Before the Revolution
The American Revolution Part One:
The events leading up the Revolutionary War (1750 – 1775)
Before we begin, consider...

Background
• Historically speaking, right now “we” are British.

• The Colonies are an extension of Britain, so we share their government, their identity, their pride, and also their enemies.

• There is NO United States of America.

Taunton Flag, flown by colonists to show unity with the British crown.
Points of View

- Just like when you and your friends have a disagreement, all sides involved have a different opinion of what happened or “Point of View...” how you see it.

- The French, British, Native Americans, and Colonists all have different stories of what happened during this Revolution.

- We will tell this story of the American Revolution through the perspective of a colonist maturing into an American, but we’ll still consider and interpret what others thought.
The Revolution is Very Long

- It lasts from about 1750 – 1790.
- We break it up into pieces:
  - Prequel: The Rise of the 13 Colonies
  - Part I: Eve of a Revolution
  - Part II: Declaration and Revolution (War!)
  - Part III: Uh... Now What? (from the Articles to the Constitution)
The French and Indian War

Causes, the Conclusion, and why it’s important.

Chapter 7, Lesson 1
What brought the colonists?

- Cheap land
- Religious Tolerance
- Economic Opportunity
- Self-government!
Population of the Colonies Explodes

- Because of religious freedom, success in farming and business, and the prospect of greatness, America quickly grew.

- In 1607, there are barely 100 colonists.

- In 1650, there were 50,000 colonists.

- In 1750, there were 1,200,000 colonists.

- Colonists are in love with their new home, but seek other opportunities. They have a little greed for more success, more money. They seek to move west for more of that!
Before 1763

Population in the Colonies

- 1610: 3,800
- 1620: 4,100
- 1630: 4,600
- 1640: 50,400
- 1650: 111,900
- 1660: 210,400
- 1670: 250,900
- 1680: 466,200
- 1690: 905,600
- 1700: 1,170,800

Years: 1610 to 1750
Vocab Review: What is a Rival?

- What are some examples in 2011?

- What are some examples from the Revolution Era?
The “new world” looks like this. Can you see where rivals would fight with each other?
Causes of the French and Indian War

- The French and British were fighting to control North American Lands, primarily around the Great Lakes and in the Ohio River Valley.
- The colonists and Native Americans had been fighting ever since 1607. Why?
- The colonists and Natives had begun to fight more frequently as the white men moved into Native land... the Ohio River Valley. Conflict is escalating.
- British and French are fighting more, especially at the location of Ft. Duquesne.
Ohio Valley Conflict

1754: French build **Fort Duquesne** in the Ohio Valley (modern day Pittsburgh)

1754: Washington and his men open fire on a French scouting party in the Ohio Valley.

This event begins the French & Indian War.

Virginia **militia** led by, 22 yr. old volunteer, George Washington
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• Second Outline Level

→ Third Outline Level

• Fourth Outline Level

→ Fifth Outline Level
Albany Plan of Union

- Plan proposed by Benjamin Franklin
- Called for a council of delegates from each colony with a leader appointed by the British king
- Not approved because each colony wanted to control its own taxes and make its own decisions
JOIN, or DIE.

~ Drawn by Benjamin Franklin, 1754
French & Indian War

- Struggle between France and Great Britain for territory and power.
- American Indians side with French.
- Lasted 7 years
- 1759: British troops capture Canada
- 1763: Britain & France sign peace treaty
- France cedes (gives) Canada to England.
Effects of the French & Indian War

- The Treaty of Paris officially ended the War.
- As a result, the French lose every single possession in North America. They lose EVERYTHING! As a result:
  - The colonists had an open path to settle in the Ohio River Valley.
  - Also, the Native Americans are left with no allies or trading partners.
  - The colonists earn experience in large-scale warfare, not to mention the “mentorship” of fighting with the British for nearly 10 years.

- Britain suffers huge expenses, and is forced to pay for the war by taxing the same people they believed they were fighting for...
Proclamation of 1763

- Prohibited colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains
- Disliked by many of the colonists
WHAT IS THE PROCLAMATION LINE of 1763?

WHY IS THE BEGINNING OF THE OHIO RIVER SO IMPORTANT? WHY DOES THE FIGHT OVER IT START THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR?

ARE YOU KIDDING? LOOK HOW HARD IT IS TO MOVE THROUGH THESE WOODS!

