

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly angled view of the American flag. The stars and stripes are clearly visible, with the blue field of stars on the left and the red and white stripes on the right. The flag appears to be draped or hanging, with some folds and shadows.

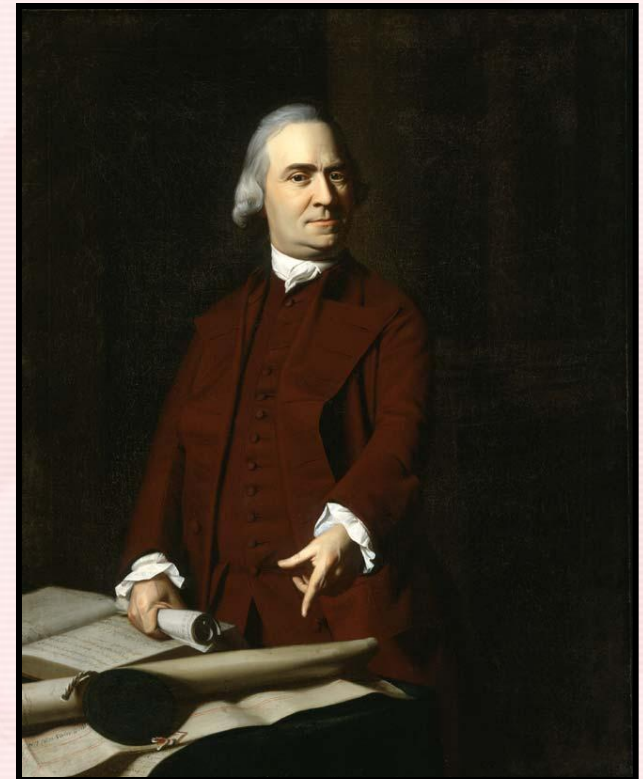
American Revolution Begins

Objectives:

- 1.** Summarize the battles of Lexington and Concord
- 2.** Summarize the philosophical and political ideas of the Declaration of Independence
- 3.** Compare and contrast attitudes of Loyalists and Patriots

Sons of Liberty

- Sons of Liberty – organized by Samuel Adams to resist the Stamp Act and other British policies imposed on the colonies.
- Samuel Adams – Famous Boston political activist and a vocal dissenter against British policies.
- Minutemen – colonial militia (civilian soldiers) who were prepared to defend their colony at a moments notice



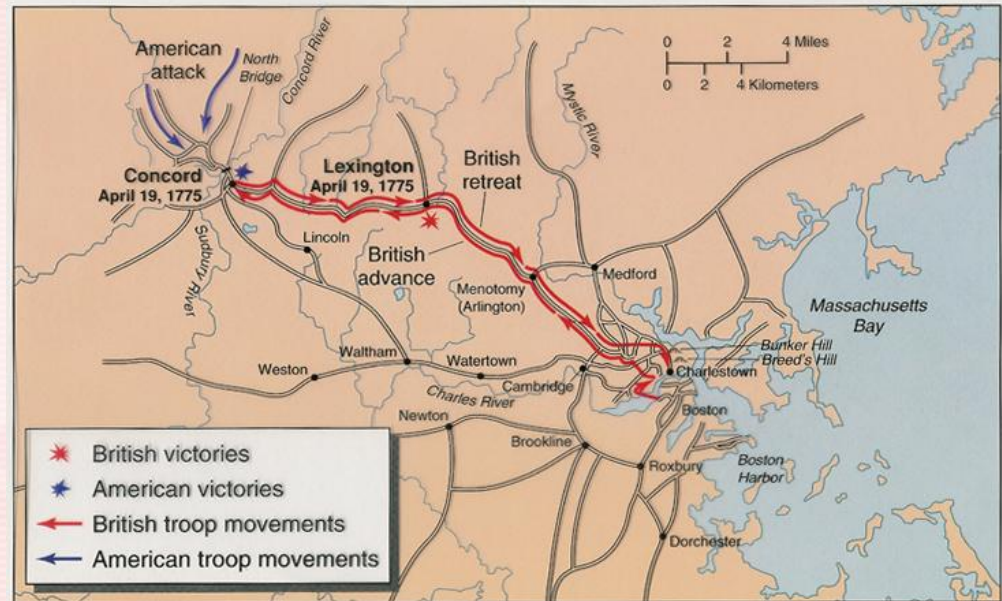
Lexington and Concord

- Colonists had begun to stockpile weapons and gunpowder at Lexington and Concord to defend the colony
- Samuel Adams and John Hancock, leaders of the rebellion where in Lexington
- Thomas Gage gives British troops orders to seize the munitions and capture Adams and Hancock.
- Colonists are warned of the British plan by minutemen in Boston



