

NAME: _____



Activity One



Congressional Delegate

Congratulations! You have been chosen as a delegate for your colony to attend the Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

Students should break into groups of two or more. Each group should pick one of the Thirteen Colonies to represent at the Congress. Discuss the issues involved with declaring your independence from Britain. Make sure you look at both the pros and cons!

Think about all the things that you have read, such as:

- the Proclamation Act
- Navigation Acts
- Sugar Act
- Stamp Act
- Townshend Duties
- The Boston Massacre
- The Boston Tea Party
- The Intolerable Acts

How do these Acts, taxes and events affect your colony?

Are the people in your colony happy or angry about all the changes?

Do they change your farm, business, or lifestyle?

You could even have some form of debate with one side wanting to remain loyal to Britain and the other wanting to declare independence.

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Activity Two



Be a Reporter

In the time leading up to and during the American Revolutionary War, there were many key events and battles. Each helped to shape the outcome of the war in a different way.

Pick any key event or battle that happened during the American Revolution or during the time leading up to the Revolution. It may be something that you are very interested in or maybe something that you would like to learn more about.

For example, you could write about:

- the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- the Battles of Lexington and Concord
- the Boston Tea Party
- the Boston Massacre
- the siege and surrender at Yorktown
- wintering at Valley Forge with General Washington
- crossing the Delaware River with Washington before a battle
- the Battle of Bunker Hill
- the night ride of Paul Revere

Pretend that you are a newspaper reporter and write a story about the event taking place.

Remember your five W's when you are writing your article:

- Who is involved in your event?
- What is happening? Give some good details.
- Where does your event take place?
- When does the event happen?
- Why are the event and the action taking place?

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Activity Three

Biography

There are many famous figures that were involved in the American Revolutionary War. Pick **ONE** of the figures that you personally find interesting. Use various resources like your class computer, the library, and books to research your chosen figure.

For example:

- George Washington
- Thomas Jefferson
- King George III
- General Thomas Gage
- General William Howe
- Benjamin Franklin
- Sam Adams
- Paul Revere
- John Hancock

Pick anyone that you would like to learn more about! (If your chosen figure isn't listed in the examples above, get permission from your teacher.)

Using the information that you have found about your chosen figure, write a short biography about that person. A biography is a paper that describes a person's life, achievements and significance to the world today.

Think about things like:

- Where was he born?
- When was he born?
- Where was he trained or educated?
- Where was he from?
- Where did he live?
- What were his great accomplishments?
- What was his legacy?

Your biography should be at least a half-page in length and should not be any longer than two pages.

Have fun!

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Activity Four



Compare and Contrast

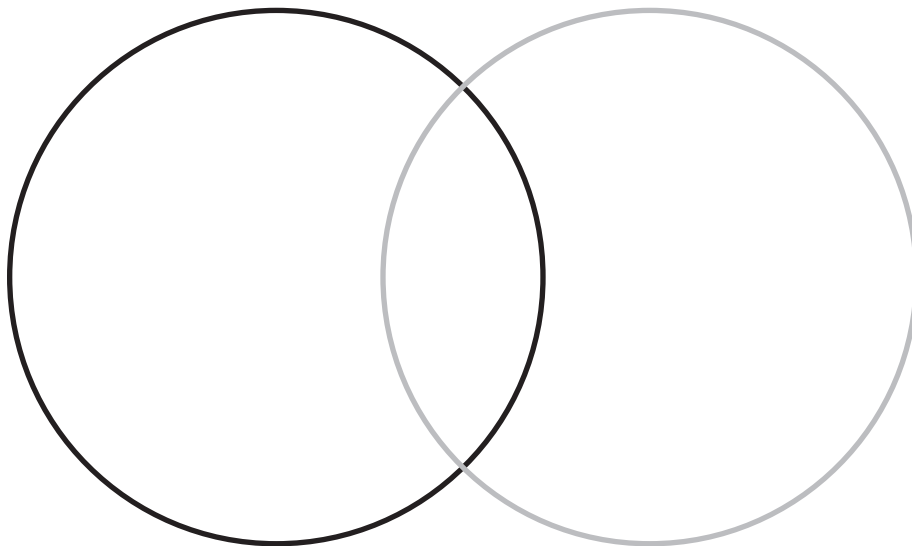
When the American Revolutionary War started, the two opposing forces—the British and the Continental Army—could not have been more different. It must have seemed like a case of David vs. Goliath.

Use various resources to research the two opposing military forces. Compare and contrast the two forces.

