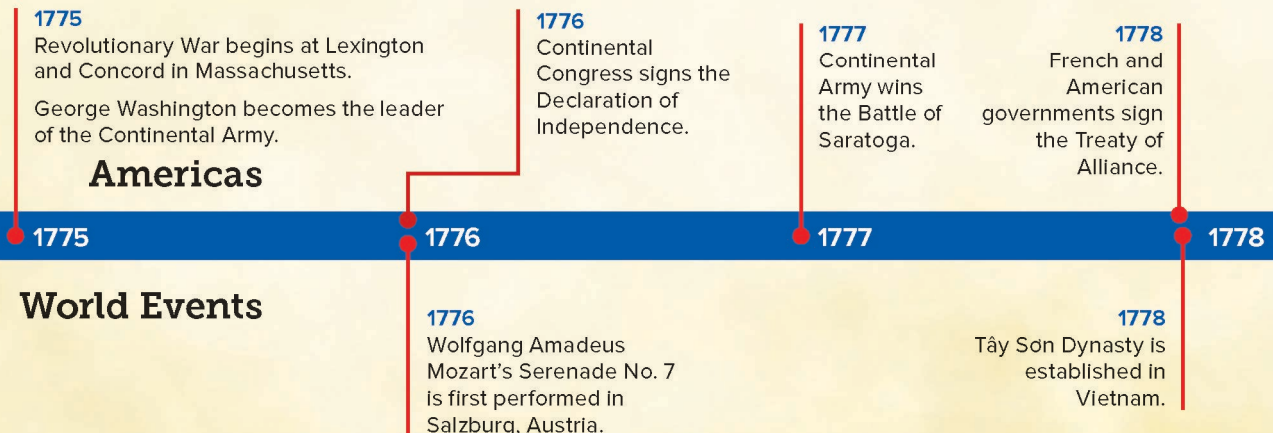


## What Does the Revolutionary Era Tell Us about Our Nation Today?

In this chapter, you'll read about important events and people in the American Revolution. You'll think about why these events and people are important, the impact they had during the Revolution, and how the Revolution still impacts our nation today.

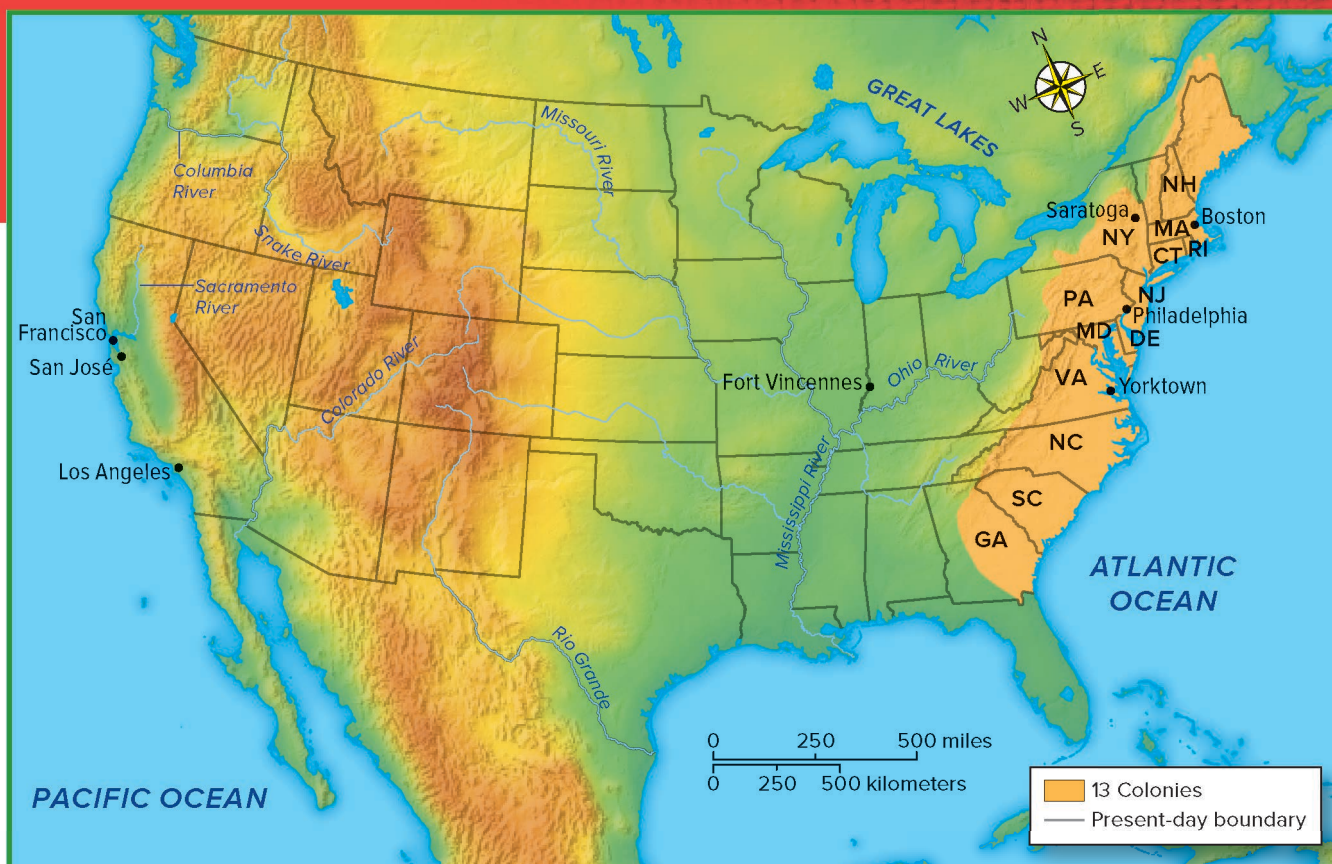
### Step into the Time Chronological Thinking

Look at the timeline. What was going on in the rest of the world during the same years as the American Revolution?



HSS.5.5.2, HSS.5.5.3, HSS.5.6.1, HAS.CS.1





## The Original Thirteen British Colonies



### Step into the Place

1. Which of the cities or settlements identified on the map is not located in one of the original Thirteen Colonies?
2. Which original colonies' boundaries have changed the most since the American Revolution? Which ones have changed the least?

**1779**

British army shifts focus to Southern states.

**1779**

**1781**

Continental Army defeats British at Yorktown, Virginia.

**1781**

**1783**

Peace of Paris formally ends Revolutionary War.

**1783**

**1780**

**1780**  
Hundreds are killed during the Gordon Riots in London.

**1781**

**1781**  
Sir William Herschel discovers the planet Uranus.

**1782**

**1782**  
The city of Bangkok is founded as the capital of Siam.

**1783**

**1783**  
Laki volcano erupts and causes famine in Iceland.



# Connect Through Literature

## Selections from Paul Revere's Ride

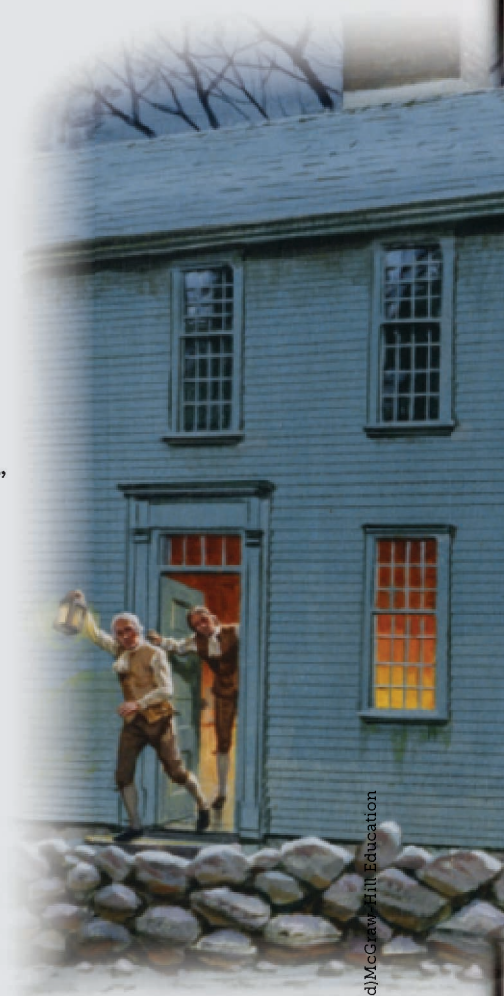
By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*Paul Revere was a Patriot who, along with Samuel Prescott and William Dawes, rode from Boston to Lexington and Concord to warn of a British attack. This poem written 100 years later, celebrated that famous ride.*

Listen, my children, and you shall hear  
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,  
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;  
Hardly a man is now alive  
Who remembers that famous day and year.

He said to his friend, "If the British march  
By land or sea from the town to-night,  
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch  
Of the North Church tower as a signal light,—  
One, if by land, and two, if by sea;  
And I on the opposite shore will be,  
Ready to ride and spread the alarm  
Through every Middlesex village  
and farm, For the country folk to be up and to arm."  
Then he said, "Good night!" and with muffled oar  
Silently rowed to the Charlestown shore . . .

You know the rest. In the books you have read,  
How the British Regulars fired and fled,—  
How the farmers gave them ball for ball,  
From behind each fence and farmyard wall,  
Chasing the Red Coats down the lane,  
Then crossing the fields to emerge again  
Under the trees at the turn of the road,  
And only pausing to fire and load.



(bkgd)McGraw-Hill Education



TEXT: Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. "Paul Revere's Ride." *The Atlantic Monthly* 7, no. 39 (January, 1861): 27-29. Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1861. PHOTO: (bkgds) McGraw-Hill Education, (inset) Ed Vebell/Archive Photos/Getty Images

So through the night rode Paul Revere;  
And so through the night went his cry of alarm  
To every Middlesex village and farm,—  
A cry of defiance and not of fear,  
A voice in the darkness, a knock at the door,  
And a word that shall echo forevermore!  
For, borne on the night-wind of the Past,  
Through all our history, to the last,  
In the hour of darkness and peril and need,  
The people will waken and listen to hear  
The hurrying hoof beats of that steed,  
And the midnight message of Paul Revere.

## Think About It

1. What was the purpose of Paul Revere's ride?
2. How do you think a poem helps people remember Paul Revere's story differently than an informative article in a book would?
3. Longfellow describes Revere's warning as "a cry of defiance and not fear." How is a "cry of defiance" different from a "cry of fear"?





# People You Should Know



**John Hancock**

John Hancock, from Boston, Massachusetts, was an important Patriot during the American Revolution. Hancock was a very wealthy man, and he used his money to support the revolution. He was the president of the Second Continental Congress, and he also served twice as the governor of Massachusetts. As president of the Continental Congress, he was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence.



