

Discover America

Course 3 - Teacher Guide



**COURSE 3: THE ORIGINAL COLONIES
AND THE BOSTON TEA PARTY**

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5th Grade

Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Boldness
- Freedom
- Persistence

Core Values

- Faith
- Liberty
- Community
- Life

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- List the events leading up to the American Revolutionary War.
- Explain what the Intolerable Acts are and the impact they had on the colonists.
- Tell what happened during the First Continental Congress.



Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Key Terms

- 01 **activism** - taking action to achieve political goals.
- 02 **Boston Massacre** - a deadly fight between the colonists and British soldiers which resulted in the deaths of five colonists and six more injured.
- 03 **Boston Tea Party** - a protest where a large group of colonists disguised as Native Americans dumped 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor.
- 04 **compromise** - a mutual agreement or settlement.
- 05 **First Continental Congress** - a gathering of delegates from the colonies to discuss American resistance to the British.
- 06 **grievance** - a complaint.
- 07 **infringe** - to violate.
- 08 **Intolerable Acts** - laws that mandated repayment for the tea the colonists destroyed, the closure of the Boston harbor, and listed requirements for sheltering British troops.
- 09 **petition** - a formal written request.
- 10 **Stamp Act** - a law that taxed everything on printed paper.
- 11 **Townshend Acts** - taxed items including paint, paper, glass, lead, and tea.

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Introduction

ASK Students

Did you know that America was not always the free country it is today?

Before this land was the United States of America with all 50 states, it comprised 13 colonies that lived under the rule of the King of England and the British government.

So what led those 13 colonies to freedom?

(allow students to respond)

WATCH

Learn More with Liberty



Scan Me!

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

First we need to review several events that occurred before America became a united country. The King of England imposed several laws on the colonists that made their lives difficult. The Stamp Act and the Townshend Acts forced the colonists to pay taxes on several items such as paper and everything printed on paper, paint, glass, lead, and tea. This increased the amount of people living in poverty in the 13 colonies. As life became increasingly more difficult for the colonists, they became outraged and started showing out against the British government. This led to the King sending British soldiers, or Redcoats, to physically go stand among the colonists and keep them in line. Fights often broke out between the colonists and the British troops. The Boston Massacre was one major fight that resulted in the deaths of several colonists.

The colonists decided to stand up for themselves by protesting the unfair taxes. One protest was the Boston Tea Party. During the Boston Tea Party, a large group of men disguised themselves in Native American dress and boarded three ships carrying a large delivery of tea to be sold. To show their refusal to pay the tea tax, the colonists dumped the 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor. This protest did not go without consequences. That leads us to even more rules and regulations placed on the colonists.

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Lesson Guide

The Intolerable Acts

TELL Students

King George III and the British government were furious with the colonists' display of activism, so their response to the Boston Tea Party was harsh and severe. In 1774, the British government imposed the Coercive Acts, also known as the Intolerable Acts. Included in these laws were mandates for repayment for the tea the colonists destroyed, the closure of the Boston harbor, and requirements for sheltering British troops.

The Intolerable Acts made clear to the American colonists that they were being punished by Britain and that the freedom they cherished was being taken away.

In the fall of 1774, the First Continental Congress, a gathering of delegates (or representatives) from every colony except Georgia, got together in Philadelphia to discuss American resistance to the British. The colonists had high hopes that forming a united front would put an end to British oppression.

The colonists first issued a strong declaration listing the things that the British government had done that were wrong and infringed on their freedom, liberty, and right to representation in government. They also wrote a respectful petition – or letter – to King George III saying that if he addressed their issues, they would remain loyal to the King.

The goal of the colonists was not to start a war. They wanted the complete opposite: peace. Yet, the British were not willing to find a compromise with the American people that preserved their liberty and treated them fairly. These events set the stage for the American Revolutionary War.

