

Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Declaration of Independence Webquest Activity Page

Activity #1

1st Question:

Answer:

Source:

2nd Question:

Answer:

Source:

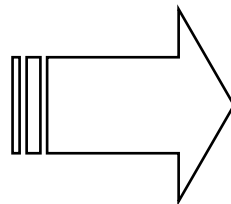
3rd Question:

Answer:

Source:

Activity #2

(cause)



Congress sent King
George III the Olive
Branch Petition.
(effect)

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Activity #3

What role did John Adams play in the 2nd Continental Congress and with the Declaration of Independence?

Activity #4

Watch the video of the vote to declare independence. Also look at the pictures of Independence Hall and the Continental Congress. Write below what you would have done during this vote as a member of the Continental Congress. Write as a journal entry like the example provided.

July 4, 1776
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Today was a truly difficult day. Today, I had to cast my vote as a member of Congress to decide whether or not we as colonies will stay under the rule of King George III, or whether we will declare our independence and become our own country. If we do, I believe we will be a part of a great experiment known as democracy. Will we succeed? What if we fail? Who will save us? I want to vote to be independent, but so many people's lives and families depend on what I do here today. What is the right decision? Freedom. Freedom is the right decision. I will vote to declare independence.

Large empty rounded rectangular box for student response.

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Activity #5

What was Thomas Jefferson's role in the writing of the Declaration of Independence?

Which of these do you think is the coolest line from the Declaration of Independence? Be sure to cast your vote online!

1. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
2. Prudence*, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.
3. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations*, pursuing invariably the same object evinces* a design to reduce them under absolute despotism*, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.
4. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant*, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.
5. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity*. We must, therefore, acquiesce* in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.
6. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence*, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Why did you pick the line that you did?

Word Helper*

prudence- carefulness usurpations- to use something without permission evinces- show clearly
despotism- abuse of power tyrant- a ruler who rules with cruelty and is unjust
consanguinity- close connection acquiesce- agree in a reserved way
Divine Providence- acting according to what God wants