Look at things like:

- Training
- Tactics
- Uniforms
- Weapons
- What kind of soldiers made up each force?
- Naval forces
- Officers
- Allies

Organize your information to show the differences and similarities between the British and the Americans. You could use a chart or a Venn diagram like the one below.



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Activity Five



Miniature Diorama

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!!

A diorama is a three-dimensional scale model of some kind of landscape usually showing an historical event.

Divide the class into pairs or small groups.

Using art materials, materials from home, or recyclable materials, create a miniature diorama of a key event that happened during the American Revolutionary period.

It could be an event like:

- the Boston Massacre
- the Boston Tea Party
- the Battle of Bunker Hill
- the siege of Yorktown
- the Battle of Lexington
- the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- the meeting of the Continental Congress
- Washington crossing the Delaware

Remember! This is intended to be a fun exercise. Show your creativity and express yourself.

Really think about the details and what you want your diorama to show your classmates!



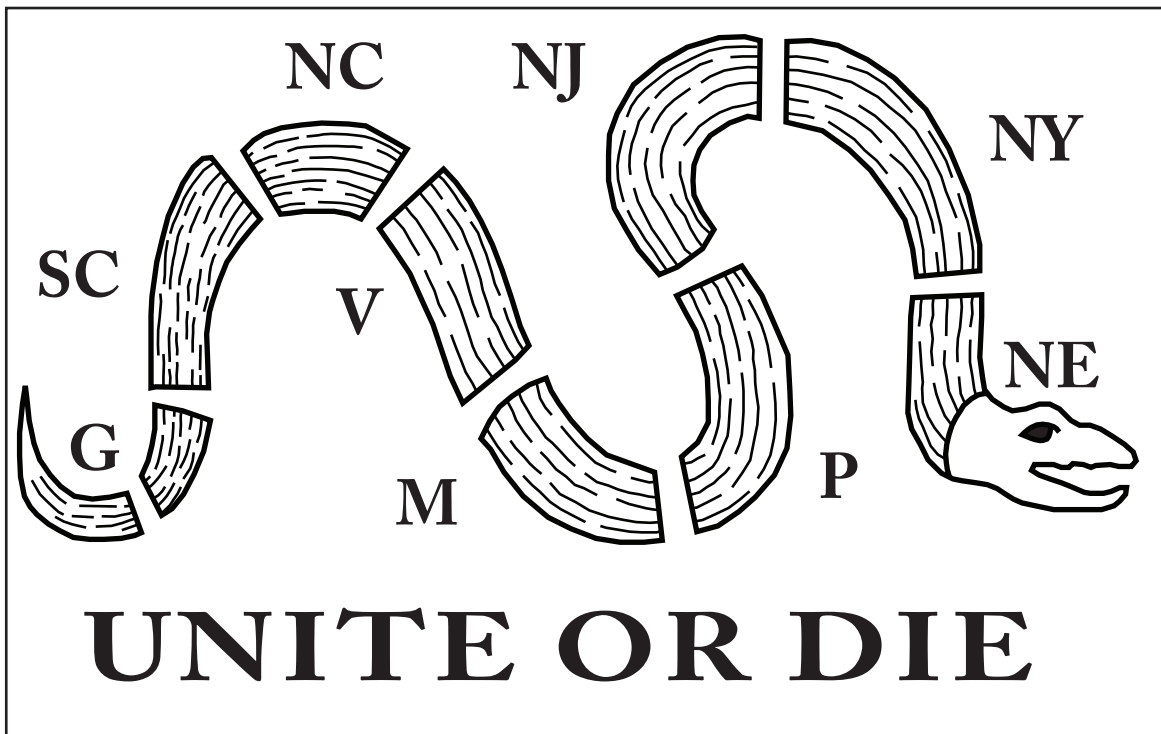
Activity Six



Political Cartoon

Benjamin Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. He was a leading author and printer, politician, scientist, inventor and diplomat.

One of Franklin's most famous political cartoons was called "Unite, or Die".



- What was Franklin depicting in the cartoon?
- Once you have figured it out, see if you can successfully label the diagram.
- Research the meaning of the cartoon if you have to.

Most newspapers regularly have political cartoons in them. Look at some newspapers and see if you can find some. Discuss with the class what is usually involved in a political cartoon.

Pick something that happened during the American Revolutionary War period. See if you can create your own political cartoon about the event.

Have fun with it!

Remember: political cartoons are meant to be funny!