

America: Exploration To Revolution

Middle/Junior High School US/VA History to 1865

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- sequence events;
- access a variety of media, including online resources;
- analyze and interpret artifacts, primary and secondary sources;
- use geographic information;
- interpret diagrams and pictures to determine characteristics of people, places, and events; and
- use evidence to draw conclusions and make generalizations.

Standards

- Virginia:** **USI.5a** Jamestown Settlement
USI.5e French & Indian War and Taxation
USI.6a Issues of Dissatisfaction That Led to the American Revolution
USI.6c Key Individuals and Events of the Revolutionary War

- National:** **NSS-C.5-8.2** Foundations of the Political System
NSS-USH.5-12.3 Era 3 Revolution & the New Nation (1754-1820s)

Approx. Time: One 90 minute block or two 45 minute blocks

- *For a more active-learning hook, see the gallery walk on page CH1-MS8.*

HOOK: Imagine your parents let you stay up as late as you want and eat anything you want for about 5 years. Then, all of a sudden, they make you go to bed at a specific time and EARLY too! They also put you on a strict diet of vegetables and every time you had something sweet, like soda, they would make you immediately do 50 jumping jacks to work it off. How would you feel? What would you do? Would you disobey them? Would you try to talk to them to get them to change their rules? Maybe you would run away?

This is exactly what happened to the colonists who left England to come to the New World. For many years, the king allowed them to do what they wanted to establish and to settle the colonies. Once, however, the colonies began to make money, the king decided it was time to make some rules and regulations to bring England and the king some revenues. So, the colonists began to disobey the king and eventually gained their independence.

Today, you will create a timeline of the major events leading up to and during the American Revolution. You will also create “History Tweets” for key figures during the same time period that reflect the roles that those individuals played in the American Revolution.

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Major Events From Exploration To The Revolutionary War Timeline

Students will be assigned an event and an explanation of that event. Using a text book or the internet (see the link below) students will find out the date their event happened. On their own paper, students will write down the date/year of the event, the name of the event, and the information provided. Also, they will create a picture or symbol of the event. Caution them NOT TO SHARE THEIR PICTURE OR SYMBOL. Students should check with you using the timeline key to make sure they have the correct date.

Struggling Students: If students have trouble coming up with a picture or symbol, they can use a text book or smart device/computer to try to find images that may help. Suggest using stick figures as well.

Options for Sharing Information: Depending on the class size, you can have students pair up (32 students) or assign events individually (16). Students will need to copy all of the information down on the Major Events of the American Revolution Timeline student handout. Depending on how much movement you want in your classroom, you can either have the students (i) tape up their events in order on a wall in the room and then travel around copying all of the information on their timelines, or (ii) have students leave their event information on their desks and travel around to other desks randomly until their timeline is complete.

Post Assessment: Pictionary Review: Students will go to the board and draw their picture/symbol and see if other students can guess which event they have. Reward correct answers and creative picture/symbols with extra points, candy, or any other incentives.

Advanced Students: Students will rank the top five most significant events leading to the American Revolution and create a news broadcast explaining the events. Students can use Audacity to create an audio recording. Broadcasts shall include factual information for each event and a commercial concerning one of the events (Example: East India Iced Tea straight from Boston Harbor!). They may include music and sound effects.

Technology: Online Timeline of Major Events of Revolutionary War

I Link: <https://goo.gl/j0iLuc>

I Audacity (audio recording software) <http://www.audacityteam.org/>