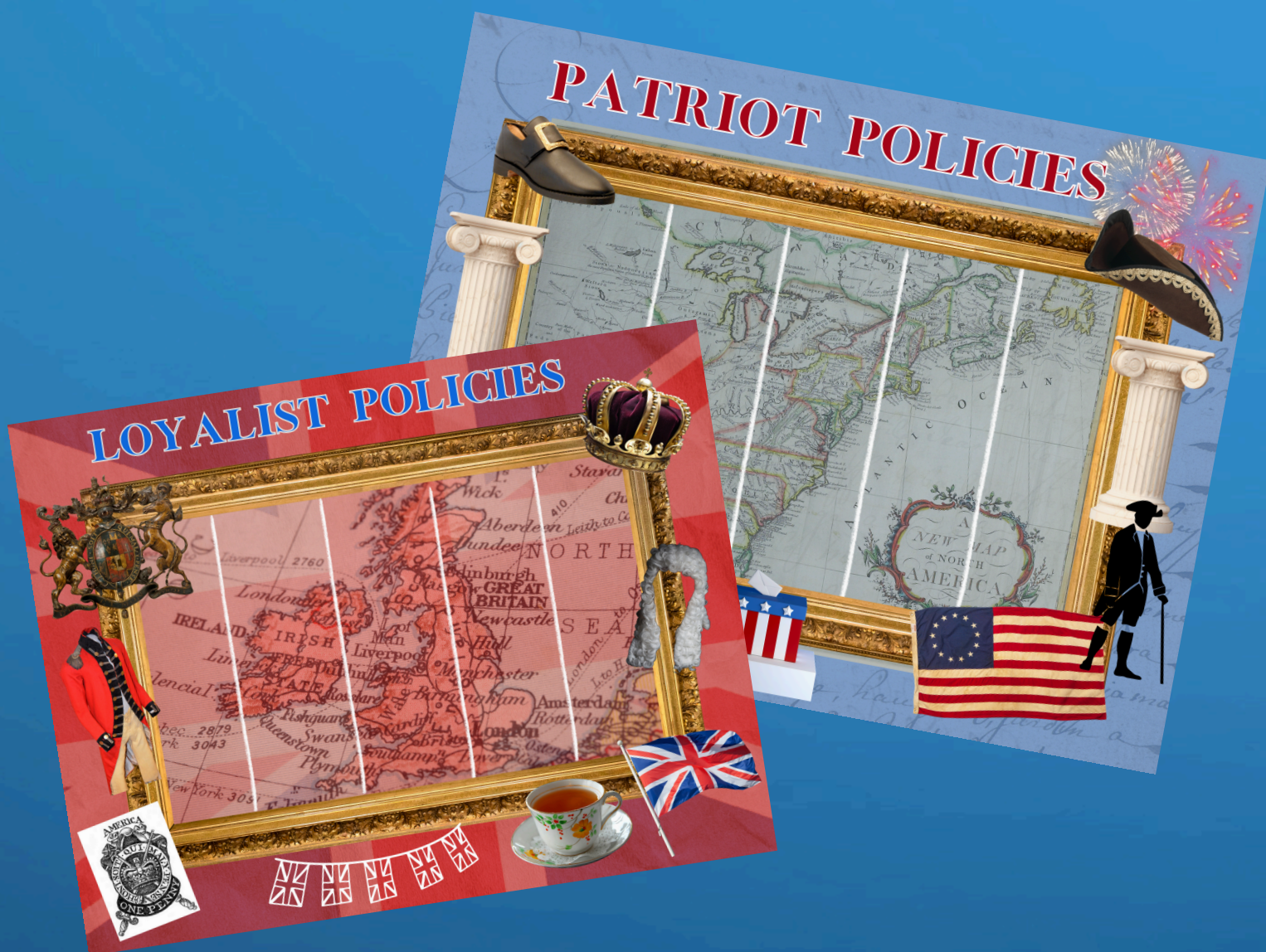




AMERICAN REVOLUTION 250TH ANNIVERSARY LESSON

Pass the Policy! An American Revolution Board Game



Pass the Policy! An American Revolution Card Game

In Pass the Policy! students will pretend to be voting members of a fictional Constitutional Convention. Players are divided into two anonymous groups based on the cards that they receive: Loyalists and Patriots. Both sides have the same objective: to enact five of their side's policies first. Whoever gets five policies enacted wins the game.