Lexington and Concord

- April 19, 1775
- Paul Revere rides in advance of the British army and warns Lexington and Concord
- British troops arrive in Lexington and find 70 minutemen on the village green
- A shot is fired, no one knows exactly where it came from or who fired it. "the shot heard round the world"
- 8 minutemen killed 10 others wounded
- 1 British soldier injured



Lexington and Concord

- British troops march to Concord upon arrival they empty arsenals
- Begin their march back to Boston, but as many as 4000 minutemen block their return
- Fighting from behind walls and trees, the minutemen tear apart the British
- An embarrassing defeat for the British
- British troops forced to retreat back into Boston
- 273 British soldiers killed

Second Continental Congress

- May 1775 colonial leaders got together in Philadelphia to decide what the colonies next move should be
- Some suggested independence while others disagreed
- Officially makes the colonial militia the Continental Army and appoints George Washington as General
- Authorizes the printing of paper money to pay the troops
- Organizes a committee to deal with foreign governments



The Battle of Bunker Hill

- June 17, 1775
- Deadliest battle of the war
- British are held up in Boston
- Thomas Gage orders an attack on Breeds Hill where the colonial militiamen were entrenched
- British troops attack the hill 3 times before the militiamen are forced to retreat after they run out of ammunition
- 450 colonial casualties/1000 British
- Moral victory for the colonists



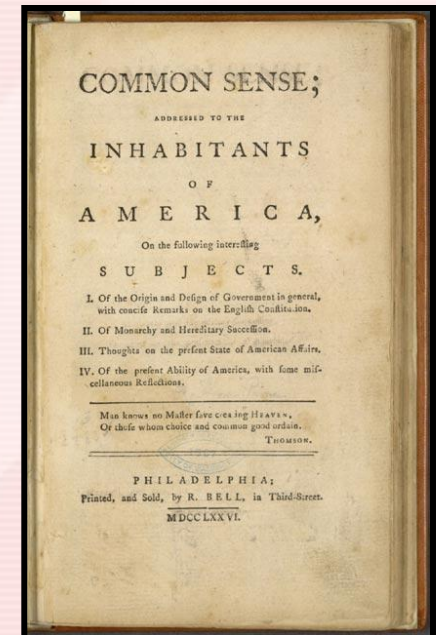
Olive Branch Petition



- A document sent by the Second Continental Congress to King George III in May 1775, proposes a cease fire in Boston, the repeal of the Coercive Acts, and open negotiations between the colonies and England
- Petition arrives same day as news of Battle of Bunker Hill
- King is furious, rejects offer
- King issued a proclamation stating that the colonies were in open rebellion and that the navy should blockade the entire American coast