**Peter Salem**

Peter Salem was an African-American soldier in the American Revolution. He was born into slavery in 1750. In 1775, he was freed by his owner so he could serve in the militia. Peter Salem fought in the Battle of Concord. He also fought at the battles of Bunker Hill and Saratoga. Salem spent nearly five years fighting for the freedom of the American colonies. He is buried in Framingham, Massachusetts. In 1882, the town erected a monument to Peter Salem and declared June 17 Peter Salem Day.

(l) De Agostini Picture Library/De Agostini/Getty Images;  
(r) Historical/Corbis Historical/Getty Images





## Mercy Otis Warren

Mercy Otis Warren was born in Massachusetts in 1728. She is considered the first American woman to write primarily for a public audience, rather than herself. She wrote about politics and what was happening in the American Colonies During the American Revolution, she was an adviser to many political leaders, including Patrick Henry, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams. Mercy Otis Warren's writings had an important effect on the shaping of our nation.

(t)McGraw-Hill Education; (b)Everett Historical/Shutterstock.com; (br)Nefali/Alamy



## Haym Salomon

Haym Salomon was a strong supporter of the American Revolution. He realized that a major obstacle to the success of the United States would be its lack of money. He stepped in to arrange loans and funding from France. When that wasn't enough, he lent huge amounts of his own money to keep the revolution alive. He also gave money to founding fathers, such as Thomas Jefferson, to ensure those men could continue to do their important work. By the end of the war, Salomon was completely broke, but the young nation did not repay him.





# How Did the American Revolution Start?

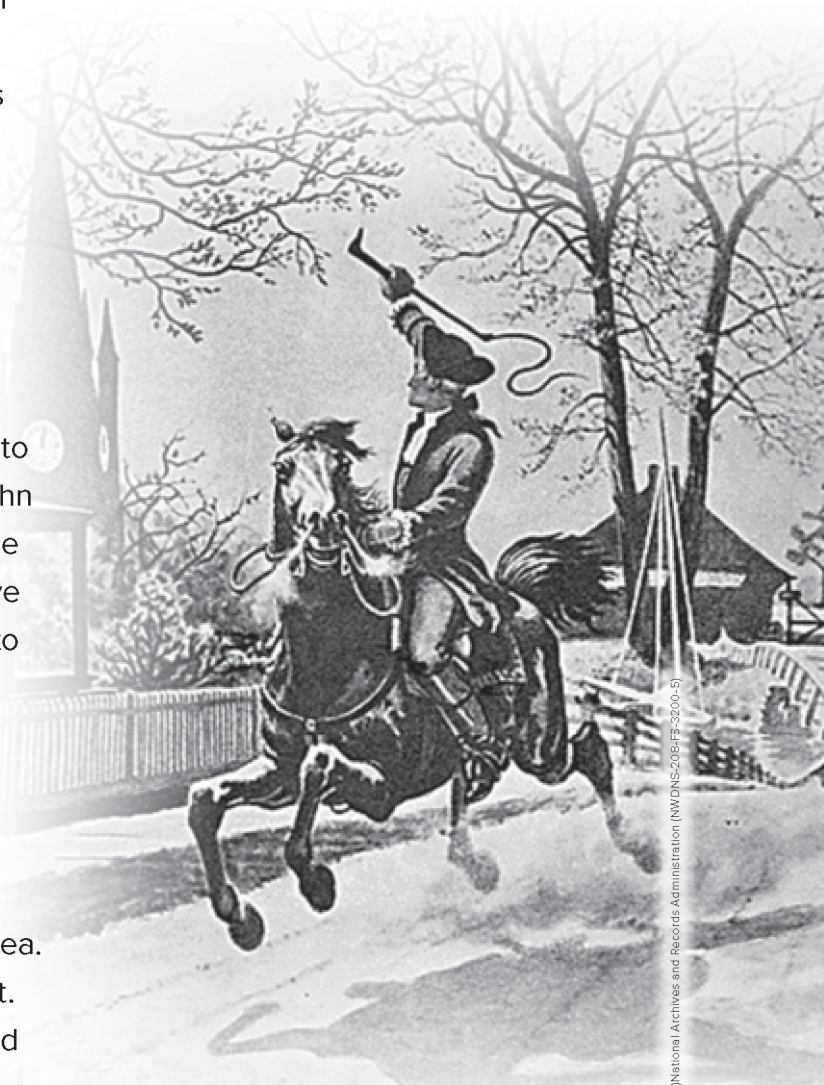
## The Battles of Lexington and Concord

By 1775, the colonists were tired of British taxes and oppression. After some violent encounters with British troops, the colonists began stockpiling arms and gunpowder in Lexington and Concord, two towns near Boston, Massachusetts.

### Paul Revere Rides

On April 18, 1775, British General Thomas Gage ordered 700 soldiers from Boston to seize and destroy colonial war supplies and to arrest patriot leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock. Gage's plan was to make a surprise attack on Lexington and Concord, so he gave his troops orders not to allow any colonists to leave Boston that night.

Little did General Gage know that a small group of patriots had learned of his plan to attack the two towns. Under cover of night, Paul Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott set out to warn the people in the area. Revere arrived at Lexington around midnight. When a guard for Adams and Hancock asked him not to make so much noise, Revere told him, "You'll have noise enough before long. The regulars [British troops] are coming!"



Paul Revere set out at night to warn of Britain's plan to attack Lexington and Concord.

HSS.5.5.4, HSS.5.6.1, HAS.CS.4



## Timeline

**December 1773**  
Boston Tea Party  
dumps tea into  
Boston Harbor.

**May 1775**  
Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia.

**June 1775**  
Battle of  
Bunker Hill

**April 1775**  
Fighting begins  
at Lexington.



### An engraving of the Battle of Lexington

## Battle at Lexington

When the British troops reached Lexington, Captain John Parker was waiting with the local **militia**. The militia was a group of volunteer soldiers, like the minutemen, who fought only in an emergency. John Robbins, one of the colonial militiamen, described the sight of the British advancing: “There appeared a number of the King’s troops . . . at the distance of about sixty or seventy yards from us . . . and on a quick pace toward us. . . .”



## The First Shots

Captain Parker's orders to the militia were very simple, "Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here."

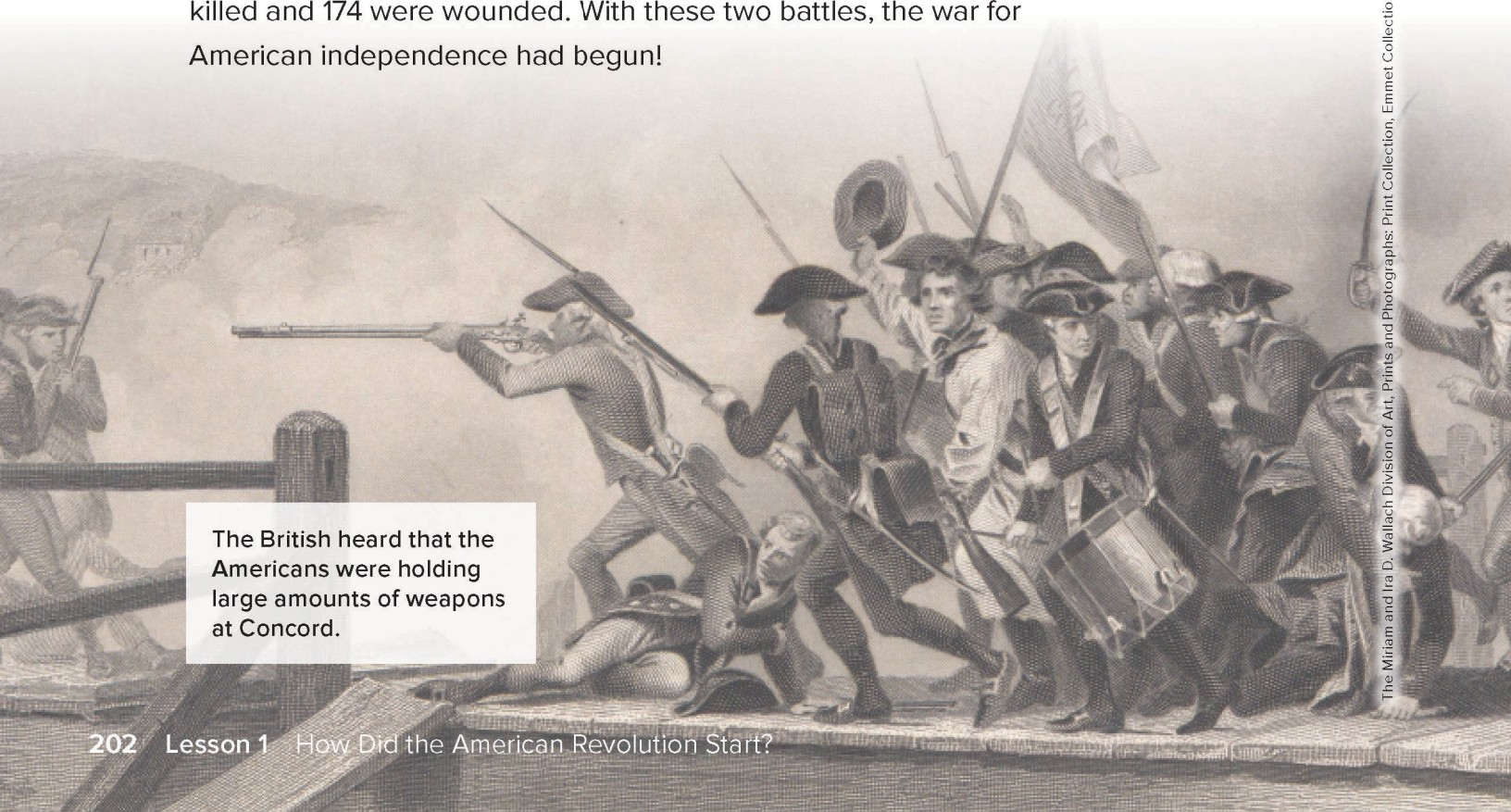
As the distance between the two groups grew smaller, someone in one of the groups fired a shot. To this day, no one knows which side fired first, but other shots quickly followed. Even though the battle lasted only a few minutes, eight militiamen were killed. The British succeeded in taking Lexington and marched on to Concord.

## Arriving in Concord

Doctor Samuel Prescott, one of the men working with Paul Revere, had warned Concord of the impending attack. The townspeople moved most of the arms and gunpowder to nearby towns. When the British arrived, they found only the few supplies the townspeople of Concord had not had time to hide.