THERE ARE NO WAGON ROADS GOING WEST IN THE 1750s. THE EASIEST WAY TO TRAVEL WEST IS IN A BOAT ON THE OHIO.

THE LAST MAJOR FIGHTING OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR ENDS IN 1760. BRITAIN TAKES OVER FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN NORTH AMERICA — INCLUDING FRENCH FRONTIER FORTS!

WHAT?!! THE BRITISH HAD PROMISED US THEY WOULD STAY OUT OF OUR OHIO LANDS!! THE SHAWNEE AND DELAWARE WILL FIGHT BACK!

OK! FOR PONTIAC, I WILL PROCLAIM THE PROCLAMATION Line of 63.

NO ENGLISH-SPEAKING SETTLERS CAN GO WEST OF THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING COLONISTS DO NOT OBEY KING GEORGE III's LINE.

DANIEL BOONE, YOU FOUND IT! THE CUMBERLAND GAP!!

NOW VIRGINIANS CAN GET OVER THE APPALACHIANS INTO THE OHIO VALLEY.

BOONE'S DISCOVERY OF THIS CHEROKEE INDIAN TRAIL IN 1769 GIVES COLONISTS A DOOR TO THE WEST!

NEXT: TIMBERRRRRRRSS!
Before the War
Colonies end at Appalachians

After the War
Colonists have moved westward
The Broke and the Taxed

The beginnings of struggle between Britain and the colonies.

*Chapter 7, Lesson 2*
England In Debt Due to War

Fighting the French and Indian War was very expensive for England and King George III saw the colonies as his ticket out of debt.
Money, money, money!

MONEY!!
Paying for the War

King George began to create ridiculous taxes that the colonists would have to pay.

The idea was that this tax money was going to go back to England to help it recover some of the money lost during the French and Indian War. The colonists quickly grew very angry about the taxes they were now being forced to pay.
What are Taxes?

Taxes = the money collected by the government to pay for services
After the F/I War, the British Apply Three New Taxes within 5 years

- **Sugar and Molasses Act** – 1764 – molasses (a major source of money for colonists) was taxed.
  - Was actually a renewal of a prior act, but angered the colonists with new provisions.
  - Forbid the colonies from trading with any other nation.
  - Traders now had to keep detailed records.
  - Those suspected of crimes were tried by a local judges (loyal to Britain?), without a jury.
  - Colonists began to boycott British goods. *How do you think this could be a good thing?*
• **Stamp Act** – 1765 – all legal documents and printed papers.
  • Was viewed as the highest revenue-building tax.
  • As soon as the tax was approved by Parliament, British officials sent out tax collectors called “Stamp Agents.”
  • Says the law itself:

  “Lastly, That it is the indispensable duty of these colonies, to the best of sovereigns, to the mother country, and to themselves, to endeavour by a loyal and dutiful address to his Majesty, and humble applications to both Houses of Parliament...”
“Lastly, it is the central duty of these colonies, for the good of the King, for the good of Britain, and to themselves, to try to be loyal and dutiful to his Majesty, and respect the laws of both Houses of Parliament...”
DO NOT EVEN PONDER THE THOUGHT OF SELLING OR TRADING GOODS WITHOUT THE ROYAL STAMP

IF YOU CHOOSE TO DISOBEY THIS LAW A SEVERE PENALTY WILL BE PAID
I am forry to be obliged to acquaint my readers that as the Stamp Act is feared to be obligatory upon us after the first of November ensuing (The Fatal To-morrow). The publisher of this paper, unable to bear the Burthen, has thought it expedient to stop awhile, in order to deliberate, whether any methods can be found to elude the chains forged for us, and escape the insupportable slavery, which it is hoped, from the last representation now made against that act, may be effected. Mean while I must earnestly Request every individual of my Subscribers, many of whom have been long behind Hand, that they would immediately discharge their respective Arrears, that I may be able, not only to support myself during the Interval, but be better prepared to proceed again with this Paper whenever an opening for that purpose appears, which I hope will be soon.

WILLIAM BRADFORD.
Boycott

- Refusal to buy goods or have dealings with a country or other entity
- Colonists boycotted (or, refused to buy or sell) British goods
Road to Revolution

Sons/Daughters of Liberty

- Protest group who helped organize boycotts
- Sam Adams was an outspoken leader of the Sons of Liberty in Boston
- Women signed pledges against drinking tea, promised not to buy British-made cloth, and met at spinning clubs to make their own cloth
The colonists got so upset about the British taxes that there were several stories about the colonists grabbing tax collectors, dumping hot tar on them, and then pouring boiling hot tea down their throats.
Is this an appropriate reaction to rules you don’t agree with?

