

The Colonies Organize to Resist Britain

The Sugar Act

King George III, British king during the American Revolution has debt issues!

Writs of assistance allow searches for smuggled goods, even in homes...this causes issues for the colonies.

Prime Minister Grenville passes the **Sugar Act** to end colonial smuggling...this doesn't work.

Violators tried by vice-admiralty court, not colonial court

Merchants and traders fear reduced profits

The Stamp Act

Stamp Act (1765) taxes printed items like wills and newspapers

Colonial assemblies protest lack of representation in Parliament

Merchants in New York, Boston, Philadelphia boycott British goods...it works.

Its repealed in 1766...but.



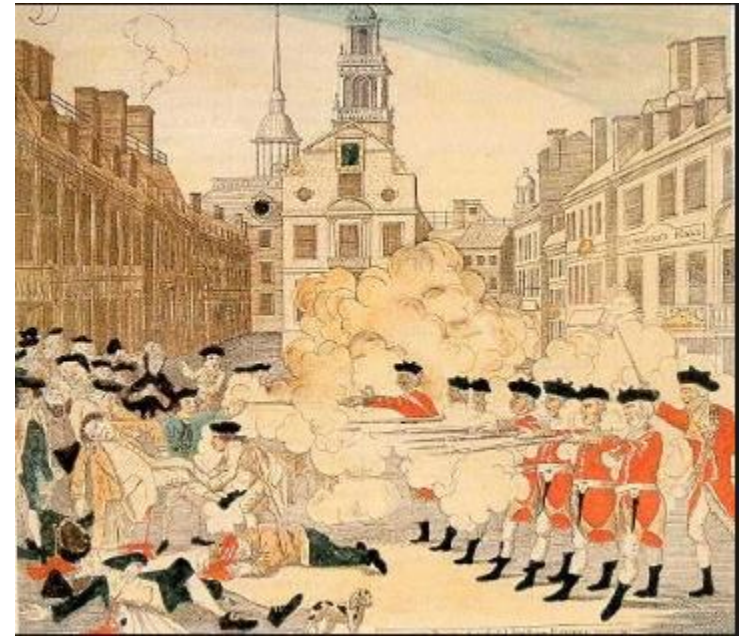
Violence Erupts in Boston

Boston Massacre—British guards fire on a colonial mob, kill five
Lord North, prime minister, has most of the Townshend Acts repealed

The Boston Tea Party

Tea Act lets British East India Co. avoid tax; undercuts colonists

Boston Tea Party—disguised Boston rebels dump tea into Boston harbor



The Intolerable Acts

Intolerable Acts close Boston harbor; place Boston under martial law
In 1774 First Continental Congress meets, declares colonial rights

Fighting at Lexington and Concord

- 700 British troops march to Concord
- At Lexington, British soldiers fight 70 minutemen, 8 colonists killed
- British find Concord's arsenal empty; return to Boston, are ambushed.

The Second Continental Congress

- Congress forms Continental Army;
- George Washington in command



The Patriots Declare Independence

Module 1 Lesson 2

John Locke
influences colonists

people have natural rights to life,
liberty, property

Thomas Paine's
Common Sense

Common Sense—pamphlet attacking King George
and monarchy
Argues for independence, influences many
colonists

Declaring Independence

Congress appoints committee to prepare
declaration to Britain

Thomas Jefferson, Virginia lawyer, writes document
(One of the most important, influential legal
documents of modern times)

Declaration of Independence is colonies' formal
statement of freedom

Lists British violations and colonists' rights as
citizens

July 4, 1776 delegates adopt declaration



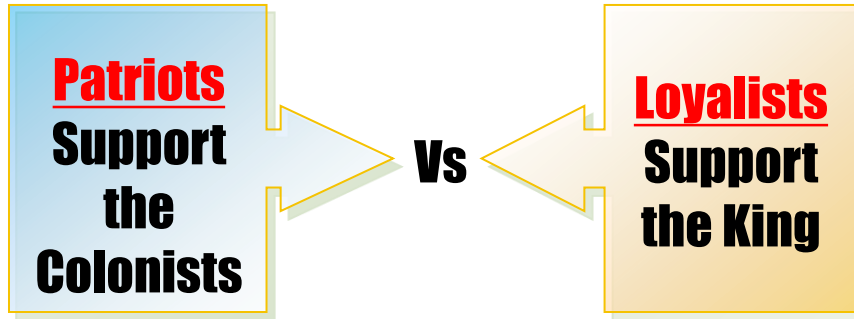
The War for Independence

Module 1 Lesson 2

Early Victories and Defeats

**British take New York in 1776;
Washington retreats to
Pennsylvania**

**Washington takes Trenton; British
take Philadelphia in 1777**



Saratoga (maybe most important event in the war)

Colonial troops surrounded the British forcing their surrender...next the French sign and alliance with the Americans.



Foreign Military Aid

Marquis de Lafayette

- encourages France to send reinforcements
- European leaders help train the Continental Army

The British Move South

- Charles Cornwallis**, British general, wins many southern victories
- He camps at **Yorktown**, plans to take Virginia

The British Surrender at Yorktown

- Cornwallis is surrounded at Yorktown, surrenders in October 1781

Treaty of Paris (1783) establishes colonial independence and borders