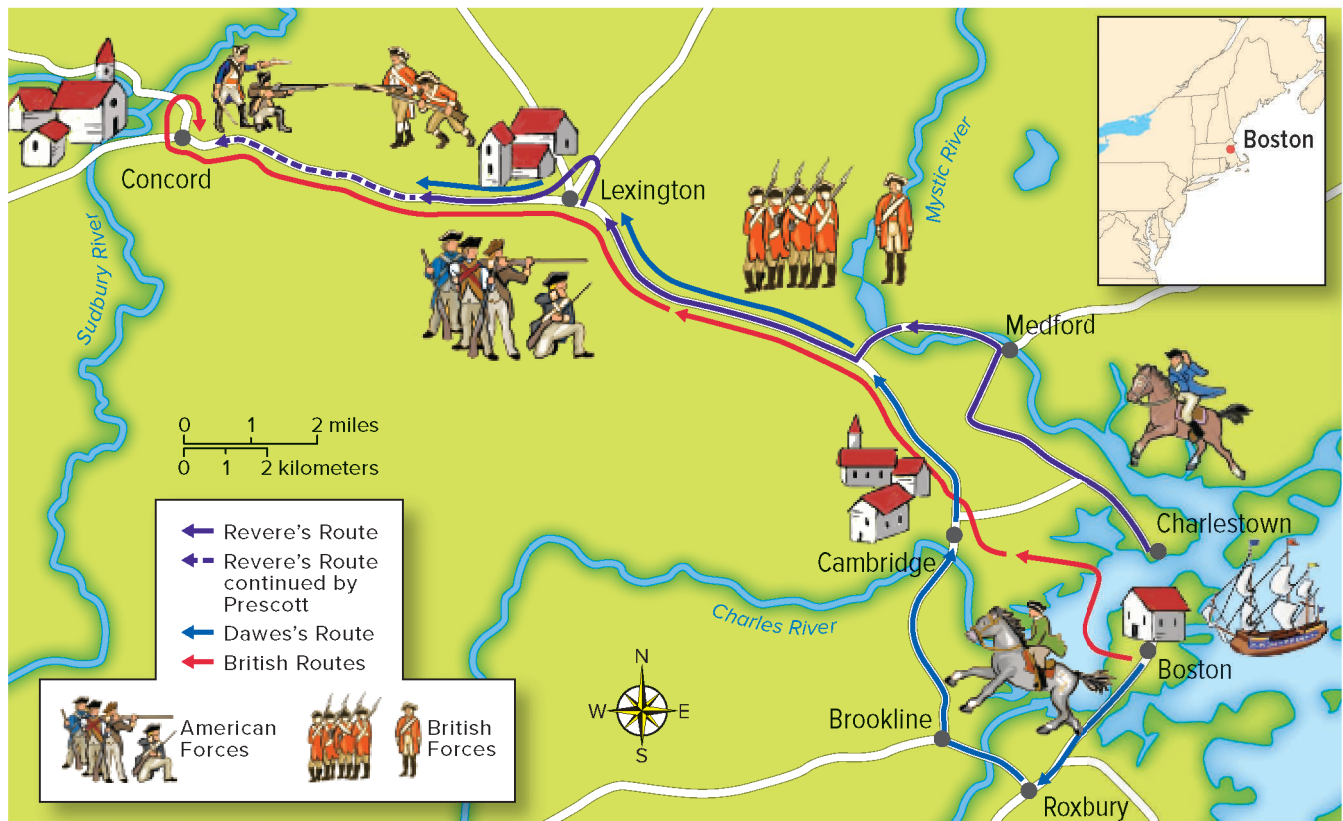
By now the church bells were ringing loudly to alert the local farmers of the British attack. The Concord **rebels** turned on the British troops. Minutemen, local farmers, and townspeople fired at the British troops from behind fences, houses, and trees.

The British troops were forced to retreat back to Boston, 18 miles away. By the time they reached safety, more than 90 British soldiers had been killed and 174 were wounded. With these two battles, the war for American independence had begun!



The British heard that the Americans were holding large amounts of weapons at Concord.





## Routes to Lexington and Concord



### Map Skills

Working with a partner, use the information provided in the map to determine who traveled the greatest distance to get to Lexington: Paul Revere, William Dawes, or the British. Use the scale to determine how many miles each traveled.



### Stop and Check

**Perspectives** Why is it important that some colonists found out about the British plans ahead of time?

**Find Details** As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 167 in your Inquiry Journal.



# The Second Continental Congress

The leaders of the thirteen colonies had known a war with Great Britain was possible. They had already met in 1774, in the First Continental Congress, to decide what to do about the recent taxes set by the British government. Great speakers such as Patrick Henry had given fiery speeches to urge the leaders to prepare to separate from Great Britain. The Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia on May 10, 1775, just days after the battles of Lexington and Concord. Participants sent from each of the thirteen colonies had to decide how to respond to what had happened.

They decided that they had to prepare for war. First, they made the militia that had stood up to the British in Massachusetts part of an official American army. To lead that army, they nominated a veteran of the French and Indian War and a member of the Congress: George Washington. Washington did not think he was up to the task of commanding the entire army, but he agreed to do his best.



*The Second Continental Congress Voting for Independence*  
by Robert Pine and Edward Savage

(b)avipphoto/iStockphoto/Getty Images; (inset)ClassicStock.com/SuperStock



## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... George Washington

Though I am truly sensible of the high Honor done me in this Appointment, yet I feel great distress, from a consciousness that my abilities and Military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important Trust: However, as the Congress desire it I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I Possess In their service and for the Support of the glorious Cause.

—address to the Continental Congress, June 16, 1775



The Second Continental Congress was not just a single meeting. It began as a series of meetings during the spring and summer of 1775. Besides establishing a Continental Army, the delegates also elected a president—John Hancock—and drafted the Olive Branch Petition. This was an attempt to resolve the conflicts between the colonies and Great Britain. However, King George refused to receive the Congress's peace offering.

As Great Britain's grip on the colonies weakened, the Continental Congress became the unofficial government. The war was far from over, but the colonists were learning how to govern themselves. The delegates would continue to meet throughout the war and even afterwards to make important decisions for the thirteen colonies.



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Connect to Now** Is the Second Continental Congress anything like our government today? Using what you know, discuss with a partner how the Second Continental Congress is similar or different.



# Soldiers of the American Revolution

## The Minutemen

The citizen soldiers in the local militia didn't have uniforms. Instead, they wore their own clothes. Because the minutemen were the first ones to arrive for battle, many of the colonies made an effort to arm them with muskets and other supplies. Minutemen had the advantage over British troops of being familiar with frontier hunting and knowing what the local land was like.



### Hat

Since Minutemen provided their own clothing, they wore whatever hat they owned. Styles varied greatly among the Minutemen.

### Waistcoat and Coat

A sleeveless and collarless waistcoat was worn over a man's shirt. Waistcoats were usually made of linen or wool. Men wore a coat over the waistcoat. These overcoats were usually made of heavy linen or wool.

### Breeches

Knee breeches were common in the 18th century. These came just below the knee and were closed with ties or buttons. Breeches were made of leather, wool, or linen.



### Musket

A good soldier could load and fire his musket three times per minute. Muskets weren't very accurate and didn't work well in wet weather.



(bkgd)McGraw-Hill Education; (t)Fotosearch/Getty Images; (c)Ivy Close Images/Alamy; (b)Fine Art/Corbis Historical/Getty Images





## The Redcoats

The British redcoats were all issued uniforms and muskets. Because battlefields of the 18th century could be smoky and confusing, the soldiers wore red. This way, British soldiers wouldn't have trouble separating friend from foe. The redcoats had the advantages of military training and better equipment over the colonial minutemen.

### Hat

Hats identified which regiment a soldier belonged to.

### Buttons

There could be as many as three dozen buttons on a soldier's uniform. Buttons often had the name of the soldier's regiment inscribed on them. Buttons had to be polished regularly.

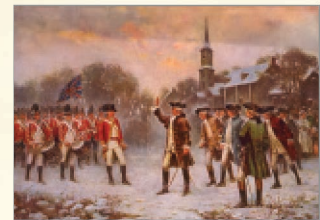
### Facings

These visible linings along the edges of the soldier's coat were colored to show the regiment he belonged to.



### Musket

The British Short Land Pattern musket was standard issue. Soldiers would affix a bayonet, or attachable blade, to the musket's muzzle for close combat.



## ✓ Stop and Check

**Perspectives** Based on what you've just read about British and colonial fighters, who do you think had the advantage in battle? Discuss your opinion with a partner.



# The Battle of (Not) Bunker Hill

On June 18, 1775, James Warren, a Boston colonist, explained the conflict in Boston to his wife, Mary Otis Warren, “It is impossible to describe the confusion in this place, women and children are flying into the country, armed men going to the field, and wounded men . . . fill the streets.”

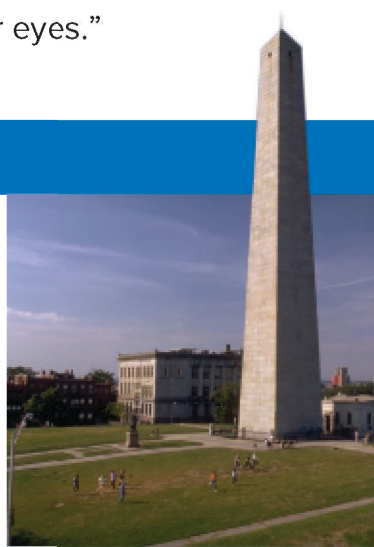
British general Thomas Gage decided to occupy the hills around Boston. Word about the British plan spread quickly. Colonel William Prescott and General Israel Putnam led one thousand colonial troops to hills north of Boston, across the Charles River. The original plan was to fortify Bunker Hill, which means to build earthen walls around it. This way, the colonists could fire cannons at the British troops stationed across the Charles River in Boston. Instead, the colonists decided to protect Breed’s Hill, which was closer to the river. The colonists worked all night to build a fort for protection.

## The Battle Begins

British troops crossed the Charles River by boat and marched up Breed’s Hill. The militia and civilians, or ordinary citizens, waited, hidden behind the walls they had built. The colonists did not have much ammunition, or musket balls and gunpowder. Officers told them not to waste ammunition by firing at British soldiers who were too far away. Historians say that either Colonel Prescott or General Israel Putnam said, “Don’t shoot until you see the whites of their eyes.”

### Then and Now

A 225-foot granite obelisk in Charlestown, Massachusetts, commemorates the Battle of Bunker Hill. The cornerstone was placed in 1825 on the fiftieth anniversary of the battle by the Marquis de Lafayette, a hero of the American Revolution. The monument was completed in 1842.





## A British Victory

Twice, the British charged up the hill only to be stopped by the militia. Both times they were forced down by American fire. After a third try, the British overwhelmed the colonists. The British won what became known as the Battle of Bunker Hill, but the victory was costly. More than a thousand soldiers were killed or wounded in the battle. Great Britain was one of the most powerful nations on Earth, but winning a war against the American colonists wasn't going to be easy.



### Bunker Hill and Breed's Hill

**Map Skills** With a partner, use the measurement tool to determine the distance between Bunker Hill and Breed's Hill. How far are each of these locations from Boston?