What do you do when you feel “wronged?”
Why are the colonists upset?

- Continued taxation without representation.

- Goes against their “freedom of speech.”
  
  *If papers publishing opposing views are taxed, aren’t they less likely to be published?*

- Made things more expensive!
A matter of perspective?

- How do you think the British felt about the colonists “temper tantrum” in response to the Stamp Act?

“And now will these Americans, children planted by our care, nourished up by our Indulgence until they are grown to a degree of strength and opulence, and protected by our arms, will they grudge to contribute their mite to relieve us from heavy weight of the burden which we lie under?”

- Charles Townshend, British Politician
The colonists respond... well, they respond with “mixed maturity.”

- The governments of several colonies (i.e. Virginia, Massachusetts) issue statements to Britain, demanding fair treatment.
- They hung the tax collectors in effigy.
- Sam and Abigail Adams led the new “committee of correspondence.”
- Colonists storm the office of (tax collector) Andrew Oliver... and destroy it.
- Many colonies gathered at the “Stamp Act Congress” to determine a unified, dignified solution.
- Colonists storm the home of (Lt. Governor) Thomas Hutchinson... and destroy it.
Conclusion of *this* spat...

- British Prime Minister Greenville loses his job.
- The Brits repeal the Stamp Act just one year later, but would threaten the colonies even while doing so.

Parliament has... “full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies and people of America...in all cases whatsoever.”

~Declaratory Act of 1767

- What message have the British and the colonists sent each other so far?
• **Townshend Act – 1767**
  • Levied a tax on glass, lead, paper, paint and tea.
  • Also authorized *writs of assistance*.
  • Established new courts for colonists to be tried in (for expected protests?)
  • Colonists responded with more protests, calls for boycotts, and smuggling of illegal goods.
  • Eventually (3 years later), the taxes on goods would be taken away, leaving only a tea tax remaining.

• **Quartering Act – 1765**
  • Britain asked the colonies to host 1,500 soldiers and supply them necessities to live.
  • Colonists flat out refused, and British soldiers had to sleep on their ships.
Britain’s continued actions lead the Colonists to unite in rebellion.

*Chapter 7, Lesson 3*
Boston Massacre

- Boston citizens were angry at the sight of red-coated soldiers on the streets.
- Group of Boston civilians began insulting and throwing snowballs at a British guard. More soldiers arrived.
- Mob of civilians surrounded soldiers in protest, and in the confusion the soldiers fired their guns into the crowd and 5 civilians died.
- Following Boston Massacre, Townshend Acts were repealed (ended), except for the tax on tea.
The Bloody Massacre perpetrated in King-Street BOSTON on March 5th, 1770 by a party of the 29th Regt.
What is Propaganda?

Propaganda is information that is spread for the purpose of promoting some cause.

What was the cause/reason for calling the shooting of five people in Boston a massacre by the English soldiers?
Committees of Correspondence

- Network of communication for passing along news of British activity to the colonies
- Organized by Samuel Adams in Massachusetts
- Also formed in other colonies
The Tea Act

• After the Boston Massacre, the colonies stayed calm
• Britain repealed the Townshend Acts—they did keep the tax on tea

• Britain faced a new problem—The East India Company (largest in England) was losing money—to help it recover, Parliament came up with The Tea Act.
• The company was not taxed to ship the tea to the colonies, but the colonies had to pay a tax to England for the tea.
• The Act also let the Company decide which American merchants could sell the tea
• Colonists were angry that Parliament would give one company total control over a trade.
Boston Tea Party

- In response to the Tea Act of 1773.
  - Tea was actually made cheaper, but the law cut colonial businesses out of money making.
  - Allowed the East India Company to become a monopoly, becoming the colonies only source of tea.
  - Naturally led to a boycott on tea, but it failed.
- Believed to be initiated by the Sons of Liberty.
- Attacked the British ships *Beaver, Dartmouth, & Eleanor.*
- Inspired colonists to begin smuggling tea themselves.
  - In 1773, the EIC imported 555,000 pounds of tea.
  - In 1773, colonists illegally smuggled over 900,000 pounds.
Chests that tea was shipped in.