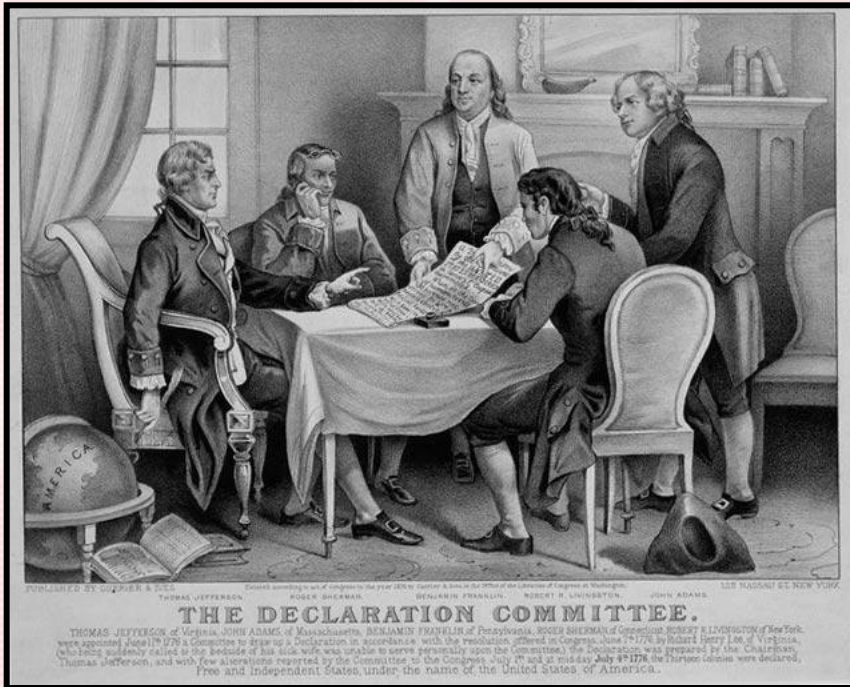
Thomas Paine and *Common Sense*

- Thomas Paine writes a pamphlet called *Common Sense*
 - Argues that the colonists should free themselves from British rule and establish an independent government based on the ideas of the Enlightenment
 - Written in a simple style so ALL colonists could understand it
 - 500,000 copies sold
 - Colonists support independence as a result



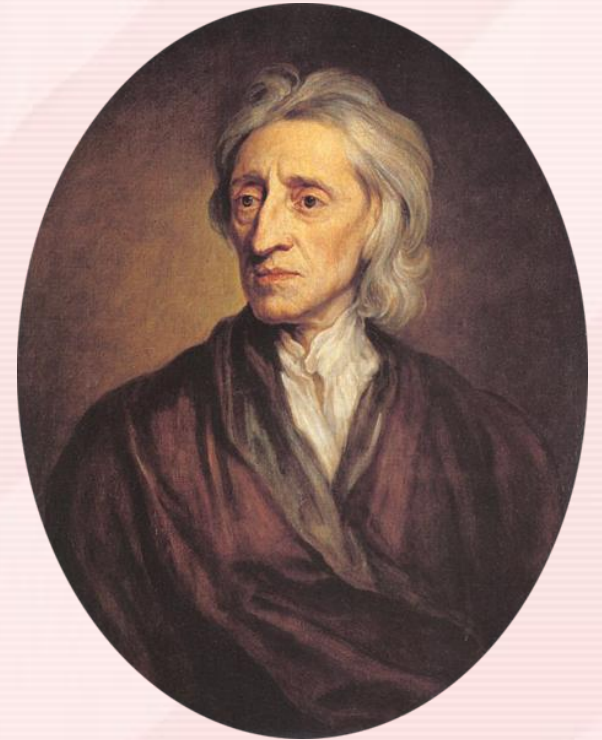
Declaring Independence

- Summer 1776, the Second Continental Congress appoints a committee to begin drafting a declaration stating reasons for independence
 - John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman appointed to write a declaration of independence
 - Thomas Jefferson selected to write the document

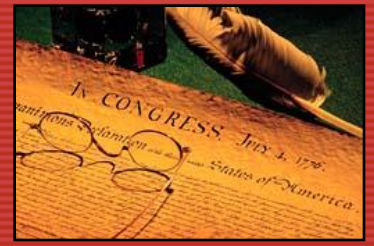


John Locke's Influence on Independence

- John Locke author of *Two Treatises on Government*
 - Political philosopher of the Enlightenment
 - Man possessed natural rights (life, liberty, and property)
 - Government exists because of a contract between the ruler and the people
 - A ruler only has power as long as he has the consent of the governed
 - A ruler cannot deny people their basic rights of life, liberty, and property)



Principles of the Declaration of Independence



- “natural rights” life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness
- Governments derive their power from the people and could be abolished if individuals “unalienable rights” (rights everyone has from birth) were trampled
- All men are created equal (who exactly is this?)
- Listed how England had violated the colonists “unalienable rights”
- Declared independence from England

Parts of the Declaration of Independence

1. Preamble – legal and philosophical justification for the revolution and colonial independence
2. Declaration of rights - governments can't trample a mans rights and if it does, it can be over thrown.
3. List of grievances
4. Statement of independence