### Stop and Check

**Perspectives** How might the large number of casualties have changed the way the British viewed the colonists?





# Why Is the Declaration of Independence Still Important Today?

## Enlightened Thinking

Many European philosophers in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries wanted to understand how reason and knowledge could improve people's lives. This movement was known as the Enlightenment. Thinkers such as John Locke and Thomas Hobbes in England and Jean-Jacques Rousseau (roo-SOH) in France also used these ideas to change the way people thought about government.

Before this time, most people in Europe believed that kings and queens had a divine right to rule. This right allowed the **monarchs** to rule with absolute power over their subjects. As Enlightenment ideas spread, however, people began to believe that the main duty of government was to protect its citizens. In return, the people would give their consent to be governed by a ruler. This idea is called the *social contract*.

The Enlightenment greatly influenced the American men who wrote the Declaration of Independence. The idea of the social contract is particularly important in the Declaration of Independence.



# Timeline

**April 1775**  
Battles of  
Lexington and  
Concord

**January 1776**  
Thomas Paine  
publishes *Common  
Sense*.

**July 1776**  
Congress agrees on  
Declaration of  
Independence.

**May 1776**  
Second Continental  
Congress begins  
meeting.

**August 1776**  
Members of  
Congress begin to  
sign Declaration of  
Independence.



The Committee of Five was appointed to draft the Declaration of Independence.



# Common Sense

Thomas Paine was living in London when he met Benjamin Franklin. Franklin advised Paine to emigrate to North America to build a new life there. When Paine arrived in Philadelphia in November 1774, the colonies were edging toward revolution. He got a job as the editor of *Pennsylvania Magazine*.

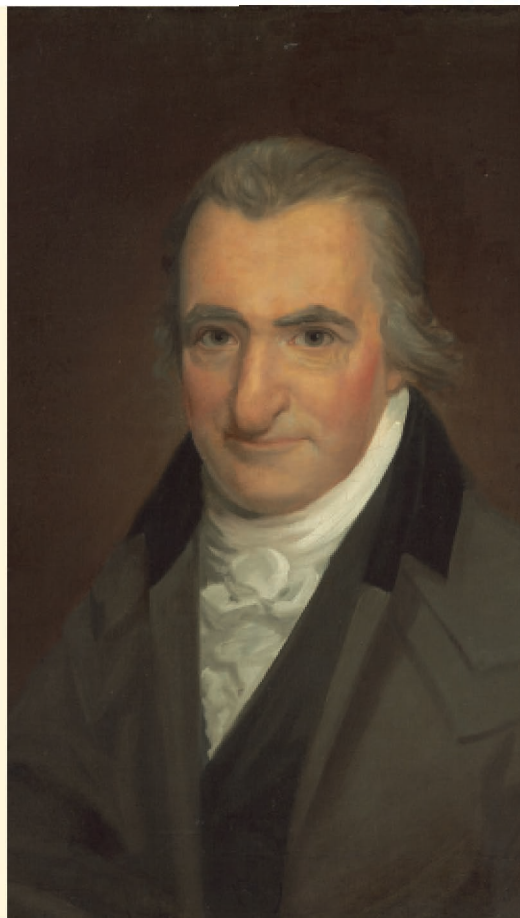
After fighting broke out in Lexington and Concord, Paine wrote a 50-page pamphlet titled *Common Sense*. He published it in January 1776. He argued that government should be a social contract, as other Enlightenment thinkers had suggested. Paine also believed that the colonies had lived through so much tyranny that there could be no **reconciliation** with Great Britain. Paine put his argument into such simple language that ordinary people easily understood his ideas. His powerful pamphlet got many colonists talking about independence.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... Thomas Paine

. . . and that the *elected* might never form to themselves an interest separate from the *electors*, prudence will point out the propriety of having elections often; because as the *elected* might by that means return and mix again with the general body of the *electors* in a few months, their fidelity to the public will be secured by the prudent reflection of not making a rod for themselves. And as this frequent interchange will establish a common interest with every part of the community, they will mutually and naturally support each other, and on this, (not on the unmeaning name of king,) depends the *strength of government, and the happiness of the governed*.

—from *Common Sense*, published in January 1776



TEXT: Paine, Thomas. *Common Sense*. Philadelphia: W. & T. Bradford, February 14, 1776; PHOTO: Courtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington

# Writing the Declaration

In June 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia told the Second Continental Congress, “These United colonies are, and of a right, ought to be, free and independent States.” The Congress nominated five members to outline the colonies’ reasons for wanting independence from Great Britain. The members of the committee were John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Robert Livingston of New York, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, and Thomas Jefferson of Virginia.

The committee chose Jefferson to write the first draft. He wrote for two weeks. Then Franklin and Adams made minor changes before presenting the declaration to the full Congress on June 28, 1776. The other members of the Congress argued about the wording of the document. One of the most controversial issues was language Jefferson had included about the evils of slavery. Representatives from the Southern Colonies, whose economies depended on slavery, wanted that language removed. John Adams later said, “I knew his southern brethren would never . . . [allow the section] to pass in Congress.” Jefferson ultimately agreed to take out the section, and the Southern members gave their approval, leading to Congress’s voting in favor of the Declaration.



Thomas Jefferson  
was born in Virginia.



## Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** What prompted Congress to remove the language about slavery from the Declaration of Independence?

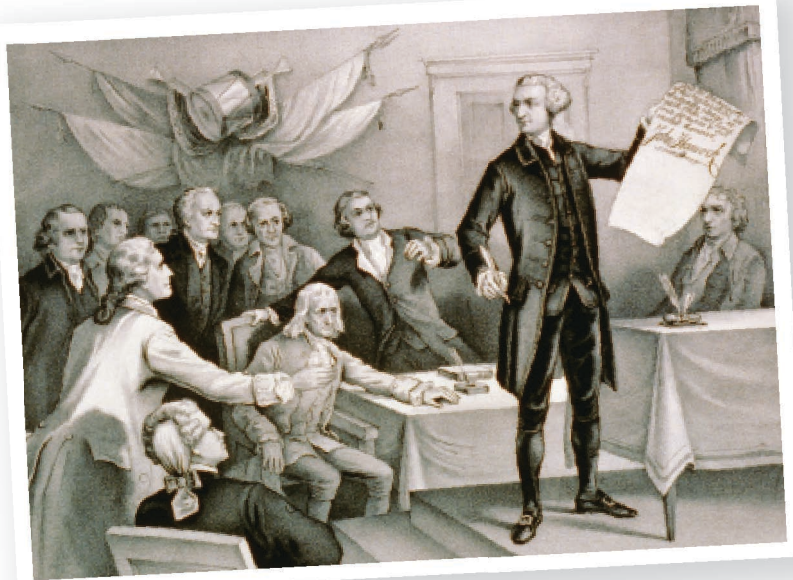
**Find Details** As you read, add new information to the graphic organizer on page 175 in your Inquiry Journal.



# Signing the Declaration

After two days of debating the details of the Declaration, the members passed the final version on July 4, 1776. Word spread. The document was reprinted in newspapers and posted in meetinghouses and churches. On August 2, the members began to sign the Declaration. John Hancock, the president of the Congress, signed first. The rest of the 56 members signed beneath his signature. Each man knew he was risking his life and his property by putting his name on the Declaration. But the signers believed so strongly in independence that they took the risk. They could only hope that the colonists' Continental Army would be strong enough to beat the British.

John Hancock was the first delegate to sign the Declaration of Independence.



## Citizenship

### A Call for Unity

The members knew that signing the Declaration of Independence would be viewed by the British government as an act of treason. This meant each man who signed put his life at risk. The members needed to be unified as they bravely met this danger. After signing, Ben Franklin is believed to have remarked, "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

Even though not every member of the Second Continental Congress wanted the colonies to gain independence from Great Britain, they did indeed "all hang together." John Dickinson argued that the colonies should reconcile with Great Britain. He refused to sign. After Congress passed the Declaration, however, Dickinson showed his support for the new nation by joining the Pennsylvania militia. He did this even though he had disagreed with the other delegates on the question of independence.

# Structure of the Declaration

## Preamble

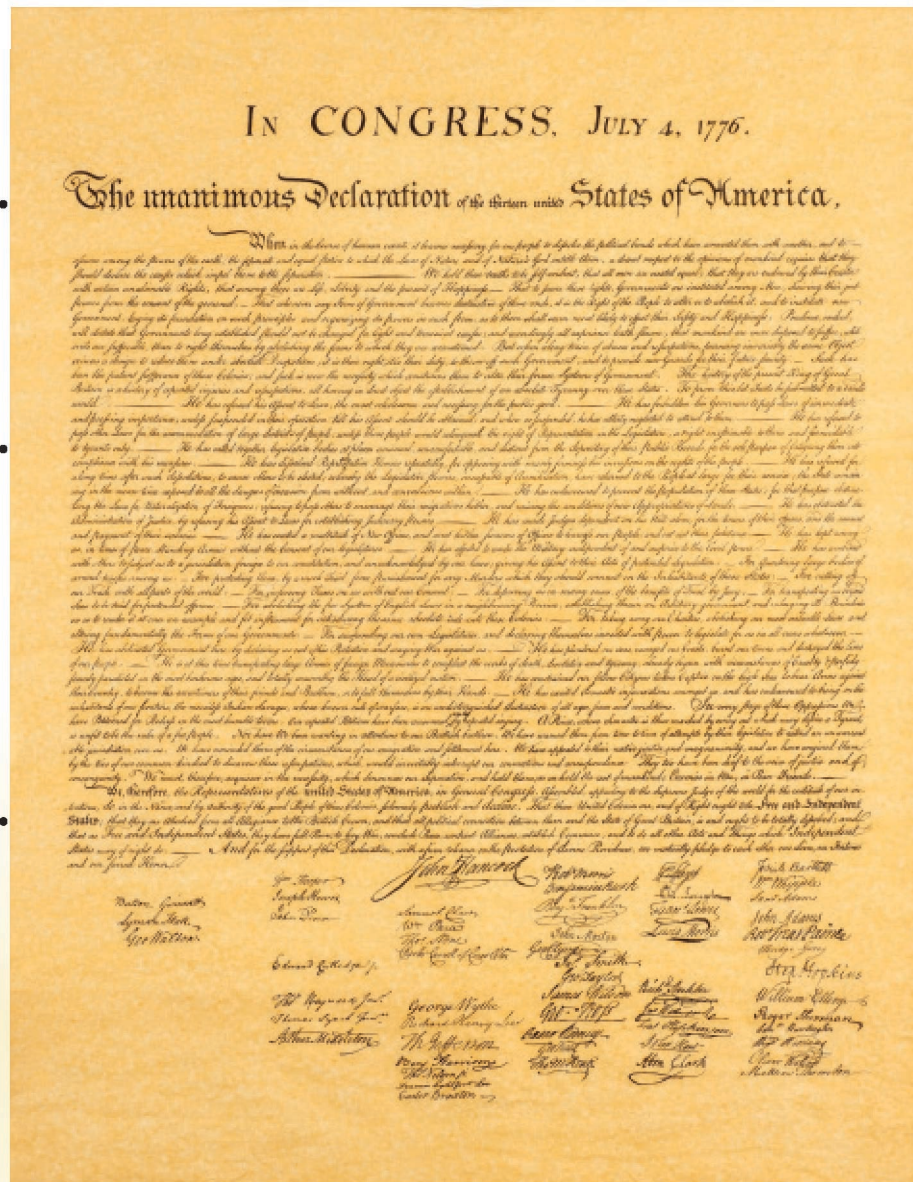
The first paragraph is the inspirational introduction to the document.

