

TEKS Cluster: American Revolution

5.2 History. The student understands how conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain led to American independence and the formation of the United States.

Connected Knowledge and Skills 5.4, 5.14, 5.21

Causes of the American Revolution

- ❖ 5.2(A) analyze the causes and effects of events prior to and during the American Revolution, including the taxation resulting from the French and Indian War and the colonist response to taxation such as the Boston Tea Party
- 5.2(B) identify the Founding Fathers and Patriot heroes, including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, the Sons of Liberty, and George Washington, and their motivations and contributions during the revolutionary period
Supporting Spiral Standards: 5.20(A), 5.20(B), 5.21(B)

Events and Effects of the American Revolution

- ❖ 5.2(C) summarize the results of the American Revolution, including the establishment of the United States
- 5.14(A) explain the purposes, key elements, and the importance of the Declaration of Independence

Student Expectations

- ❖ 5.2(A) analyze the causes and effects of events prior to and during the American Revolution, including the taxation resulting from the French and Indian War and the colonist response to taxation such as the Boston Tea Party (R)
- 5.2(B) identify the Founding Fathers and Patriot heroes, including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, the Sons of Liberty, and George Washington, and their motivations and contributions during the revolutionary period (S)

Connected Spiral Standards

- significant examples of art, music, and literature from various periods in U.S. history such as the painting American Progress, “Yankee Doodle,” and “Paul Revere’s Ride” 5.20(A)
- examples of art, music, and literature reflect the times during which they were created 5.20(B)
- contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups to our national identity 5.21(B)

Academic Vocabulary

Vocabulary	Terms	
contributions	American Revolution	Benjamin Franklin
heroes	Boston Tea Party	George Washington
revolution	Founding Fathers	John Adams
taxation	French and Indian War (effect on taxation)	Thomas Jefferson
	Sons of Liberty	

Stimulus

Speech/Journal/ Diary	Letter/ Newspaper Article	Government Document	Secondary Source Text
Photograph/ Painting	Political Cartoon/ Advert./Other	Map	Chart/Table
Graph	Graphic Organizer	Bulleted List of Facts	Timeline

Learning from Mistakes

Students may make the following mistakes:

- Not being able to analyze the cause and effect relationship between these events and the growing escalation toward declaring independence and deciding to fight a war to win independence

Content Builder

- This subcluster anchors on analyzing the causes of the conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain that led to American independence. Students need to know:
 - how the French and Indian War contributed to unrest in the 13 Colonies and was one cause of the American Revolution (especially how expansion of American settlement to the west was promised as a result of the war but was not allowed)
 - that the British Parliament imposed a series of taxes on the American colonies to help pay for the cost of fighting the French and Indian War
 - why colonists believed that taxation without representation was wrong
 - how the Boston Tea Party illustrates one way the American colonists’ responses to increased taxation escalated to violence
 - how the British response to the Tea Party was to increase British troop strength in the colonies and to impose more restrictions on the colonies – which in turn made the colonists angrier and created cause for the American Revolution
- Founding Fathers and Patriot heroes were leaders before, during, and after the American Revolution.
 - Protest leaders: As tensions rose before the American Revolution, Patriot leaders such as Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty were leaders of the colonial protests, including the Boston Tea Party.
 - Political leaders: John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson were political leaders (Adams and Jefferson later became the second and third presidents, respectively). Jefferson, along with Adams and Franklin, wrote the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Adams and Franklin helped negotiate the Treaty of Paris that ended the war and forced Britain to recognize America as an independent country. Franklin and Jefferson both served as Ambassadors to France (Franklin during the war and Jefferson after the war).
 - Military leaders: George Washington and Nathan Hale were military. Hale was a Patriot spy who was captured and hanged by the British and George Washington was a military leader in the French and Indian War and the Commander in Chief of the Colonial Army during the American Revolution.