Independence Declared

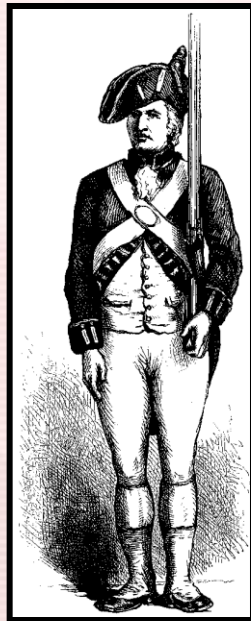
- July 2, 1776 delegates voted that America was free
- July 4, 1776 the Declaration of Independence was officially adopted by Congress



American Military Strengths/Weaknesses

- Strengths:

- Familiarity of home ground
- George Washington and other leaders
- Inspiring cause (independence)



- Weaknesses:

- Soldiers untrained and undisciplined
- Shortages of necessary materials (food and ammunition)
- No central government to enforce policies

British Military Strengths/Weaknesses

- Strengths:

- Strong, well trained army and navy
- Strong central government and economy
- Support of colonial loyalists and Native Americans



- Weaknesses:

- Distance between England and the colonies
- Troops unfamiliar with the terrain
- Weak military leaders
- American sympathizers in England

Washington's Strategy

- Fight a war of attrition (wear down the enemy and their will to fight)
- "we shall avoid a large battle. With the fate of America at stake, our job is to prolong this war as much as possible."



Battle for New York

- March 1776 British leave Boston
- Goal is to Take New York City and cut off New England from the rest of the colonies
- Summer 1776 32,000 British troops landed in NYC
 - Includes Hessians (German mercenaries)
- 23,000 colonial troops under Washington oppose the British
 - Untrained and poorly equipped
- Colonial troops forced to retreat from New York into Pennsylvania after heavy losses

Battle of Trenton

- Washington had only 8000 by the end of 1776
- December 26, 1776
Washington leads 2,400 men across the Delaware River to attack Trenton New Jersey
- Garrison of Hessian mercenaries caught by surprise
 - 30 Hessians killed, 918 captured along with 6 canons
- Badly needed victory for Washington and Continental Army, lifts spirits



British Attack Philadelphia

- Philadelphia was the American capital
- Spring 1777, British begin campaign to capture the capital
- Continental Congress flees
- Continental Army unsuccessful in defending the city
- August 1777, British capture Philly



Independence Hall

Victory at Saratoga

- Summer 1777, British General John Burgoyne leads British troops south from Montreal Canada in order to cut off New England from other colonies
- Plan is to meet up in Albany with troops arriving in New York
- Americans rally from all over New England to defend against the attack
 - Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys
 - Continually attack and harass British troops
- British General Howe preoccupied with capturing Philadelphia, does not come to meet Burgoyne
- October 17, 1776 Burgoyne and his army are surrounded and captured

Saratoga A Turning Point

- Changes British strategy in the war, stay near coast where they can be supported by the British fleet
- French openly recognizes American independence as a result of the victory
- French refuse to make peace with the British unless American independence is recognized

Winter at Valley Forge

- Winter of 1777-78
Continental Army sets up winter camp at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania
- British control New York, parts of New England and Philadelphia
- French aid does not arrive in time for winter
- Continental Army forced to survive the winter under miserable conditions
- 2000 of the 10,000 colonial soldiers die because of conditions at Valley Forge



European Allies Shift Balance

- Friederich von Stueben – Prussian general who volunteered his services to Washington to organize the Continental Army into a fighting force
- Arrives during the winter at Valley Forge
 - Goal was to “to make regular soldiers out of country bumpkins”
 - Taught them the skills a soldier would need
 - Successful



European Allies con't



- Marquis de Lafayette
 - 20 years olds
 - French military leader who volunteered his services to Washington
 - Lobbies the French government for military aid
 - Commanded troops in Virginia

The British Move South

- New plan needed after the defeat at Saratoga
 - rally loyalist support in South and reclaim colonies
 - Work way northward after success in South
- 1778 British capture Savannah Georgia, reestablish a royal governor
- May 1780 Charles Cornwallis attacks Charles Town South Carolina with 8,500 men
 - Greatest military victory of the war for the British
 - 5,500 American soldiers captured

Battle for the Carolina's

- Cornwallis' plans to move on to capture the rest of the Carolinas
- August 1780 British smash American forces at Camden, advance into North Carolina
- Patriots militiamen attack the Redcoats and cut lines of communication
- Continued harassment forces British to retreat back to South Carolina