## List of Grievances

This list of 27 complaints against King George outlines why the colonists want their independence from Great Britain.

## Declaration of Independence

The concluding paragraph states in firm terms that the colonies are declaring themselves free and independent from Great Britain.



## Stop and Check

**Think** Why was it important to list 27 reasons the colonists wanted to be free from King George and Great Britain?



# Does the Declaration Still Matter?

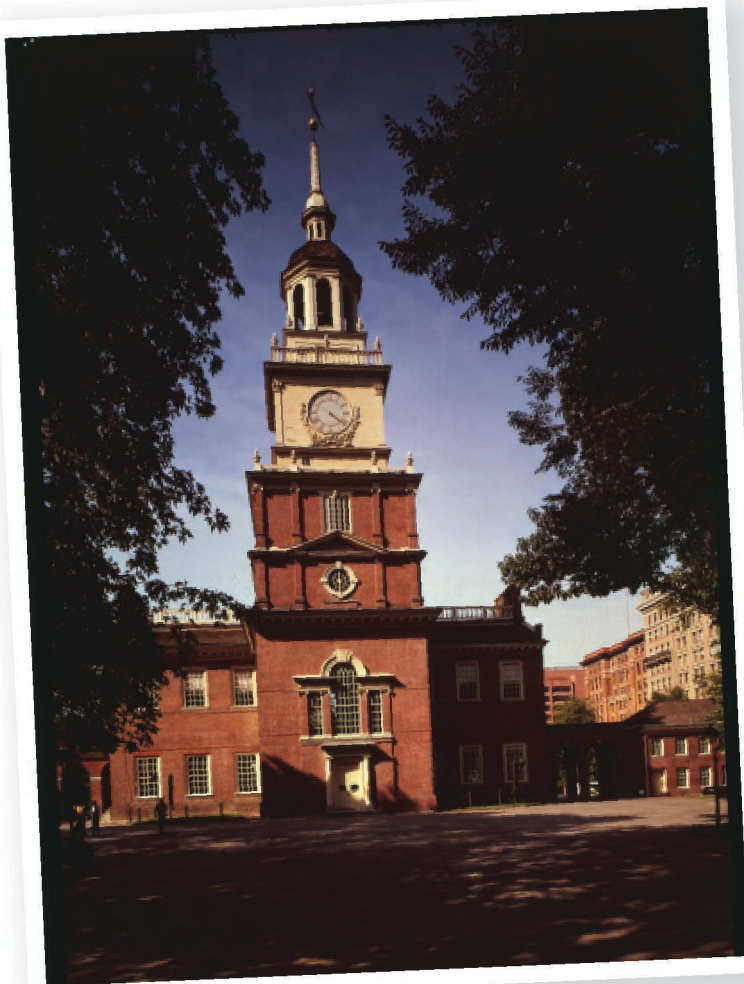
More than 240 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, it still inspires people in the United States and around the world to believe in the ideal of self-government. Part of the document's success is a result of how well Jefferson made his case. The document argues that freedom belongs to everyone and no tyrant deserves the right to rule.

Though the words are still powerful today, some of their meanings have changed. For example, our understanding of the important phrase “all men are created equal” has grown to include women, African Americans, American Indians, and people of all other backgrounds.

The phrase “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness” is often used today, too. It means that all people have natural rights, or rights they are born with. No government can take these rights away.

Another key phrase from the Preamble argues that a government derives its power from the “consent of the governed.” This idea, taken from John Locke, describes the social contract that continues to exist between a ruler and the people: Each gains power from the other.

Independence Hall  
in Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania, site  
of the Second  
Continental Congress



The statement “It is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government” argues that the colonies are justified in their revolution. Because King George III was considered a tyrant, the Declaration states that it is the right and, more importantly, the duty of the colonists to “throw off” his rule over them.

What about the rest of the British people? The Declaration states that they will be considered “Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.” This means that if the British continue to fight, the Americans will fight back. If they make peace, the Americans will be their friends.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... Thomas Jefferson

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, . . .

—from the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** Why has the meaning of the phrase “all men are created equal” changed over the years?



# Field Trip to Philadelphia

In 1777, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the largest city in North America. It was centrally located among the new American states. This location made it a good place to hold meetings that included leaders from each state. In the city today, you can still tour Philadelphia's past.

### Liberty Bell

The Liberty Bell originally hung in the belfry of Independence Hall. It now resides in its own building nearby. The bell was rung for the First Continental Congress and the battles of Lexington and Concord. On July 8, 1776, the bell was rung before the public reading of the Declaration of Independence.



### Elfreth's Alley

Near Independence Hall is Elfreth's Alley, the oldest street in the country. People have lived and worked in Elfreth's Alley since 1702.



### Franklin Court

Visitors can view many objects that once belonged to Benjamin Franklin in Franklin Court. The area includes a working print shop as well as a post office once run by Franklin, who was America's first Postmaster General.



### Betsy Ross House

According to legend, Betsy Ross made the first United States flag after a visit from George Washington in June 1776. During this visit, Ross showed Washington a 5-pointed star made from a folded square of cloth with a single cut of the scissors.



### Stop and Check

**Talk** Why was Philadelphia an ideal place for the Second Continental Congress to meet?

**What Do You Think?** Why is the Declaration of Independence still important today?





# What Were the Defining Moments of the War?

## Strengths and Weaknesses of the Two Sides

The American Revolution presented challenges for both the British and the Americans. Neither side was prepared to fight a war that would last eight years. They would often have shortages of equipment, soldiers, and the money to pay for both. While a wealthy and powerful nation like Britain would seem to have a great advantage, both sides had their strengths and weaknesses.

The war was very expensive for Britain. All soldiers and supplies had to be sent by ship across the Atlantic Ocean. Britain financed the war by raising taxes on citizens living in Britain. Many British people disagreed with the war because they did not want higher taxes.

The American army received its funding from the Second Continental Congress. Congress, however, often did not have enough money to pay soldiers or buy supplies or food for them. As a result, it was difficult to keep men from deserting, or leaving the army. Some people, known as **profiteers**, took advantage of the poor wartime economy to hoard goods and sell them at high prices. However, the war had tremendous support from civilians in the colonies. To help with the war effort, civilians made musket balls and blankets. They gathered food and supplies to send to the front.





# Timeline

**April 1775**

Battles of Lexington and Concord

**July 1776**

Congress agrees on Declaration of Independence.

**January 1777**

After a series of losses in New York, George Washington's Continental Army triumphs over British twice in New Jersey.

**1777-1778**

Washington's Continental Army endures a brutal winter at Valley Forge in Pennsylvania.

**February 1778**

Americans and French sign Treaty of Alliance.

**September 1777**

British suffer a major defeat at the Battle of Saratoga.



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy Art Collection, Washington, D.C. U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command [NH 73927-KN]

French ships (on the left) battle the British Navy during the Revolutionary War. France's entry into the war on the American side was a defining moment of the war.



The British had more soldiers, including American Indians and paid German **mercenaries**, or people who fight for money. The British soldiers were also better trained and armed than the American soldiers. However, the British soldiers were trained to fight only in open battlefields. Americans were more familiar with the land where they lived. The Americans took advantage of this British weakness to surprise the British in different kinds of terrain such as the swamps of the south and the forests of the north. The Americans' more plain-looking clothes helped them blend into the landscape, while the British soldiers' red coats made them easy targets.

Ultimately, the British failed to recognize both their own weaknesses and the Americans' strengths. One of their biggest mistakes was underestimating the Americans' willingness to risk everything to win their independence.

This image displays in the product.

British soldiers were trained to fight only in open battlefields. Their red coats made them easy targets.

# Washington on the Offensive

After the Battles of Lexington and Concord and the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Americans suffered some major setbacks. The Continental Army lost important battles in New York state. By the middle of 1776, George Washington's soldiers had been driven into Pennsylvania.

Washington needed victories to boost his soldiers' morale. He was concerned that many would leave his army and go home when their term of service ran out. On Christmas night, 1776, he led 2,400 soldiers across the Delaware River from Pennsylvania into New Jersey.

The army reached Trenton at dawn and attacked at once, surprising and defeating German mercenaries who were fighting for the British. A few days later, Washington won another victory when his soldiers left their campfires burning near Trenton so the British would not be aware that they had snuck away to attack Princeton successfully. It became clear that the Americans had a chance of winning the war after all.



## Stop and Check

**Talk** How did Washington prove in 1776 and 1777 that he was capable of defeating the British troops?

**Find Details** As you read, add new information to the graphic organizer on page 183 in your Inquiry Journal.

Commander-in-Chief  
George  
Washington  
led the  
Continental Army.





# The Battle of Saratoga

In 1777, the British decided to try to capture the Hudson River Valley, cutting off New York and New Jersey from the states in New England. British General John Burgoyne believed this would fatally weaken the American army. His army invaded the valley from its base in Canada.



British General Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga, New York.

Part of Burgoyne's plan depended on help from Mohawk and Iroquois scouts. Burgoyne's army became bogged down in terrain made difficult by forests and swamps. The Mohawk and Iroquois began to lose confidence in British promises that they could prevent more colonists from taking their lands. As the scouts drifted away, Burgoyne had no information about where the Americans were or what they were doing.

The Americans, on the other hand, were prepared. General Thomas Gates planned an attack on British forces near Saratoga, New York. The American fighting force was three times the size of that of the British. Gates also sent expert riflemen to attack British troops as they moved through New York. By the time the British forces reached Saratoga, they had been badly weakened.

Even though his troops were weakened and outnumbered, Burgoyne was sure he could still defeat the Americans. He chose to attack at Freeman's Farm near Saratoga. Before the British could attack, however, a Polish engineer named Tadeusz Kościuszko (tah-DEH-oosh kohsh-CHOOSH-koh) helped the Americans fortify the walls around Freeman's Farm and the surrounding roads. Kościuszko helped protect the Americans and their supply lines from the British attack in this first Battle of Saratoga. General Gates was also able to obtain fresh troops to strengthen his lines of defense against the British.

### Then and Now

The battlefields of Saratoga are now part of a National Park. When you visit, you can go on a self-guided tour. You can see a monument, a 155-foot tall obelisk to the American victory. You can also take a walk through Victory Woods, the site of General Burgoyne's last encampment before surrendering.





