

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fifth Grade: Unit 4- Making A New Nation  
Anthology 2002 Stories

	If You Lived at the Time of the American Revolution	The Night the Revolution Began	The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere	The Declaration of Independence	The Master Spy of Yorktown	Shh! We're Writing the Constitution	We, the People of the United States
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<b><u>...If You Lived in the Time of the American Revolution</u></b>	10
By: Kay Moore	13
Have you ever wondered why the Fourth of July is a holiday? Before that date in 1776, the thirteen American colonies were part of an empire of more than thirty-two lands ruled by the King of England. The Declaration of Independence, which is signed by members of the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, showed that the colonies wanted to be free. But it took a war for this to actually happen.	24 33 45 55 66 79 86
This war is called the "American Revolution." Some call it the "War of Independence" or the "Revolutionary Way." It is usually viewed as a struggle between the American colonies and King George III of England, who ruled the British Empire. But it was also a "civil" war, a war that is fought between people of the same country.	96 106 116 128 142 144
There were people from many different backgrounds living in the British American colonies. Not all of them thought it was a good idea to break away from England. If you and your family remained loyal to the king, you were called Loyalists. If you and your family wanted to be free from British rule, you were called Patriots.	152 164 177 189 201 202
All thirteen colonies ruled by England were along the Atlantic Ocean. About two and a half million people lived in the colonies.	211 223 224
The first settlers in the colonies liked having British help and protection. British soldiers were there to help them fight Native American enemies and to keep other countries, such as France and Spain, from invading. It was like your mother watching over you. However, as you grow older, you will want more freedom to make your own decisions. That is how many of the colonists felt.	234 244 254 264 275 287 290
The colonist grew tired of following British rules. England controlled trade and told people where they could settle. They forced the colonists to provide housing and food for the British soldiers sent to protect them.	299 309 320 325
Since 1760, the colonists had also had to pay taxes for various products. Under a law called the Stamp Act, the colonists had to pay extra money for newspapers, land deeds, card games, dice games, and even graduation diplomas!	336 346 356 264

## The Night the Revolution Began

By: Russell Freedman

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The Boston Tea Party was an act of defiance, a protest against the policies of the British Parliament and King George III, who ruled England's colonies in North American. The colonists objected to paying King George's taxes without having representation. And while the tax on tea was a small one, just three cents a pound, it was regarded as a symbol of British tyranny.	19 29 38 47 59 71 72
Throughout the thirteen colonies, people had boycotted British tea rather than pay the hated tax. The ports of New York and Philadelphia had refused to accept the East India Company's tea, and the ship had sailed back to London with their cargoes. At Charleston, South Carolina, the tea was unloaded, but then it was stored in damp warehouse vaults and left to rot.	79 91 101 113 122 135
In Boston, the three tea ships had been tied up at Griffin's Wharf for more than two weeks. When the ships refused to depart, a group of men calling themselves the Sons of Liberty hatched their secret plan to destroy the tea. All told, perhaps two hundred men and boys took part in the action. Divided into three groups, they boarded the ships, summoned the mates, demanded lanterns and keys, and went to work.	146 156 168 179 190 200 209
When all the tea had been thrown overboard, the "Mohawks" fell into line and marched away to the music of a fife, surprised that they had met no opposition. British warships anchored less than a quarter mile away had not attempted to interfere. In fact, the British admiral in charge of the fleet happened to be spending the night at a friend's house near Griffin's Wharf. He had watched the entire scene from an upstairs window.	218 231 240 251 262 273 283 285
As the marchers passed by, Admiral John Montague threw open the window, stuck his head out, and shouted, "Well, boys, you have had a fine, pleasant evening for your Indian caper-haven't you? But mind, you've got to pay the fiddler yet!"	299 310 321 332
"Oh, never mind!" one of the marchers shouted back.	341
"Never mind, Squire! Just come out here if you please and we'll settle the bill in two minutes."	353 359
With that, Admiral Montague slammed the window shut.	367

**The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere**

By: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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Listen, my children, and you shall hear	17
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,	24
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;	32
Hardly a man is now alive	38
Who remembers that famous day and year.	45
He said to his friend, "If the British march	54
By land or sea from the town to-night,	63
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch	71
Of the North Church tower as a signal light,-	80
One, if by land, and two, if by sea;	89
And I on the opposite shore will be,	97
Ready to ride and spread the alarm	104
Through every Middlesex village and farm,	110
For the country folk to be up and to arm."	120
Then he said, "Good Night!" and with muffled oar	129
Silently rowed to the Charlestown shore,	135
Just as the moon rose over the bay,	143
Where swinging wide at her moorings lay	150
The Somerset, British man-of-war;	156
A phantom ship, with each mast and spar	164
Across the moon like a prison bar,	171
And a huge black hulk, that was magnified	179
By its own reflection in the tide.	186
Meanwhile, his friend, through alley and street,	173
Wanders and watches with eager ears,	179
Till in the silence around him he hears	187
The muster of men at the barrack door,	195
The sound of arms, and the tramp of feet,	204
And the measured tread of the grenadiers,	211
Marching down to their boats on the shore.	219

