



# NSDAR Educational Resources Committee

## “Historical Events Leading to the American Revolution”

### Lesson Plan

**Contributor:** Lady Washington DAR Chapter 6-056-TX

**State:** Texas

**Topic:** American History

**Grade Level:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade

**Time Allocation:** 2 hours

1. **Addresses Common Core Standards:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL5.2, 5.4, 5.7, 5.10
2. **Addresses State Standards:** TEKS ELA Grade 5 1(A), 10, 13(B), 18(A) iii
3. **Identify the standards to be addressed:** Identification of key historical events leading up to the American Revolution; ability to place events in correct chronological order; use of correct grammatical language; use of illustrations and color to enhance timeline.
4. **Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:** Students will create an illustrated timeline of key historical events leading up to the American Revolution.
5. **Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:**  
Please see inserts of materials, resources, and websites that may be utilized in the explanation of lesson below.
6. **Introduction of the topic:** The King’s M&M’s activity: <http://betterlesson.com/lesson/575437/the-king-s-taxation-m-m-s>;

This is a hands-on introduction explained by Rose Ortiz in the website that will engage students in understanding the taxation without representation laws the British imposed on early colonists which led to the decision to establish their own government. By using M&M’s that will be collected from students according to their designation as either colonist, tax collector, parliament, or king, students realize the unfairness when their candy is being taken away or the excitement of getting extra candy, depending on the role being played.

This high-interest, relevant (because of the candy) activity will impress the idea of taxation without representation in a tactile mode that is appealing and applicable to capturing the attention of young learners and sets the stage for the rest of the lesson.

7. **Procedure for instruction:**

➤ To build background knowledge and create a scaffolding upon which students can apply new learning, the teacher will use classroom history materials pertaining to early colonial America and key events leading up to the American Revolution. Use of contemporary literature is also crucial to spike interest and create a deeper understanding of the subject to enhance comprehension. Some additional titles for consideration:

*The Winter of Red Snow*, from the Dear America series, Kristina Gregory

*What Was the Boston Tea Party*, Kathleen Krull

*A Young Patriot: The American Revolution as Experienced by One Boy*, Jim Murphy

*American Revolution* from the Magic Tree house series

*We are Patriots: Hope's Revolutionary War Diary*, from the My America series, Kristina Gregory

➤ Students will compile a vocabulary list helpful for the lesson with terms:

revolution

rebellion

patriot

loyalist

Stamp act

Boston Tea Party

taxation

representation

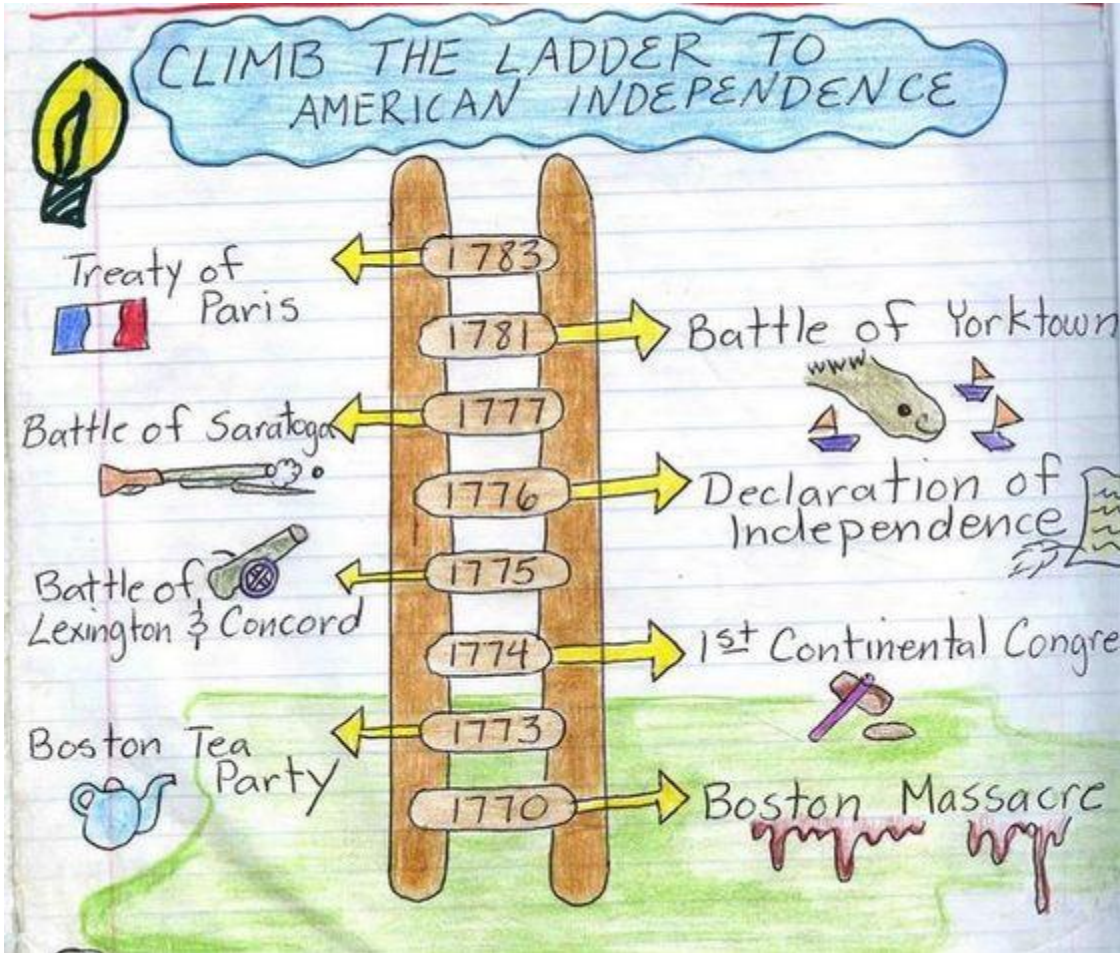
➤ View Tea-Party-School House Rocks-No More Kings <https://youtu.be/t-9pDZMRCpQ>

➤ View Rap 2 Learn: US History: Causes of the American Revolution [https://youtu.be/Ci1pj34C\\_YQ](https://youtu.be/Ci1pj34C_YQ)

➤ Once background knowledge has been established, the time line activity can be introduced. Students will be placed in pairs to create a time line of key events leading to the American Revolution. Before sending pairs out to begin work, brainstorm with the whole group and list students' responses to the events/problems the colonists faced that contributed to their desire to form their own government. These may include:

1620	Mayflower landed on Plymouth Rock
1733	Thirteen colonies established
1754	The French and Indian War
1765	The Stamp Act
1770	The Boston Massacre
1773	The Boston Tea Party
1774	First Continental Congress formed
1775	George Washington named Commander-in-Chief (June 15)
1775	Paul Revere's Ride (April 18)
1775	Battles of Lexington and Concord (April 19)
1776	Declaration of Independence signed (July 4)
1776	Washington crosses the Delaware

➤ Using strips of chart paper, construction paper, poster board, crayons, and markers as desired, students will create a time line showing 10-12 events leading up to the Revolutionary War. One example showing a vertical alignment of historical events from Pinterest called "Climb the Ladder to American Independence" is shown below. Students will letter the events neatly using correct grammatical language and place the events on the time line below the correct date in chronological order. Students will also illustrate events with pictures, diagrams, and symbols using colored paper, crayons and markers.



8. **Lesson closure:** The closure of the Time Line lesson will culminate in a gallery walk with students viewing all the completed assignments of their peers. Comparisons and differences will be noted and discussed and each group will present their time line to the whole group. Numerical grades will be assigned by the teacher as a major unit assignment.
9. **Assessment of student understanding:** Assessment of student understanding will be based upon students meeting the criteria of assembling 10-12 critical historical events leading up to the American Revolution, carefully and correctly lettered, arranged in correct chronological order and illustrated appropriately with color, diagrams, pictures, or symbols.