Learning Objective:

- Students will learn more about the people, policies, and events that played an important role in the American Revolution.
- Please note: this game is meant to introduce students to a diverse group of people involved in the American Revolution. Many of these individuals would not have had voting rights or been present at the events mentioned.

Game Pieces/Roles*:

- Number of Players – This game works best with groups of roughly seven to ten players.
- Two Boards – one “Patriot Policy” board and one “Loyalist Policy” board
- – deal each player ten “yay” and ten “nay” voting cards
- Patriot & Loyalist identity cards – blue cards are Patriots and red cards are Loyalists
- Policy cards – blue cards are Patriot policies, events, or victories. Pink cards are Loyalist policies, events, or victories.
- Loyalists – Loyalists hope to advance events or policies that are good for Great Britain.
- Patriots – Patriots hope to advance events or policies that are good for the colonists.
- Speaker – The Speaker nominates a candidate for President and chooses a variety of policies for the colonists to vote for.
- President – The President selects the final policy to lay on the board.

*All game boards and cards can be found in Google folder linked here: [Pass the Policy! Game Board & Cards](#)

Game Play:

1. Gameplay starts with the youngest players and continues clockwise for each round.
2. Shuffle the Patriot and Loyalist roles and deal one card to each player. There should be roughly an even number of Patriots and Loyalists.
3. Players keep their roles secret. No one can know what side you are playing.

4. Give each player twenty voting cards: ten yay, ten nay.
 - a. Note – players may run out of cards throughout the game. In that case, gameplay can be paused and everyone can replenish what they need from the discard pile. Remember! Keep it a secret...
5. Shuffle the policy cards and place them in the center of the group. Place two boards – one Loyalist and one Patriot – in the middle as well.
6. Youngest player starts as the Speaker of the Constitutional Convention. This role will alternate clockwise after each turn.
7. The Speaker nominates any person (except themselves) in the group to become President of the Constitutional Convention.
8. Players (except the Speaker) vote on the proposed President using their Voting Cards that say either Nay or Yay. They place them facedown into the pile.
9. Voting cards are counted by the Speaker. Whichever side is in the majority wins that round. If the vote does not pass or if there is a tie, the President is not elected and the next Speaker starts their turn. If the vote passes, the President is elected.
10. Once the President is elected, the Speaker draws three policy cards, discards one policy of their choice face-down, and passes the remaining two to the President.
 - a. This is how players can help the side they are on. If you are a Loyalist – it is in your best interest to pass only Loyalist cards to your President if you can discard a Patriot policy. If you are a Patriot it is in your best interest to do the opposite! Remember – you might not be certain which side the President is on...
11. The President picks one of the two cards handed to them. They will place their enacted policy onto the corresponding board game – either Patriot or Loyalist – and the policies will be enacted.
 - a. If players need a reminder of what the policy card refers to, feel free to read the attached list with more information.
12. Repeat the process. Continue until one team wins by reaching five enacted policies.

OPTIONAL RULES:

- If two Patriot policies are passed to the President who is *also* a Patriot, they may choose to revoke one Loyalist policy instead of advancing their team. The two policy cards *MUST* match your role.
 - So if you are a Loyalist and you get two Loyalist cards, you may revoke a Patriot policy.
 - If they are *NOT* your party affiliation, you must still choose the policy and enact it on the corresponding game board.
 - If you choose to perform the revoking action, people will know what team you are on. Is the risk worth the reward?

- Once three policies have been reached by a Loyalist or Patriot team, the Speaker can choose to forfeit electing a President and instead investigate a player of their choosing to determine what side they are on – Patriot or Loyalist. The speaker must point at a player and say “investigate!”
 - If the Speaker chooses to investigate a player, that player must hand the Speaker their identity card, face down.
 - The Speaker may keep their identity card a secret or show one other person.

Vocabulary & Biography Bank:

Government Bodies/Roles:

House of Burgesses: The House was part of the colonial government and met in Williamsburg at the beginning of the American Revolution. Its origins began in 1619 at Jamestown, and the group changed structure several times throughout the years (ex: unicameral to bicameral). In 1774, Lord Dunmore dissolved the House of Burgesses due to their support of the Boston Tea Party and growing resistance to the King, though colonists continued to meet extralegally. It is important to note that while the House of Burgesses did consist of elected positions, only white men who owned a certain amount of land could vote and serve. **Speaker:** The speaker of the House of Burgesses was the head officer of this group. **President:** The position of President of the United States was formally established in 1789.