Throughout September 1777, American riflemen who were hidden in the hillsides shot at any British soldier who tried to fetch water from the Hudson River. This further weakened the British troops. On October 7, American General Benedict Arnold's forces drove back a portion of Burgoyne's soldiers who had been scouting the area to gain information. This battle became known as the Second Battle of Saratoga.

By mid-October, Burgoyne's troops were greatly reduced in number. As a result of the Americans' preparedness, the British were cut off from receiving more supplies. They were running out of food. Finally, after two more months of fighting, Burgoyne decided to surrender to Gates on October 17. The victory at Saratoga changed the direction of the war.

## Biography

### Tadeusz Kościuszko

Born in Poland, Tadeusz Kościuszko emigrated to the United States in 1776. He immediately joined the American fight for independence. Because he was a skilled engineer, Kościuszko was asked to help fortify the meeting place of the Continental Congress. In 1777, he joined General Gates in upstate New York. There, he helped fortify Freeman's Farm and the American supply lines. He went on to prove his bravery and cleverness at several more battles during the war before being promoted to the rank of brigadier general. After the Revolution, he was granted American citizenship.



### Stop and Check

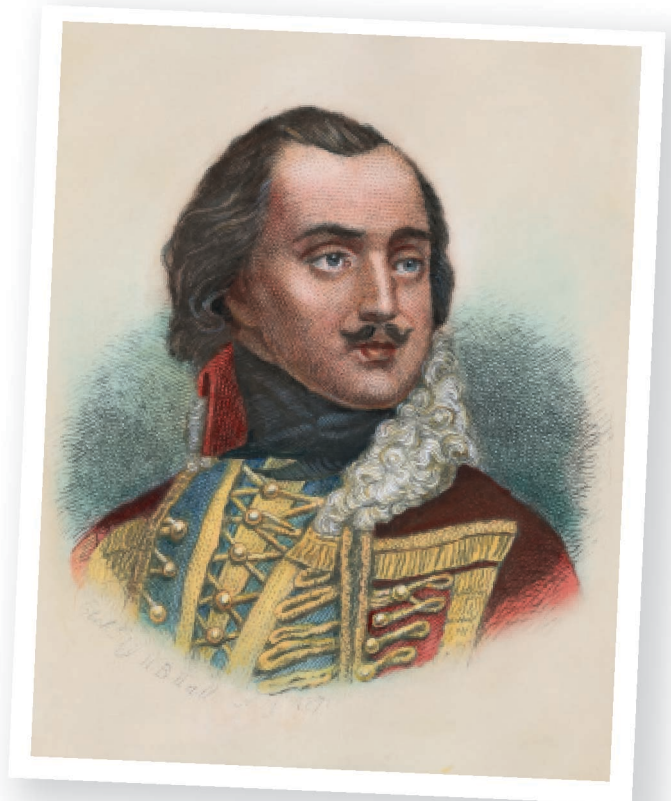
**Think** Why did it matter that the American forces were able to fortify Freeman's Farm and the surrounding roads before the British attacked?

# A Turning Point

The Americans' victory at the two Battles of Saratoga proved to the rest of the world that the Americans were capable of defeating the British. In 1777 and 1778, Benjamin Franklin, who was then the American Ambassador to France, worked with French officials to create the Treaty of Alliance. As a result of this treaty, France sent troops, warships, and supplies to the United States.

Individual Europeans agreed to come to the aid of the United States, too. Baron Friedrich von Steuben of Prussia helped to train American soldiers to fight together. Casimir Pulaski of Poland trained soldiers to fight on horseback and became a general. He gave his life in battle for American independence. The Marquis de Lafayette of France became a valuable member of Washington's staff. He would prove his worth at the Battle of Yorktown.

Since it was allied with France, Spain also joined America's struggle with Great Britain. In 1779, the governor of the Spanish territory of Louisiana closed the port of New Orleans to British ships and opened it to American ships. Spain also made loans to support the American war effort. Spanish Colonel Bernárdo de Galvez led a force to fight the British in the South.



Casimir Pulaski



## Stop and Check

**Talk** Why was the Battle of Saratoga a turning point in the Revolutionary War?



# Winter at Valley Forge

Despite the great victory at Saratoga, the Continental Army elsewhere suffered a number of defeats, including two near Philadelphia in late 1777. Washington's 11,000 men set up camp that winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The site seemed easy to defend, should the British attack. It was also close to good roads, which would allow the army to get supplies.



American soldiers suffered during the brutal winter at Valley Forge.

That winter, however, was a time of cold, hunger, and loneliness for the Patriot soldiers. Often the only food was “fire cakes,” which were made of a paste of flour and water baked hard over a campfire. Many soldiers gave up and went home. At least 2,500 died of diseases that winter, including smallpox, typhoid, and influenza. Those who lived faced frostbite and starvation. The Marquis de Lafayette later wrote, “The unfortunate soldiers were in need of everything; they had neither coats, hats, shirts, nor shoes, their feet and legs froze.”

Washington begged the Continental Congress and the state governors for supplies. He described the terrible sufferings of his army. His letters were answered with promises, but very little help arrived.

Washington held his army together with little but the force of his own leadership. He used the time at Valley Forge wisely, however. Groups of 100 soldiers took turns training with Baron von Steuben. Then each trainee taught another 100 men what he had learned. By the spring, more money became available due to the alliance with France. While Washington’s troops came to Valley Forge a barefoot, ragged band, they marched away in 1778 as professional soldiers.



### Stop and Check

**Talk** What happened to the soldiers of the Continental Army at Valley Forge?

**What Do You Think?** How did the talents of individual Europeans like von Steuben, Pulaski, and Kościuszko strengthen the cause of American Independence?





# What Was It Like to Live During the American Revolution?

## Women of the Revolution

The Revolutionary War impacted the lives of more than just the soldiers and generals waging war. The Revolutionary War changed the lives of women, African Americans, American Indians, and every civilian in the colonies.

American women supported the war in many ways. Mercy Otis Warren and Hannah Winthrop recorded and wrote letters about the events of the Revolution so everyone knew what was happening. Phillis Wheatley, a freed African American, wrote poetry that inspired many people. Other women tended farms or minded shops while their husbands were away fighting in the army.

Some women followed their husbands to war and did whatever they could to help. Earning the nickname “Molly Pitcher,” Mary Ludwig Hays carried pitchers of water to men on the battlefield. Legend has it that she took her husband’s place at a cannon when he became too exhausted to fight during the Battle of Monmouth in 1778.







Molly Pitcher helps load a cannon at a battle in New Jersey.



Still other women remained loyal to the British crown. Either for religious reasons, or because their families' businesses depended on British trade, Loyalist men and women wanted reconciliation with Great Britain. Some of them even worked actively against the revolution.

There were also women who worked actively to help create the new United States. Abigail Adams exchanged many letters with her husband, John, in which they discussed important issues facing the Continental Congress. Abigail asked her husband to remember women's rights as he helped to create the new government.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... Abigail Adams

I long to hear that you have declared an independency—and by the way in the new Code of Laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation. That your Sex are Naturally Tyrannical is a Truth so thoroughly established as to admit of no dispute, but such of you as wish to be happy willingly give up the harsh title of Master for the more tender and endearing one of Friend. Why then, not put it out of the power of the vicious and the Lawless to use us with cruelty and indignity with impunity.

—from a letter to John Adams, March 31, 1776



### Stop and Check

**Talk** Why did Abigail Adams ask John Adams to “remember the ladies”?

COLLABORATE




TEXT: Adams, Abigail. Abigail Adams to John Adams, 31 March 1776. In *Familiar Letters of John Adams and His Wife Abigail Adams, During the Revolution*. With a Memoir of Mrs. Adams, ed. Charles Francis Adams, no. 91. New York: Hurd and Houghton, 1875.; PHOTO: Courtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington

# The Secret War

Life during the Revolutionary War was filled with divisions and intrigue. Many Loyalists spied on the Patriots for the British. Some who helped the British made it appear that they were instead helping the Patriot cause. Benedict Arnold was an American general who eventually turned **traitor**. He gave important information about a planned invasion of Canada to the British. He later fled to England, but people started calling any traitor a “Benedict Arnold” because of his treachery.

The Patriot side had its own spies. Nathan Hale was attempting to spy on the British in 1776 when he was captured. He was hanged without a trial. Reportedly, his famous last words were “I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.”

One of the most successful American spies was James Armistead, a man born into slavery. He volunteered to spy for General Lafayette, managing to become a servant to the British general Cornwallis. Armistead smuggled important information to Lafayette, which helped the Continental Army win the Battle of Yorktown. After the war, Lafayette helped Armistead win his freedom.



Nathan Hale was put to death for being a Patriot spy.



## Stop and Check

**Think** With a partner, discuss why people call someone who betrays them a “Benedict Arnold.”

**Find Details** As you read, add new information to the graphic organizer on page 191 in your Inquiry Journal.

COLLABORATE





# African Americans Join the Cause



This man is dressed as a soldier of the First Rhode Island Regiment.

The words “all men are created equal” in the Declaration of Independence gave hope to African slaves. Many supported the revolution because they believed those famous words might one day apply to them.

In all, about 5,000 African American soldiers served in the Continental Army. The First Rhode Island Regiment, formed in 1778, consisted mainly of African Americans. These included men freed from slavery in exchange for their service. Another African American freed from slavery in exchange for fighting was Peter Salem. He lived in Massachusetts and fought in the Battles of Concord and Bunker Hill.

African Americans also served in the Continental Navy. A 14-year old free African American named James Forten was captured in 1781 during his service as a powder boy. The British offered him his freedom, but he turned down the offer saying, “No, I’m a prisoner for my country and I’ll never be a traitor to her.” He was held for seven months as a prisoner of war.

# American Indians Choose Sides

During the Revolutionary War, American Indians had to decide whom to support. As the colonies grew bigger, they began to take more and more land from the American Indians. The British promised to protect American Indians' land from the Americans who wanted to settle there. Most of the Iroquois Confederacy, led by Chief Joseph Brant, sided with the British. The Oneida and Tuscarora supported the American cause.

Brant's Indian loyalists fighting for the British attacked American settlements in New York's Mohawk Valley. They also provided scouts to help the British troops. The Iroquois eventually lost faith in the British and stopped participating in the war.

However, Americans would continue to regard American Indians as enemies. As a result, many Americans felt no guilt about taking more lands from native peoples after the war.



## Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Think** Why did many American Indians at first side with the British during the Revolutionary War?

Why did many African Americans choose to fight with the colonists?

Iroquois chief Joseph Brant supported the British army during the war.

