Causes of the American Revolution

Marie M. Smith
5th Grade
National Standard

Era 3 / Standards 1 and 2
Standard 1: The causes of the American Revolution... Standard 2: How political, religious, and social institutions emerged in the English colonies

Washington Standards
Civics GLE 1.1.1: Understands key ideas and principles outlined in the Declaration of Independence, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, the U.S. Constitution, including the rule of law, separation of powers, representative government, popular sovereignty, and the Bill of Rights, including due process and freedom of expression.
Civics GLE 1.4.1: Analyzes a position on an issue that attempts to balance individual rights and the common good.
Economics GLE 2.1.1: Analyzes examples of how groups and individuals have considered profit and personal values in making economic choices in the past or present.
Geography GLE 3.2.2: Understands cultural diffusion in the United States from the past or in the present.
Social Studies EALR 4: HISTORY - The student understands and applies knowledge of historical thinking, chronology, eras, turning points, major ideas, individuals, and themes in local, Washington State, tribal, United States, and world history in order to evaluate how history shapes the present and future.

PROBLEM

What are some of the important considerations the colonial governments had to consider in making the decision of whether or not to sign the Declaration of Independence?

First the class will view a short clip from the movie, 1776, which will give them some idea of the time period and an introduction to the topic.

SCENARIO

You and your group are the delegation sent from your assigned colonial legislature to represent your colony at the Second Continental Congress. The colony of Virginia has proposed a Declaration of Independence to break ties with Great Britain. It is the job of your group to decide whether or not it is in the best interests of your colony to sign the Declaration of Independence or whether you should remain loyal to Britain. Also, your colonial leaders have not seen the document, so you must explain it to them and tell them why you are voting either for or against the proposal.

Some factors to consider in your decision process are:

- Economic implications
- Political implications
- Social implications
- Regional implications

Your group will present your decision and the reasons for your choice during the session of the Second Constitutional Congress on July 2, 1776 (one week from today) when the Congress will vote on the proposed declaration.
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## TASK

An individual letter describing your presentation, how you came to this decision, and the reasons for your vote will be written by each member of your delegation and will be sent to your colonial legislature (teacher).

## RESOURCES

*Make sure that you use proper citations for all sources that you use, whether you quote from them or not.*

### Books


### Internet (for primary source documents from the time period)


### Library Databases (for articles or background information about the time period)


## ASSESSMENT

- Chapter test
- Letter by individual students explaining to the colonial legislature the decision and the reasons for the decision
- Team collaboration rubric
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REFERENCES/CITATIONS