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Lesson Guide

The Intolerable Acts

TELL Students

The Boston Tea Party was a critical step in America earning its freedom from Britain. As the first American colonists showed us in the 1770s, all people have the right to freely speak their minds, assemble and peacefully express their opinions and grievances. But these rights were not always respected. Unlike today, when Americans vote in elections, the colonists did not have the opportunity to be heard.

Just as the colonists believed, these fundamental rights come from God, not from a King. It was this firmly held belief that led to the birth of America.

REFLECTIONS

How did the Intolerable Acts bring the colonists together as a community?

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Flash Cards



ACTIVISM

taking action to
achieve political
goals

**BOSTON
MASSACRE**

a deadly fight between the
colonists and British
soldiers which resulted in
the deaths of five colonists
and six more injured

**BOSTON TEA
PARTY**

a protest where a large
group of colonists
disguised as Native
Americans dumped
342 chests of tea into
the Boston Harbor



COMPROMISE

a mutual agreement
or settlement

**FIRST
CONTINENTAL
CONGRESS**

a gathering of
delegates from the
colonies to discuss
American resistance
to the British

GRIEVANCE

a complaint

INFRINGE

to violate



INTOLERABLE ACTS

laws that mandated repayment for the tea the colonists destroyed, the closure of the Boston harbor, and listed requirements for sheltering British troops

PETITION

a formal written request

STAMP ACT

a law that taxed everything on printed paper

TOWNSHEND ACTS

taxed items including paint, paper, glass, lead, and tea

Boston Tea Party

Graphic Organizer

Complete the graphic organizer below with information you've learned about the Intolerable Acts.

01. It was passed on this date.

A N S W E R S :

02. The country who wrote these laws.

03. Included in the legislation.

04. What it meant for the colonists.

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Assessment

1. What products did the Stamp Act affect?

- a. Tea only
- b. Stamps for mailing letters
- c. Playing cards, newspapers, and written documents
- d. Paint, paper, glass, lead, and tea

2. What did the colonists dump a large amount of into the Boston Harbor as an act of protest?

- a. Tea
- b. British documents
- c. Gold
- d. Food

3. What products did the Townshend Act affect?

- a. Tea only
- b. Stamps for mailing letters
- c. Playing cards, newspapers, and written documents
- d. Paint, paper, glass, lead, and tea

4. What did the colonists call the British soldiers?

- a. Bluecoats
- b. Patriots
- c. Redcoats
- d. Kingsmen

Boston Tea Party - 5th Grade

Assessment Key

1. What products did the Stamp Act affect?

- a. Tea only
- b. Stamps for mailing letters
- c. **Playing cards, newspapers, and written documents**
- d. Paint, paper, glass, lead, and tea

2. What did the colonists dump a large amount of into the Boston Harbor as an act of protest?

- a. **Tea**
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4. What did the colonists call the British soldiers?

- a. Bluecoats
- b. Patriots
- c. **Redcoats**
- d. Kingsmen

Boston Tea Party

Resource List

<https://www.history.com/topics/colonial-america/thirteen-colonies>

<https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/boston-tea-party>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/road-to-revolution/the-american-revolution/a/the-townshend-acts>

<https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/boston-massacre>

<https://www.biography.com/military-figure/crispus-attucks>

<https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/townshend-acts>

<https://www.bostontea-party-ship.com/boston-tea-party-cause#:~:text=In%20simplest%20terms%2C%20the%20Boston,the%20French%20and%20Indian%20War>

<https://www.bostontea-party-ship.com/disguise-of-sons-of-liberty#:~:text=In%20an%20effort%20to%20hide,as%20Mohawks%20or%20Narragansett%20Indian>

<https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-boston-tea-party>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/road-to-revolution/the-american-revolution/a/the-boston-tea-party>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/road-to-revolution/the-american-revolution/a/the-intolerable-acts-and-the-first-continental-congress>

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/congress-petitions-english-king-to-address-grievances#:~:text=On%20October%2025%2C%201774%2C%20the,be%20standing%20behind%20British%20rule>