George Washington became the country's first president after being unanimously elected by those who could cast a vote. For the sake of our game, we chose the President to be the person in power, although during the American Revolution, power would have come from groups like the Continental Congress.

Character Biographies:

Patriots:

- 1. George Washington, Commander in Chief (1732 -1799):** George Washington was first appointed to be the commander of the Continental Army in 1775. He had several years of military experience from fighting in the French and Indian War. Washington also stayed actively involved in pre-war politics, serving in the House of Burgesses and Continental Congress. Washington resigned as commander in chief in 1783, but was elected as the United States' first president in 1789.
- 2. Daniel Morgan, Morgan's Riflemen (1735/36 – 1802):** Daniel Morgan became one of the most famous Patriot commanders of the war. Like Washington, Morgan gained military experience as a young man fighting in the French and Indian War. When the American Revolution began, Morgan recruited a unit of Virginia frontiersmen and marched to Boston in just 21 days. His unit, known as "Morgan's Riflemen," were especially feared by the British due to the accuracy of their rifles and hard fighting reputation.
- 3. Peter Francisco, 10th VA Regiment (1760 – 1831):** Sometimes referred to as "Virginia Hercules" or the "Virginia Giant," Peter Francisco was a Portuguese-American patriot known for his tall stature and heroism during battle, despite only being a teenager in 1776. Many legendary stories, some outlandish in their claims, followed Francisco after the war.

4. **Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia & Famous Orator (1736 – 1799):** Patrick Henry served as the first and sixth governor of post-independence Virginia, yet most of his fame derives from a famous speech he gave before the Second Virginia Convention in which he supposedly cried “Give me Liberty or give me Death!”
5. **Peyton Randolph, Owner of Wilton House (1738 – 1784):** Located outside Richmond, Wilton House hosted several important figures during the American Revolution, including George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. Peyton Randolph also served in the Continental Army.
6. **John Paul Jones, Navy Captain (1747 – 1792):** Known as the "Father of the American Navy," many people consider Jones to be one of the greatest naval commanders in US history. Originally born in Scotland, he served on merchant vessels until joining the Continental Navy in 1775.
7. **James Fayette, Spy: (1748 or 1760 – 1830 or 1832):** James was enslaved during the war, but worked as a spy for the Continental Army. This position allowed him to steal important military strategies and tactics from the British army that he shared with the French and American armies, most importantly at the Battle of Yorktown.
8. **Clementina Rind, Public Printer (~1740-1774):** Although Clementina Rind died before the official outbreak of the American Revolution, she printed Thomas Jefferson’s “A Summary View of the Rights of British America” in 1774. Though the *Virginia Gazette* newspaper that she printed was technically nonpartisan, she included information that suggested support for the Patriot cause.
9. **James Craik, Army Physician (1730-1814):** Originally from Scotland, Craik studied at the University of Edinburgh before joining the British Army. He moved to Virginia in the 1750s and befriended George Washington during the French and Indian War. He later became a doctor in the Continental Army.
10. **Martha Washington, Supporter (1731 – 1802):** Martha was the wife of George Washington. Her domestic and social skills were highly praised and greatly needed during the American Revolution. She knitted soldiers' clothing and aided in the camp by raising morale.
11. **Thomas Jefferson, Governor of Virginia and Author of the Declaration of Independence (1743-1826):** Jefferson represented his home, Albemarle County in the House of Burgesses for several years before the war. In 1774, in response to the passing of the Intolerable Acts, Jefferson called on Virginia to partake in a day of fasting and prayers. He also served Virginia as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress, and helped to write the famous Declaration of Independence, which was adopted on July 4, 1776. During the war, Jefferson served two years as governor.
12. **George Mason, House of Burgesses (1725 – 1792):** Before the war, Mason served in the House of Burgesses. He also participated in the local Fairfax militia. Mason most

famously wrote a document called the Virginia Declaration of Rights which essentially outlined the legal and human rights of the citizens of Virginia; this document later inspired the Bill of Rights to the Constitution.