Instructional Implications

When you teach Causes of the American Revolution, remember to:

- Introduce this subcluster with the following scenario: There is a parent who for years has let their kids do pretty much whatever they wanted. Then all of a sudden, that same parent becomes very strict and demanding of the kids. Use a strategy to discuss how the kids might react to this new level of authority.
- Use a timeline of events leading to the American Revolution, including the French and Indian War, increased taxation following the War, the Boston Tea Party, and other events to emphasize the concept of cause and effect. Have students create a two-column chart with one column representing the British actions and the second column representing Colonists reactions.
- Emphasize that colonial reactions to British policies were at first non-violent, including methods such as boycotting British goods that were taxed, but became more violent with action such as the Boston Tea Party. Also, use the timeline to point out that the time between British actions and colonial reactions became shorter and shorter.
- Using a chart or timeline, help students divide the Revolutionary period into three segments: Before the Revolution – colonial protests over “taxation without representation” through the Battles of Lexington/Concord; During the Revolution – declaring independence through the Battle of Yorktown; and after the Revolution – negotiating the Treaty of Paris and establishing the new country. As you discuss each period, highlight the motivations and accomplishments of each of the individuals instrumental during that period of the war.
- Use examples of art and literature (Yankee Doodle and Paul Revere’s Ride) to discuss the events and concepts.

Student Expectations

- ❖ 5.2(C) summarize the results of the American Revolution, including the establishment of the United States (R)
- 5.14(A) explain the purposes, key elements, and the importance of the Declaration of Independence (S)

Academic Vocabulary

Vocabulary	Terms	
results	Declaration of Independence United States	John Adams Benjamin Franklin Nathan Hale Thomas Jefferson George Washington

Stimulus

Speech/Journal/ Diary	Letter/ Newspaper Article	Government Document	Secondary Source Text
Photograph/ Painting	Political Cartoon/ Advert./Other	Map	Chart/Table
Graph	Graphic Organizer	Bulleted List of Facts	Timeline

Content Builder

This subcluster anchors on understanding the events and effects of the revolutionary war, how conflict between the American colonies and Great Britain led to the American Revolution, and American independence from Great Britain. Students need to know:

- key events and individuals during the American Revolution, including George Washington as Commander in Chief of the colonial army and key battles such as Lexington and Concord to begin the war and Yorktown to end the war.
- key ideas and purposes of the Declaration of Independence as one of the major events leading to the American Revolution. The Declaration of Independence was mostly drafted by Thomas Jefferson. It consisted of three main parts: The Introduction, The Preamble, and a List of Grievances against King George III and the English Parliament. The Preamble is the most quoted part of the document. In Texas, understanding and reciting this text is required by Texas Education Code as part of Celebrate Freedom Week in September.
- results of the American Revolution, including establishing a new country called the United States of America, gaining land from the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River, and developing a military to fight the Revolution.

Instructional Implications

When you teach Events and Effects of the American Revolution, remember to:

- Events: Use a simple timeline or a chart constructed by the students to introduce major events of the American Revolution, including fighting at Lexington/Concord (1775) which began the fighting in the Revolution, declaring independence (Second Continental Congress - 1776), the Battles of Saratoga (1777) which brought the French into the Revolution as an ally, the Battle of Yorktown (1781) which ended the fighting, and the Treaty of Paris (1783) which formally ended the American Revolution. As you discuss each event, help students identify the important people and their contributions associated with that event, including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Nathan Hale, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington.
- Display the date July 4, 1776 and discuss why this date is important in American history. Provide students access to the text of the Preamble of the Declaration and, as a class, read and discuss the statements in this section of the document. Point out that Thomas Jefferson wrote the first draft with some changes added by the other members of the committee. Help students realize that when the delegates to the Continental Congress adopted and signed this document on July 4, 1776, they became traitors to the British government. Declaring independence was one of the major steps in America fighting its war of independence.
- Effects: Use a map to emphasize the two major results of the American Revolution
 - the former British colonies were now an independent nation called the United States of America
 - the territory of the United States more than doubled, extending its boundaries all the way to the Mississippi River but did not include Florida (which was still controlled by Spain).

Learning from Mistakes

Students may make the following mistakes:

- Being able to describe the events but not the effects of the American Revolution