Tea could be shipped in either bottles (above) or in bricks of hard, pressed tea called bricks (left).
Brethren, and Fellow Citizens!

You may depend, that those odious Miscreants and detestable Tools to Ministry and Governor, the Tea Consignees, (those Traitors to their Country, Butchers, who have done, and are doing every Thing to Murder and destroy all that shall stand in the Way of their private Interest,) are determined to come and reside again in the Town of Boston.

I therefore give you this early Notice, that you may hold yourselves in Readiness, on the shortest Notice, to give them such a Reception, as such vile Ingrates deserve.

JOYCE, jun.

(Chairman of the Committee for Tarring and Feathering.

If any Person should be so hardy as to Tear this down, they may expect my severest Resentment.

J. jun.
Responses to the Tea Party

In the Colonies...
- Colonists are split - many are energized at the protest for giving voice to their frustrations. However, a large minority is angry with the barbarian-like actions of SOL.
- Tea protests become widespread in the colonies, including the “Annapolis Tea Party,” where colonists demanded the HMS Peggy Stewart and its contents be destroyed.

In Britain...
- “The die is now cast... the colonists must either submit or triumph.”
- Most Brits are now united against the colonists. What was viewed as a law (Tea Act) to fairly tax the colonists and recoup the expenses of their war to defend the colonies was responded to horribly.
- All allies and those defending the colonies are appalled, leading to widespread resentment of the colonies.
The Americans have tarred and feathered your subjects, plundered your merchants, burnt your ships, denied all obedience to your laws and authority; yet so clement and so long forbearing has our conduct been that it is incumbent on us now to take a different course. Whatever may be the consequences, we must risk something; if we do not, all is over"

- Lord North, Prime Minister of England; comments on the Coercive Acts
The Intolerable Acts of 1774

- The British are determined – once and for all – to show the Colonists that they are to be loyal and obey all Parliament laws. Otherwise, to coerce the colonists into action.
- They respond to the BTP with a great show of force:
  - Boston’s port is closed.
  - Severely limited town meetings.
  - Called for all trials to take place in Britain or Canada.
  - Forced Colonists to allow soldiers to live in their homes.
- Also formally charges several men with “high crimes and treason” – including John Hancock, Samuel Adams.
Why Were the Intolerable Acts So Intolerable?

The Boston Port Act closed Boston Harbor to all shipping until the tea destroyed in the Boston Tea Party was paid for. Ships sat idle at the docks. Sailors and dockworkers lost their jobs. Stores closed for lack of goods to sell.

The Administration of Justice Act said that a British soldier arrested for murder in the colonies would be sent to England for trial. Knowing that they would not face justice in the colonies, British troops felt freer to abuse the colonists.
First Continental Congress

The foundation for this was laid down with the Committee of Correspondence.

- Sons of Liberty had set up a committee in each colony, made up of Anti-British leaders.
- Paul Revere’s first ride was through the colonies to personally invite everyone to a meeting to plan a unified response to Britain.
  - What does this sound a lot like?
- Can unity convince Parliament to respect their wishes?

advertisement

The Committee of Correspondence in New-York, having on Monday Night last proceeded to the Nomination of five Persons to go as Delegates for the said City and County, on the proposed General Congress, at Philadelphia, on the 1st of September next; the five following Persons were nominated for that Purpose,

Philip Livingston,
James Duane,
John Alsop,
John Jay,
Isaac Low.

The Inhabitants, therefore, of this City and County, are requested to meet, at the City-Hall, on Thursday next, at 12 o’clock, in order to approve of the said five Persons, as Delegates, or to choose such other in their stead, as to their wisdom shall seem meet.

By Order of the Committee,
ISAAC LOW, CHAIRMAN.

TUESDAY, 5th July, 1774.
Work of the FCC

- Members were elected, just as our Congress is.
- A unified boycott was approved, through all the colonies, of British goods.
  - Almost all trade with Britain was ended – 98%, in fact.
  - Colonists were given power to observe and enforce the laws the FCC passed, to ensure true unity and consistency.
- Also established a Second CC to meet one year later, to evaluate the progress of British-American negotiations.
  - However, will the Brits take it seriously?
These Declarations (of grievances) and freedoms “would be but waste paper in England.”

- John Adams’ argument regarding how the Continental Congress’ petition would be received by Parliament and King George.