Loyalists:

1. **Benedict Arnold, Turncoat (1741–1801):** Arnold was born in Connecticut and established himself as a merchant before the Revolutionary War. During the war, Arnold became one of the Continental Army's most celebrated commanders, but in 1780, he switched sides and joined the British Army. Members of the Continental Army accused him of corrupt practices, but he claimed to have left due to consistently being overlooked for promotions.
2. **Lord Dunmore, Royal Governor of Virginia (1730/32 – 1809):** John Murray, the 4th Earl of Dunmore, was the last Royal Governor of Virginia. Initially, Dunmore gained popularity because he attempted to assimilate into Virginia society, even naming his daughter after the colony. Once colonists started to fight against his authority, Dunmore issued his famous 1775 proclamation, offering freedom to enslaved people who joined the British Army.
3. **Ethiopian Regiment:** Most members of the Ethiopian Regiment were formerly enslaved people who ran away from their enslavers in response to Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of 1775. For many enslaved people, the uniform of the British army represented freedom, not oppression.
4. **Lord Fairfax, 6th Lord of Cameron (1693–1781):** Thomas Baron Cameron lived near George Washington and became a close friend throughout Washington's lifetime. He was an important aristocratic figure as he was titled, wealthy, and a landowner. Washington remained respectful to him despite their different allegiances during the war.
5. **Ralph Wormeley, Politician (1745 – 1806):** Wormeley was a scholar, and his family sent him to England to earn his education at Eton. Once he returned to Virginia, he worked as a tobacco tax collector. In 1771, he joined Virginia's Governor's Council and remained in this role until the start of the Revolutionary War. Many suspected him of being a Loyalist during the war, as his brothers fought for the British. Nevertheless, Wormeley remained in Virginia and continued his role in politics, even partaking in the Virginia House of Delegates and the Constitutional Ratification Convention of 1788.
6. **Jonathan Boucher, Minister (1738 – 1804):** Boucher was an Anglican minister and a well-known Loyalist in the South. Originally from England, he moved to the Chesapeake region and began ministering and teaching. He befriended George Washington and even tutored his stepson, John Parke Custis. When war loomed in 1775, Boucher left the

colonies for England. He adhered to the Divine Right of King's theory –believing the British monarchy was chosen by God to govern their subjects.

7. **Henry Bawbee, Wyandot Tribe:** Bawbee was the son of a Wyandot chief. The tribe selected him to be sent to the Brafferton School in 1775. The tribe aligned themselves with the British and Bawbee fought with the British Army.

8. **Harry Washington, Ethiopian Regiment Soldier:** Harry Washington was born in West Africa and forcibly brought to the American colonies as an enslaved man. George Washington purchased him in 1763 and forced Henry to work in the Great Dismal Swamp, but later relocated him to Mount Vernon. He escaped enslavement in 1775 because of Lord Dunmore's Proclamation. Afterwards, he served as a corporal in the Black Pioneers unit in the British Army and helped found the British colony of Sierra Leone with other formerly enslaved refugees.

9. **John Randolph II, Lawyer and Planter (1727–1784):** Randolph was born in Williamsburg to a wealthy and prominent family. Before the war, he served as Virginia's attorney general. He even called upon the colonies to reconcile with the British, which proved unpopular. Upon the advent of the Revolution, he fled for England and remained there throughout the war. As a testament to family divisions caused by the war, John's son Edmund joined the Continental Army and his brother, Peyton, served as president of the First and Second Continental Congresses.

10. **Thayendangea, Mohawk Tribal Leader (1743 – 1807):** Known as Joseph Brant to many in America and Canada, Thayendangea was born in Ohio country and educated in Connecticut. During the French and Indian War, Brant allied with the British, fighting against the French. During the Revolution, Thayendangea again sided with the British and became one of the most successful Native American commanders of the war.