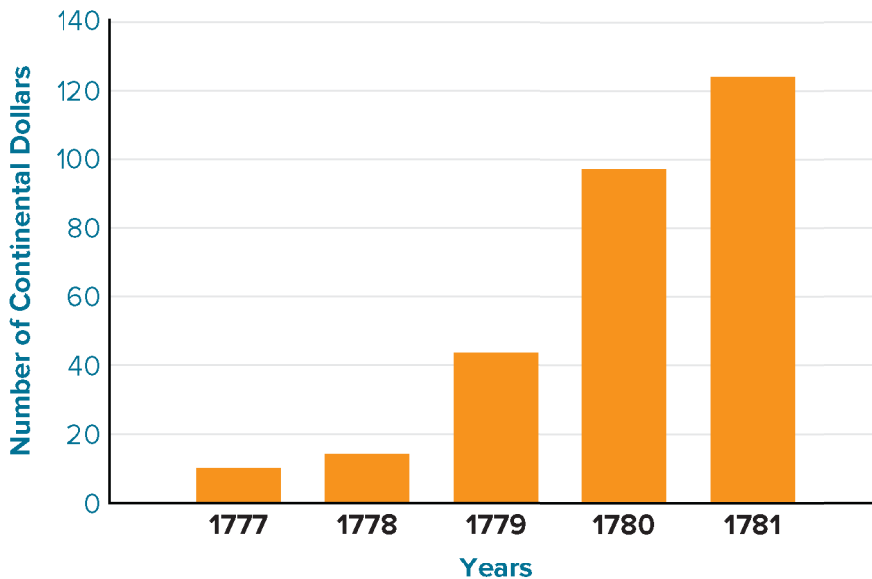




# The Hardships of War

## Wartime Shortages

Paper Dollars Equaling One-Dollar Coin, 1777–1781



The amount of paper Continental dollars needed to equal a one-dollar coin rose dramatically during the Revolutionary War.

Congress had trouble paying for the war. To afford expensive supplies, they began to print more and more dollars, called “Continental.” They printed so many Continentals, however, that the money began to lose value due to **inflation**. Soon the bills were nearly worthless. A pair of shoes that had cost a few Continental dollars at the start of the war cost 5,000 Continental dollars by the end.

Because their money lost almost all of its value, people had trouble buying the food and supplies they needed. Even for the wealthy, goods that had once been imported from Great Britain were now hard to find. These shortages led people to hoard food, clothes, and other goods. Some people hoarded to try to support their families. Others did it to make money by charging high prices to others. Laws were passed against this practice, called profiteering, but the laws were difficult to enforce.



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** What problems did inflation cause?

**What Do You Think?** What would it have been like to live during the American Revolution?

# Are Women and African Americans of the Revolution Overlooked?

Work with a partner. Design a monument that honors the contributions of women or African Americans during the war. Consider what your monument should look like.

- Make an outline of the ways women and African Americans contributed to the war.
- Who were some individuals you learned about, and how do they represent the larger groups?
- Think about other monuments you have seen, and think about how your monument could compare to them.

Draw or make a model of your monument.

Present your monument to the class. Explain what you have learned about how women and African Americans helped the war effort.



James Armistead, who was a slave, risked his life to spy for the colonists.



Deborah Sampson disguised herself as a man so she could join the Continental Army.





# What Did the Colonists Gain by Winning the War?

## The War Moves South

By 1779, the American Continental Army had turned back British attacks in the north and the west. British leaders decided to focus on the Southern Colonies. The Southern Colonies had higher proportions of Loyalists, and the British hoped to have their help in defeating the Americans once and for all. General Charles Cornwallis became the leader of British troops in the South in 1780.

Congress had very little money and almost no supplies for forces in the Southern Colonies. Between 1778 and 1781, the British won battles against American General Nathanael Greene at Savannah, Georgia, and at Charles Town and Camden in South Carolina. At first, it seemed as if Cornwallis's strategies were working. However, the colonists' greater knowledge of the land they were fighting for proved to be an advantage.

Soldiers listen as General George Washington gives his final orders.



(c) McGraw-Hill Education; (i) SuperStock/Getty Images



# Timeline

**June 1779**  
Spain declares war on Great Britain.

**May 1780**  
General Charles Cornwallis becomes British commander in the South.

**September 1783**  
Peace of Paris ends American Revolution

**October 1781**  
British defeated at Yorktown, Virginia

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... George Washington

My Lord: I have had the Honor of receiving Your Lordship's Letter of this Date. An Ardent Desire to spare the further Effusion of Blood, will readily incline me to listen to such Terms for the Surrender of your Posts and Garrisons of York and Gloucester, as are admissible. I wish previously to the Meeting of Commissioners, that your Lordship's proposals in writing, may be sent to the American Lines: for which Purpose, a Suspension of Hostilities during two Hours from the Delivery of this Letter will be granted. I have the Honor etc.

The Officers will be indulged in retaining their Side Arms, and the Officers and Soldiers may preserve their Baggage and Effects, with this Reserve, that Property taken in the Country, will be reclaimed. With Regard to the Individuals in civil Capacities, whose Interests Your Lordship wishes may be attended to, until they are more particularly described, nothing definitive can be settled.

I have to add, that I expect the Sick and Wounded will be supplied with their own Hospital Stores, and be attended by British Surgeons, particularly charged with the Care of them. Your Lordship will be pleased to signify your Determination either to accept or reject the Proposals now offered, in the Course of Two Hours from the Delivery of this Letter, that Commissioners may be appointed to digest the Articles of Capitulation, or a Renewal of Hostilities may take place. I have the Honor etc.

— from Letters from George Washington to General Lord Cornwallis, October 17, 1781



The Continental Army managed to surprise the British in several raids led by Captain Francis Marion. Marion was called “The Swamp Fox” because his small force of raiders attacked the British unexpectedly and then retreated into the swamps of South Carolina.

Cornwallis pursued the Continental Army through the Carolina backcountry. When the two armies met in March 1871 at Guilford Court House, in North Carolina, Cornwallis lost one-fourth of his men. He declared it a victory because Greene’s troops had left the battlefield. The loss, however, crippled the British forces. When word of the battle reached England, Charles James Fox declared in Parliament that “Another such victory would destroy the British army.”

Because of the heavy losses, Cornwallis knew his men needed to rest and resupply. He fled north to Virginia to await ships from British headquarters in New York City. This movement would present George Washington with an opportunity.



### ✓ Stop and Check

**Talk** Why was it important that Cornwallis lost so many men as a result of his victory at the Battle of Guilford Court House?

**Find Details** As you read, add new information to the graphic organizer on page 199 in your Inquiry Journal.

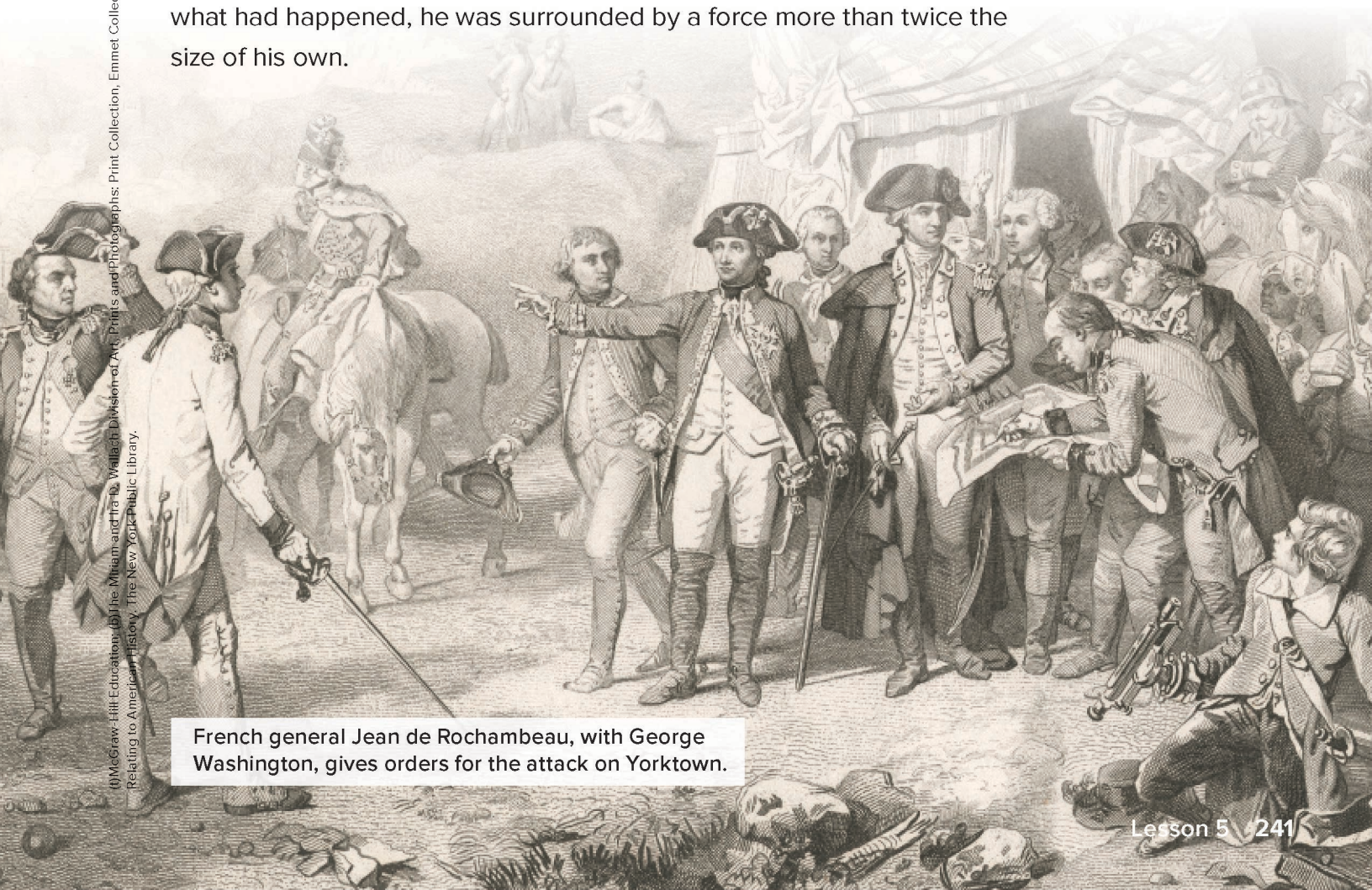
# The Battle of Yorktown

George Washington had put the Marquis de Lafayette in charge of a troop of soldiers in Virginia. When Cornwallis marched north to Virginia, Lafayette wrote to Washington, “Were I to fight a battle, I should be cut to pieces. . . . I am not strong enough even to get beaten.”

Lafayette did have an important secret weapon, however. James Armistead, who was enslaved in Virginia, volunteered to spy for Lafayette. From a position as Cornwallis’s servant, he passed information about Cornwallis’s plans and weaknesses.