"We must fight if we cannot otherwise rid ourselves of British taxation, all revenues, and the constitution or form of government enacted for us by the British Parliament. It is evil against right — utterly intolerable to every man who has any idea or feeling of right or liberty. Fight we must, finally, unless Britain retreats."

- Major Hawley
The Shot Heard 'Round the World

Chapter 7, Lesson 4
Road to Revolution

Militia

- A group of citizens who would be ready to fight in any emergency
Minutemen

- Members of a militia who could be ready to fight at a “minute’s” notice

- Minutemen were usually 25 years of age or younger, and they were selected (from the militia) for their enthusiasm, reliability, and strength
The Colonies Unite

“We will abandon our city to flames before paying a penny for lost tea!”

Other colonies rush to support the Bostonians.

Virginia declares:
“An attack made on one of our sister colonies is an attack made on all of British America.”
Colonists Take Action

- **Merchants** in other colonies **closed their shops** to oppose treatment of colonists in Massachusetts.

- **Virginians** called for a **meeting of delegates** from all the colonies to find a solution.

- Towns and cities begin **organizing** their **militias** to prepare for a fight.

- **Patrick Henry** urges colonists to start thinking of themselves as one people: **AMERICANS**
Lexington and Concord

THE SHOT HEARD 'ROUND THE WORLD
THE “BRITISH” ARE COMING!!

As the redcoats headed to Concord, Massachusetts Paul Revere and another rider mounted their horses. They then rode as fast as they could toward Lexington and Concord Massachusetts yelling “The regulars are coming! The regulars are coming!”

Paul Revere was able to wake up enough of the colonial minutemen so they would be prepared to fight.
*Paul Revere and William Dawes snuck out of Boston to warn the surrounding towns that the British were coming—by midnight, every Minuteman was ready and had known about the British plan.

*Paul Revere had three friends signal the British advances to the Patriots—If the British came by land, they would put one lantern in the Old North Church—If the British came by sea, they would place two lanterns to burn in the Old North Church.

*The British soldiers were no match for the Minutemen……
Paul Revere’s Ride.
The colonists’ weapons are stored in Concord, a town near Boston.

The British sneak in to steal them, but a well prepared militia – led by the Sons of Liberty – waits for them.

The British order the minutemen home, but a shot is accidentally fired, and a brief battle leaves 8 colonists dead.

North Bridge in Concord, Massachusetts
And so it begins...

- As the British return to Boston, they are met by 300 minutemen in Lexington.

- Waiting in hiding, shooting from homes, sitting and trees and completely surrounding the British, the American men and women kill, wound, and scare 273 soldiers.

- The Revolutionary War has begun.
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>British troops leave Boston and march to Concord to seize gunpowder</td>
<td>and weapons.</td>
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<td>Paul Revere and others warn colonists of the British approach.</td>
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<td>Minutemen and British troops fight in Lexington.</td>
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<td>British troops continue to Concord.</td>
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<td>British soldiers search for weapons and gunpowder in Concord.</td>
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<td>Colonists fight British soldiers at Concord’s North Bridge.</td>
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<td>Colonists attack British soldiers on the retreat to Boston.</td>
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Map of the Battles of Lexington & Concord
Second Continental Congress

Delegates from all 13 colonies met in Philadelphia

George Washington chosen to build a Continental Army
Olive Branch Petition

Petition sent to the King by the Second Continental Congress begging him to stop the war and make peace with the colonists

Unsuccessful—George III declared the Americans to be rebels and the colonies went to war
*The Patriots surrounded Boston on every side except Charlestown

*1,000 Minutemen marched in the dark to Bunker Hill...

*The Patriots were told not to shoot until they saw the whites of the British eyes...

*When the Patriots/Minutemen finally shot, fire sent the line of British soldiers reeling.
Postcard

The year is 1765. Your neighbors are enraged by Britain's attempt to tax them without the consent (agreement). Britain has never done this before and everyone will be affected by the new taxes. Write a postcard to your friend who is a minuteman living in Concord discussing the following things:

1) Why is King George taxing the people in the 13 colonies?
2) What tax do you hate the most?
3) What were the Sons of Liberty doing when you saw them at the Boston Harbor?
4) Why did the British Soldiers come to Concord Massachusetts?
5) How do you feel about Paul Revere waking you up at midnight? Why?