Policy/Event Cards:

Patriot:

1. **Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence, 1776:** The document was adopted unanimously by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. It formally explained America's decision to divorce itself from Great Britain, through 27 specific grievances toward King George III and his government, thus declaring the United States an independent and sovereign nation.
2. **Yorktown Tea Party, 1774:** Virginians, like Bostonians, boycotted British goods after the British implemented a series of taxes on imported tea. In 1774, a ship arrived in Yorktown that held several chests of tea. The following day, several men from Yorktown boarded the ship and threw the tea into the river in a similar manner to the Boston Tea Party.
3. **Virginia Declaration of Rights, 1776:** Created by George Mason, the 5th Virginia Convention adopted it on June 12, 1776. It serves as a Bill of Rights for Virginia, outlining the individual rights of citizens. Later on, this document inspired the federal Bill of Rights to the Constitution.
4. **Tar and Feather Tax Collectors:** Tarring and feathering was a form of punishment sometimes used by Patriots to publicly shame Loyalists. Hot wood tar would be poured on the victim and bird feathers would be placed all over their body as they were paraded around town. Although no one in the colonies died from tarring and feathering – though it did cause burns and blisters –, the act was meant to embarrass someone emotionally as well as harm them physically.
5. **First Virginia Convention, 1774:** After Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia, dissolved the House of Burgesses, the former members called for an election to reconvene as the First Virginia Convention. This meeting, whose members were mostly former Burgesses, elected delegates to the First Continental Congress and approved a boycott of imported British goods.
6. **Patrick Henry's, "Give me Liberty or Give me Death" Speech:** Given by Patrick Henry in front of the Second Virginia Convention on March 23, 1775 in Richmond at St John's Church. The speech was given to encourage members to show their support of the Revolution and to raise a militia as war with the British was inevitable.
7. **George Washington Appointed to Command Continental Army:** In June 1775, the Second Continental Congress appointed Washington commander of the Continental Army because of his previous military experience in the French and Indian War. Shortly after, the Continental Army's officer uniform was adopted. Washington wore it around Philadelphia to garner support for the war.

8. **Blockade against the British, 1781:** After the French entered into an alliance with the Americans against the British, their navy played an important role in the decisive Battle of Yorktown. As George Washington marched from New York towards Yorktown with his army, the French navy engaged the British off the coast of Virginia in the Battle of Capes. After the French victory, they created a blockade of the Chesapeake Bay, trapping Cornwallis's British army at Yorktown. This blockade meant no new supplies or soldiers could assist Cornwallis, leading to his eventual surrender once besieged by Washington's army.
9. **Move Virginia's Capital from Williamsburg to Richmond, 1780:** During Thomas Jefferson's time as Governor of Virginia, he lived in the Governor's Palace in Williamsburg. However, he opted to relocate the capital of Virginia to Richmond because of its central location, and due to its easy defense compared to Williamsburg.
10. **Baron von Steuben trains soldiers in Valley Forge, 1778:** Von Steuben joined the Prussian army at age 17 and fought in the Seven Years War. With many years of training and fighting experience, von Steuben was somewhat of a hero and widely recognized figure because of his successes in the military. By 1777, he came to America to partake in the Revolutionary War, where he was most influential during Valley Forge. He helped the Continental Army drill and practice maneuvering so they could be prepared for battle.
11. **Battle of Saratoga, 1777:** Saratoga, an American victory, helped boost morale tremendously. Despite fierce fighting on both sides, the British army suffered immense casualties, significantly more than the Americans, weakening their forces and ending their plan to overtake Albany.
12. **Spanish Declare War on the British, 1779:** The Treaty of Aranjuez was an alliance between the French and Spanish that was signed in April of 1779. Thus, once France engaged in war with the British and sided with the Americans, Spain needed to follow suit. Spain declared war on the British in June of 1779. Most of the Spanish encounters with the British occurred between their navies or in the South, where Spain still held colonies.
13. **Battle of Yorktown, 1781:** The battle started as a siege of the city, which lasted from September 28 until October 19, 1781. The Continental Army, aided by the French, successfully blockaded the British from receiving reinforcements and or being successfully rescued. Due to the British being engaged by the French and Spanish on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, and the length of the Revolutionary War in America, which at that point, had been ongoing for six years, the weary British troops would ultimately surrender. Lord Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington, and in 1783, the Treaty of Paris would be signed by both sides to recognize the end of the war and formally acknowledge the United States as a sovereign country.