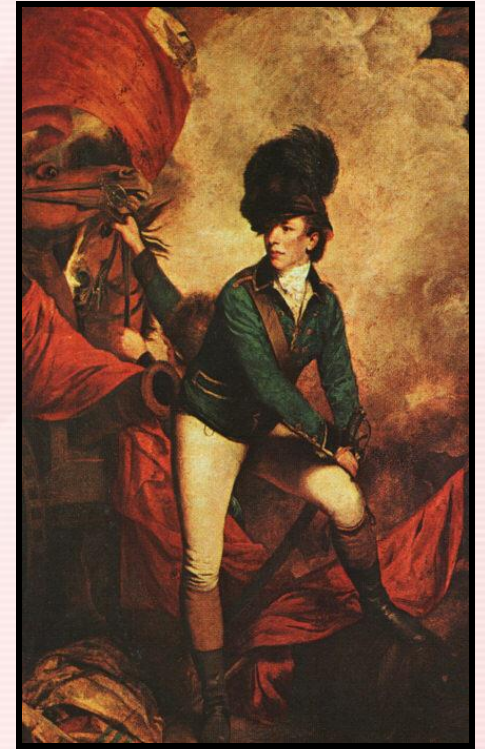


General Cornwallis

Carolina's con't

- Nathaniel Green sent to South Carolina by Washington to harass Cornwallis as he retreated
- Green splits his forces between himself and Daniel Morgan to accomplish this task
- Cornwallis orders Lieutenant Colonel Barnastre Tarleton to pursue Morgan
- January 1781 Battle of Cowpens, British expect American flee, but instead they fight and the British are forced to surrender
- Cornwallis very angry about defeat at Cowpens attacks at Guilford Court House in NC
 - Wins the battle, but loses a 25% of his troops
- British forces significantly weakened in the South

Greene, Morgan, and Tarleton



American Victory at Yorktown

- Cornwallis moves his army to Virginia
- Tries to capture the forces of Lafayette and von Steuben, but fails
- Moves his forces to Yorktown, plans to fortify the area (near Jamestown), then move North
- Lafayette suggested a combined attack on Yorktown
- French navy blockades the Chesapeake Bay
- 17,000 American and French troops surround the British and bombard the city for 3 weeks
- October 17, 1781 exhausted and outnumbered Cornwallis surrenders
- October 19, 1781 Washington officially accepts the surrender, war is over!

Surrender at Yorktown



SURRENDER OF CORNWALLIS.

AT YORKTOWN, IN 1781, BY THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH ARMS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GENERAL MONTGOMERY AND MARSHAL DE LA FAYETTE.

Peace Negotiations

- John Adams, Ben Franklin, and John Jay represent the U.S.
- America, France, England, and Spain present
- Americans refuse to negotiate until full independence was recognized
- Treaty of Paris signed September 1781

Treaty of Paris

- Fully recognized American independence
- Established U.S. borders from Atlantic to the Mississippi River and from Canada to the border of Florida
- Problems with Treaty:
 - Britain did nothing to protect its Native American Allies
 - Treaty said nothing about when the British would have to leave America
 - Americans agreed to allow British creditors to collect the debts owed by Americans
 - Allowed loyalist to sue for losses during the war

American Wartime Economy

- Congress ran out of money
- Sell bonds to investors
- Printed paper money called Continentals
 - Inflation occurs
 - “worthless as a Continental”
- Profiteering – some government officials sold scarce goods for a profit
- Corrupt merchants hoarded goods or sold defective merchandise



Civilians and the American Revolution

- Women managed farms, households, and businesses while men went off to war
- Women volunteered with organizations to aid the war effort (make and mend clothing)
- Women followed husbands to war and aided in the camps
 - Mary Ludwig hays McCauly took her husbands place working a canon when he was killed. Became known as "Molly Pitcher"
- 5000 African Americans served in the Continental Army
- Native Americans distanced themselves from the Revolution as much as possible



Molly Pitcher working a canon after her husband was killed

Egalitarianism After the War

- New idea of egalitarianism arises (belief in equality for all people)
 - Really only applied to white males of the time
- No new rights for women
- Most African Americans remained enslaved
- Uncertainty for Native Americans
 - Interested threatened as the nation expanded westward
 - Unprotected by the Treaty of Paris