From the intelligence Armistead provided, Lafayette formed a plan to **blockade** Chesapeake Bay. This prevented Cornwallis from resupplying his troops. Armistead told Cornwallis that the Americans planned to attack New York City, tricking Cornwallis into believing his army was safe at Yorktown.

Meanwhile, Washington’s troops and a French army moved quickly and secretly to Yorktown to join Lafayette. By the time Cornwallis realized what had happened, he was surrounded by a force more than twice the size of his own.



French general Jean de Rochambeau, with George Washington, gives orders for the attack on Yorktown.



The British battled the Americans and French at Yorktown for nearly three weeks. American cannons fired into the British camp. The French blockade of Chesapeake Bay continued to prevent Cornwallis from getting any fresh supplies or troops. Finally, on October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered to Washington.

### Did You Know?

George Washington and the Comte de Rochambeau, a French general, were in New York when word came that Cornwallis had fled to Virginia. Washington wrote to Lafayette, telling him to keep Cornwallis there. Washington left a few men in New York and began a rapid march south to join Lafayette. After marching his men to Maryland, Washington met up with a French fleet of ships at Chesapeake Bay. The ships carried the Americans and French troops south to Williamsburg, Virginia. From there, Washington's troops joined Lafayette's and surrounded Cornwallis at Yorktown.



Marquis de Lafayette



### Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



**Talk** Why did Washington move quickly from New York to Virginia?

# Battle Map of Yorktown

Washington and Lafayette created a plan that trapped Cornwallis on the Yorktown peninsula. A combination of French ships and French and American soldiers kept Cornwallis from getting new supplies.

French ships carried French and American troops south to Williamsburg, Virginia.

Washington's troops met Lafayette's troops to surround the British.

A blockade of French ships prevented the British from getting supplies.





# Ending the War

The Battle of Yorktown marked the end of the main British resistance to American independence. There were still British troops in several cities and on the frontier, but the cost of the war had gotten so high that the British people were opposed to supporting the war with their taxes.

The slow process of ending the war began as Britain agreed to **negotiate** a treaty with the United States and its allies, France and Spain. The peace talks took place in Paris. John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay were on hand to negotiate for the United States.

The Peace of Paris, as it came to be called, was the treaty that ended the American Revolution. As part of the agreement, Britain had to recognize American independence. The Mississippi River became the nation's new western boundary. Spain regained Florida, and France regained Senegal from the British in Africa. The Continental Congress made the treaty official in April 1783. After eight years of fighting, the 13 colonies were recognized as the United States of America.



A modern reenactment of the battle at Yorktown, Virginia

Nancy Carter/North Wind Picture Archives



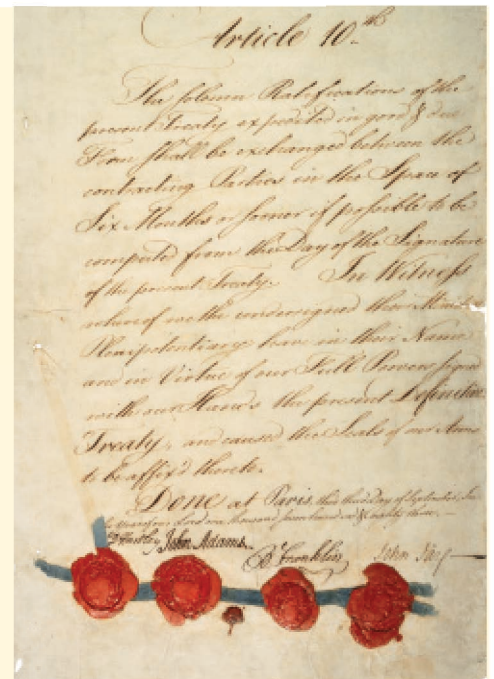


John Adams (seated, left), Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay (standing, right) signed the Peace of Paris for the United States.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### Peace of Paris, Article I

His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz., New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, to be free sovereign and independent states, that he treats with them as such, and for himself, his heirs, and successors, relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety, and territorial rights of the same and every part thereof.



### Stop and Check

**Talk** What agreements were part of the Peace of Paris?

### COLLABORATE





# No Victory for Some

After the war ended, the 40,000 Loyalists left in the country had to decide what to do. Some moved to Canada, which was still controlled by the British. Others remained in the United States. They tried to make the best of life there, but many were forced to give up their homes and property.

Slaves had hoped the end of the war would mean the end of slavery. To create a united government, however, the Congress agreed to allow slavery to continue in the Southern Colonies in return for Southern support.

American Indians—including the Mohawk and Iroquois—who had sided with the British found that more and more Americans settled on Indian lands. The Americans saw the native peoples as enemies because of the Iroquois alliance with the British. Eventually, the Mohawk and Iroquois signed a peace agreement with the United States.

It would still take many years before the phrase “all men are created equal” could truly include all people in the United States.



North Wind Picture Archives/Alamy Stock Photo

Those African Americans who were free at the end of the Revolutionary War also met with disappointments. They found themselves receiving unequal treatment in many forms. One free African American in Massachusetts, Prince Hall, collected signatures for a petition protesting one form of this discrimination.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### In Their Words... Prince Hall

... we are of the humble opinion that we have the right to enjoy the privileges of free men. But that we do not will appear in many instances, and we beg leave to mention one out of many, and that is of the education of our children which now receive no benefit from the free schools in the town of Boston, which we think is a great grievance, as by woeful experience we now feel the want of a common education. We, therefore, must fear for our rising offspring to see them in ignorance in a land of gospel light when there is provision made for them as well as others and yet can't enjoy them, and for not other reason can be given this they are black.

—from a petition presented to the Massachusetts state legislature, October 1787



### Stop and Check

**Talk** What happened to Loyalists after the war?

**What Do You Think?** Did everyone in the United States gain his or her independence as a result of the war?



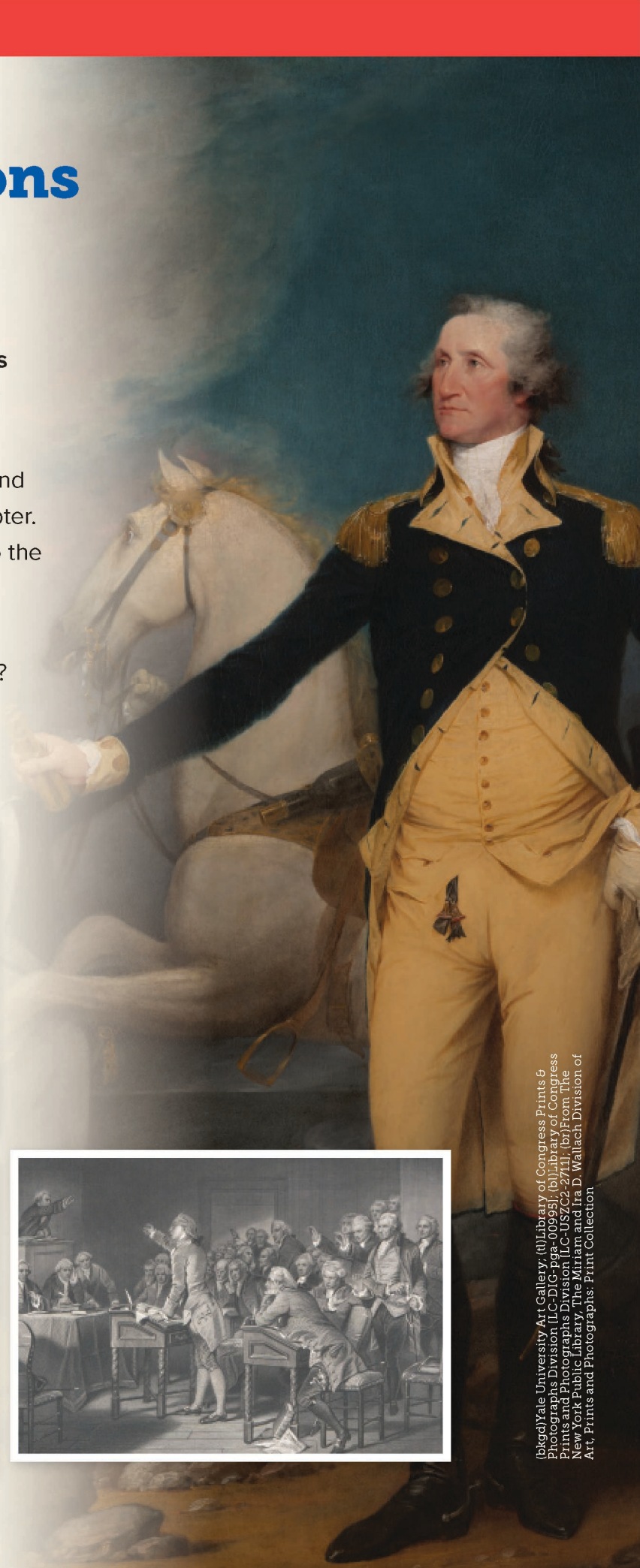
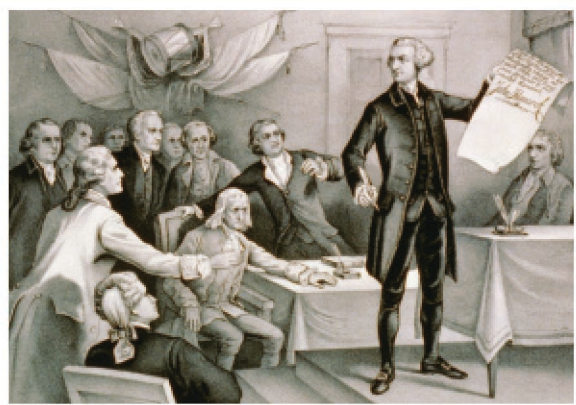


# Connections in Action!

## Back to the EQ

Think about the Chapter EQ, “What Does the Revolutionary Era Tell Us about Our Nation Today?”

- **Talk** with a partner about the people and events that you read about in this chapter. Consider ways that they contributed to the cause of freedom from Great Britain.
- How do these people and events continue to influence our nation today?
- **Share** your ideas with the class.



(bkgd)Yale University Art Gallery; (tl)Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division [LC-DIG-pga-00955]; (bl)Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division [LC-USZC2-2711]; (br)From The New York Public Library, The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs; Print Collection

# More to Explore

## How Can You Make an IMPACT?

### Debate in Action

The colonists were divided about whether or not to go to war with Great Britain. If you were a colonist, which side would you have supported? Why?

### Take a Stand

Choose a person from this chapter who you think was one of the most important figures in the American Revolution. Make a list of the reasons you think that way. Use evidence from the text to support your opinion. Get together with a partner or small group and talk about your choice. Be prepared to defend your thinking!

### Word Play

Choose three words from the chapter Word Bank. For each of those words, find two words that have the same base word. Write the definition for each base word. For example, for the word *revolutionary*, you could use *revolt* and *revolution*. Get together with a partner and switch word lists. Take turns using each new word in a sentence.