14. France sides with America, 1778: Prior to the French physically joining the Americans in battle, many French people supported the American rebellion against the British, as the French hated them from their loss against the British during the French and Indian War. At first, the French assisted financially and by shipping numerous supplies to the Continental Armies. Many patriots like Benjamin Franklin garnered support for the American cause due to their popularity in Paris among politicians and aristocrats. A formal treaty of alliance was signed in February of 1778. From 1778 until 1782, the French continued to supply America with French troops, supplies, military weapons, and especially naval ships and units to fight against the British.

15. Washington crosses the Delaware River, Trenton, New Jersey, 1776: On Christmas night 1776, General Washington ordered his men to silently cross the Delaware River. Despite the frigid cold, Washington knew this military maneuver was essential to winning the battle. Many of the troops fighting for the British were Hessians, or German mercenaries, who were stationed in Trenton, New Jersey. The reason for the attack was that many of the Germans had Christmas traditions they celebrated, and while they were celebrating, Washington's troops planned a surprise attack. This was one of the first major military victories led by the Continental Army.

16. George Mason Drafts the Fairfax Resolves for British Boycotts, 1774: In July 1774, George Washington and George Mason spent time together at Mount Vernon working on the Fairfax County Resolves. These articles boldly outlined rights that belonged to people residing in the Thirteen Colonies. These writings would help inspire the Bill of Rights to the American Constitution. Ultimately, the document formally rejected British Parliament's authority over the colonies. The Fairfax Resolves also issued a warning to colonists against the plans of the British such as tariffs and taxes and expressed discontent about the lack of colonial representation in the government overseas. It also outlined the issues that colonists faced with the British military, and lastly, economic problems caused by British monopolies over goods. The documents encouraged Patriots to staunchly boycott British products.

17. Martha Washington fundraises and makes soldiers' clothes: Martha Washington like many other women followed the soldiers of the Revolutionary War around to provide help at campsites whenever it was needed. Many women found ways to provide services to the military despite being unable to enlist as soldiers. Fundraising was one method of assistance, as the military kept running out of money and supplies. Additionally, women like Martha Washington made clothes, washed clothes for soldiers, and brought medical supplies to assist.

18. Thomas Jefferson serves as Governor of Virginia: 1779-1781: Jefferson lived in the Governor's Palace in Williamsburg for a year before he ultimately relocated the capital to Richmond, where it remains today.

19. **Daniel Morgan organizes his regiment of Riflemen:** Also called Morgan's Rifles and Morgan's Sharpshooters, Daniel Morgan organized one of the fiercest group of riflemen for the Continental Army. They used a new type of rifle, known as the Pennsylvania Long Rifle, created by German immigrants. It gave them greater accuracy. His unit initially comprised of roughly 100 men.
20. **Captain John Paul Jones joins the Continental Navy, 1775:** John Paul Jones, originally from Scotland, spent time in the military abroad and even earned the rank of Captain. In 1775, he enlisted in the Continental Navy. Jones became one of the most famous American naval commanders of the war and led several different ships. He remained in the service until 1787 when he was given numerous awards by the Continental Congress and the French government.

Loyalist

1. **Stamp Act, 1765:** The British Parliament passed the Stamp Act on March 22, 1765. They intended for the funds raised from the taxes to finance the debt caused by the Seven Years War and soldier's wages for the army stationed in America. The Act required stamps to be placed on different paper products, such as legal documents, and even playing cards.
2. **Quartering Act, 1765:** The British government required colonists to pay for the British soldier's lodgings and provisions during their military service. Later, the act would be amended to force colonists to provide places for soldiers to stay at their inns, stables, taverns, and other various forms of personal property.
3. **Lord Dunmore claims martial law, 1775:** On November 7, 1775, John Murray, the 4th Earl of Dunmore, also known as the Royal Governor of Virginia, issued a proclamation declaring martial law in Virginia. This proclamation also incorporated a clause that offered freedom to enslaved people and indentured servants that joined the British Army.
4. **Tea Tax, 1773:** The British Parliament enacted a law that gave the East India Company a tax break and therefore made their tea cheaper for colonists to purchase over others because they had a trade monopoly. Despite this lower price on tea, colonists would still have to pay an additional tax because of the Townshend Tax. American colonists grew angry at the prospect of paying additional taxes on imported goods outside of the British monopoly as many did not believe that England had the right to tax them on imported goods.
5. **Declaratory Act of 1766:** This declaration affirms British Parliament's authority and ability to tax the colonists and enact laws and policies in any and all cases that Parliament deemed fit. It also repealed the Stamp Act as many Americans chose to not pay those taxes and boycotted paper products.