## The Declaration of Independence

By: R. Conrad Stein

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It was a rainy, forbidding night in July 1776 when Caesar Rodney of the Delaware Colony received an urgent message:	19
COME AT ONCE. YOUR VOTE IS URGENTLY NEEDED. Rodney saddled his horse and began a treacherous, eighty-mile ride to Philadelphia. Caesar Rodney headed to Philadelphia for the most important decision of his life: to vote yes or no for independence.	28
By the summer of 1776, the colonies were in an all-out war with their mother country, England. The road to Philadelphia took Rodney past lonely farms and cut through untamed woods. He was forty-eight years old and weakened by a prolonged illness. Still, he urged on his horse and forged toward Philadelphia, where he knew he would witness history. It was mid-afternoon of the following day when he galloped up to Philadelphia's State House (later named Independence Hall). Without removing his spurs or brushing the mud off his clothes, Rodney took his seat with the Delaware delegation. The voting process had already begun. When the question of independence-aye or nay- was posed to Delaware, Rodney shouted out, "Aye!"	28
The Delaware voted helped to sway other delegations. By the end of the session, twelve of the thirteen English colonies had chosen to walk the dangerous path of independence. Only New York, whose delegates were locked in arguments, failed to vote. The date of this historic meeting was July 2, 1776. Some historians believe the second of July ought to be celebrated as American Independence Day. But at another meeting held two days later, the delegates approved the most famous document in American history, the Declaration of Independence. Like a trumpet blast, the Declaration told the world that a new nation had been born.	37
In the months leading up to this historic event, Americans had divided into roughly three opinion groups: one-third favored independence; one-third wanted reconciliation with England; and still another third were fence-sitters, undecided about a course of action. Caesar Rodney's Delaware representatives, Rodney supported independence, another man opposed it, and a third made up his mind only after Rodney's dramatic entrance into the hall.	48
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## The Master Spy of Yorktown

By: Burke Davis

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In the spring of 1781, General Washington rushed a band of 1,200 men southward to meet British raiders who were looting and burning their way through Virginia. The commander chosen for this tiny force was the Marquis de Lafayette, one of the youngest major generals in history. The Frenchman was determined to halt the invaders, who were led by the newest of British generals, the American traitor Benedict Arnold.

Lafayette, who was only twenty-three years old, had come to America four years earlier as a volunteer, sailing in a ship he had bought for the voyage. As one of the richest men in France, Lafayette had done much to bring help from King Louis XVI to the American rebels- troops, ships, guns, money, and uniforms. And in Virginia, at last, his dreams had come true, a chance to command an American army, however small.

The young Frenchman soon found that his task was not easy. Virginia farmers hid their horses and wagons so that Lafayette's soldiers could not seize them for use against the enemy. The little army was often hungry, for people of the countryside refused to sell their meat and grain in exchange for the almost worthless American paper money. It was just as Governor Thomas Jefferson had warned Lafayette; Virginia was a state of "mild laws and a people not used to prompt obedience."

Lafayette also found that the enemy was too strong for him, since there were two British armies in Virginia, one under Benedict Arnold and another under Lord Charles Cornwallis. With better trained troops and thousands of horses stolen from Virginia plantations, the redcoats moved swiftly. The British burned the capital at Richmond many warehouses full of valuable tobacco and supplies of rebel arms and food, and chased the Virginia legislature across the state. Governor Jefferson narrowly escaped capture and resigned his office. Lafayette complained to Washington, "I am not strong enough to get beaten. Government in this state has no energy and laws have no force... The enemy can overrun the country."

## Shh! We're Writing the Constitution

By: Jean Fritz

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After the Revolutionary War most people in America were glad that they were no longer British. Still, they were not ready to call themselves Americans. The last thing they wanted was to become a nation. They were citizens of their own separate states, just as they had always been: each state different, each state proud of its own character, each state different, each state proud of its own character, each state quick to poke fun at other states. To Southerners, New Englanders, Pennsylvanians might be "lousy Buckskins." But to everyone the states themselves were all important. "Sovereign state," they called them. They loved the sound of "sovereign" because it meant that they were their own bosses.	17 29 40 50 61 71 84 91 100 108 119 124
George Washington, however, scoffed at the idea of "sovereign states." He knew that the states could not be truly independent for long and survive. Ever since the Declaration of Independence had been signed, people had referred to the country as the United States of America. It was about time, he thought, for them to act and feel united.	132 143 153 162 174 182
By 1786, it was becoming obvious that changes were needed. People were in debt, a few states were printing paper money that was all but worthless, and in the midst of this disorder some people could see that America would fall apart if it didn't have a sound central government with power to act for all the states. George Washington, of course, was one who had felt strongly about this for a long time. Alexander Hamilton was another. Born and brought up in the Caribbean Islands, he had no patience with the idea of state loyalty. America was nothing but a monster with thirteen heads, he said. James Madison from Virginia wanted a strong American too. He was a little man, described as being "no bigger than half a piece of soap," but he had big ideas for his country.	191 202 214 225 237 248 259 271 282 292 303 316 322

**We, the People of the United States**

By: Milton Meltzer

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Here is the preamble, which consists of two brief parts.	20
The first defines the source of authority from which the	30
Constitution is derived. The second defines the objects for	39
which the Constitution and the government based upon it are	49
created. The concept of "the people" as the source of power	60
would undergo broader definition as time passed, giving new life	70
to the Constitution in every generation.	76
We, the people of the United States, in order to form a	88
more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,	96
provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare,	105
and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our	115
posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the	124
United States of America.	128
The diversity of opinions and prejudices, the clash of	137
regional and economic interests, the varying philosophical views,	145
made agreement on this basic document almost impossible.	153
Luckily, Benjamin Franklin shared with Washington the task of	162
conciliating the delegates, holding them together to complete	170
the great work. As Franklin was too infirm to take the floor, his	183
few speeches were read by James Wilson. But on the floor and	195
off, he stressed the need for compassion and humility with that	206
homely charm and with that had made him so great an asset in	219
diplomacy.	220