6. **Townshend Acts of 1767:** Passed in 1767, the Townshend Acts taxed imported goods to the British colonies. Americans believed these acts abused their power and in response the British sent troops to enforce these laws which further escalated tensions among the colonies and the mother country. Most of the things taxed were china, glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea. The British Parliament intended for these tax revenues to fund the war debt from the French and Indian War as well as finance expenses for governing the colonies.
7. **Gunpowder seized from Williamsburg Magazine:** Fearing a patriot insurrection, on April 21, 1775, Dunmore seized the powder from Williamsburg's public magazine. In response, a militia led by Patrick Henry marched to confront the governor and demand that the gunpowder be returned. While news had not reached Virginia yet, a similar event in Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts led to the first shots of the Revolution.
8. **Capture of Savannah, Georgia, 1778:** As the war in the North began to be unsuccessful, the British decided to refocus on the Southern colonies. The city was captured on December 29, 1778.
9. **Sugar Tax, 1764:** On April 5, 1764, the British passed a new Sugar Act that reduced the previous molasses tax, with a higher duty on refined sugar. It also prohibited the importing of rum. In New England, sugar distilling and rum making was a big industry, so this tax was particularly detested. It also taxed wine, coffee, and textiles, and also banned most trade out of the colonies.
10. **British Control New York City:** The British took control of New York City beginning in the fall of 1776 and remained in the city until the end of the war in 1783. Manhattan fell to British forces after Fort Washington and Fort Lee were successfully taken from the Continental Army. They would control and be stationed in the city for nearly the entirety of the war.
11. **Battle of Quebec, 1775:** The attack occurred on December 31, 1775, as the Continental Army attempted to invade Canada. They also hoped to gain support from Canadians toward the American cause and incite rebellion against the British. The battle was a British victory.
12. **Battle of Germantown, 1777:** After a series of successes in the North, the British captured Philadelphia. This loss was monumental as Philadelphia was where the Continental Congress met. The battle was a significant American loss.
13. **Benedict Arnold joins the British:** Despite being an outspoken advocate of patriotism and actively smuggling goods during the years of taxation, he would eventually betray the Patriots and join the British. He achieved the rank of General in the Continental Army, but many people felt suspicious about where his true loyalties belonged. The Continental Congress investigated him several times. He in

fact, worked with the British during his time in the Army, but upon discovery by the American government, he fled to British-occupied New York City, where he accepted a commission as an officer within the British Army.

14. **Siege of Charleston, South Carolina, 1780:** British troops in New York under Lord Cornwallis and General Clinton left and headed for South Carolina. Together, the forces outnumbered the Continental Army. The British bombarded the city of Charleston – which was being defended by General Benjamin Lincoln. Fighting lasted several months as the British moved closer inward and the Americans refused to surrender. Eventually, the British army took over and burned the city.
15. **Benedict Arnold Raids Richmond, 1781:** General Sir Henry Clinton sent the British Army under the leadership of Benedict Arnold to Richmond to gather support from potential Loyalists in the area. The raid on Richmond was meant to assault the city, but many militia men living in Richmond did not bother offering any resistance to Arnold. He wrote a letter to Thomas Jefferson, the Governor at the time, stating he would keep the capital from being destroyed if he could take all of the tobacco. Jefferson refused; thus, Arnold moved to burn the city down. On the way out of the city, Arnold's units burned many plantations along the James River.
16. **Boston Harbor closed:** After the Boston Tea Party, the British Parliament passed the Coercive Acts, specifically targeting Bostonians. The first part of these acts was the Boston Port Act which passed on March 31, 1774. The act officially closed Boston Harbor, keeping all commercial traffic out and forcing all trade to cease. Only imports related to the British Army were legally allowed in and out of the port.
17. **Ethiopian Regiment of Black Soldiers:** In his November 1775 proclamation, Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia, offered freedom to enslaved people belonging to any Patriots who ran away and fought on behalf of the British.. After several hundred enslaved people joined him, Dunmore organized them into their own military unit, known as Dunmore's "Ethiopian Regiment." These soldiers fought with Dunmore in Virginia and many escaped with him to New York when patriot forces forced Dunmore to flee the state.