



Objective: Students will use physical actions combined with words to review and reinforce their knowledge of the Revolutionary War through a fun and engaging learning activity.

Grade level: 5-12

Time Required: Time will vary, initially plan 10-20 minutes; however if used throughout a unit as an anticipatory set or concluding activity students should be able to complete it within 2-3 minutes. Encourage students to improve their time daily.

Materials Needed:

1. Background Readings and/or lecture/ discussion related to the Revolutionary War
2. A class set of instructions for “Blow the Roof Off” each student should receive one activity. Copy and cut student instructions into strips, alternatively copy a classroom set and use daily during the course of the unit.

Description:

1. Give each student one of the numbered pieces of papers, i.e. activities
2. Instruct each student that the goal is to complete the activity as quickly as possible. Students must do and say everything on their paper strip.
3. Run through the activity one time to show students how to complete the activity. Encourage them to have fun with the activity and read their parts loudly in a clear voice.
4. Time the students as they complete the activity.

Suggestions to improve engagement & learning

1. Run competitions between classes to see which class gets the best time.
2. Do daily at the beginning of each class period during the unit
3. Make copies for each student to ensure they follow along as their peers are completing their portion.
4. Switch roles daily to ensure students learn all of the content
5. Add or subtract content to ensure material that all material assessed is included in the Blow the Roof Off

Rise of a Nation: French and Indian War; Revolutionary War BLOW THE ROOF OFF



Instructions: You will be assigned 1-2 scripts based on the numbered scripts below. Review the instructions and practice your script. As instructed you will act and say your script in sequential order. You must follow all instructions. You may not begin any required actions until the person/ script prior to you has begun. You may not start speaking until the person/ script before you has completed their text. Your class will be evaluated on the quality and speed reflected in your class performance.



1. Stand up and announce: “Here ye, Here ye, the French and Indian War was fought from 1754-1763”
2. Turn to your neighbor and whisper: “What was the French and Indian War about?”
3. Run to the map in the front of the room, point to the Ohio River Valley. Say: “Everyone wanted the Ohio River Valley”. Return to your seat
4. Run to the map, point to the Mississippi River and say: “The French and British wanted land and water rights along the Mississippi River”
5. Lift your arms in triumph (signal for Touchdown) and say: Britain won and got Canada, but....
6. Run to the board say: “The French and Indian War cost a lot of money” write down: “\$”. Return to your seat
7. Run to the board write down: “Stamp Act” Turn to the class and point to a piece of paper, and return to your seat.
8. Run to the board write down “Proclamation of 1763”, Turn to the class and wiggle your index finger as if telling a child NO. Return to your seat
9. Run to the board write down: “Declaratory Act” Turn to the class and put both hands to your head as if holding a crown. Lower your hands and return to your seat
10. Run to the board write down: “Tea Act” Turn to the class and make a motion as if drinking a glass of tea. Return to your seat
11. Run to the board write down: “Sugar Act” Turn to the class and hold six fingers in the air to indicate the tax per gallon on Molasses. Lower your hands and return to your seat.
12. Run to the window and yell outside: “Why should we have to pay for it”. Return to your seat.

13. Sit in your seat pound your fist on your desk and say, “We should not fight against the King. At least 30% of us are Loyalist.. We are proud to be British.!”
14. Run to the front of the room and shrug your shoulders as if confused about what you should do. Return to your seat.
15. Say in a loud voice, “What about the Boston Massacre? Did you hear the British shot five of our boys?”
16. Stand up and say, “What massacre? It was just a misunderstanding!”
17. Stand on your chair and yell, “That was no misunderstanding! It was a deliberate act on the part of the British, now they’re taking over the courts to punish all of us!”
18. Stand and say, “I am an American and am proud of it!”
19. Say in an excited voice: “Did you hear about the Boston Tea Party?”
20. Turn to your neighbor and say: “342 chests of tea dumped in the Boston Harbor”
21. Go to the board and write “342”. Return to your seat.
- 22.. Yell out: “Now they’re going to close the Ports of Boston to punish all of us”
23. Say in a disgusted voice: “Great now the British are moving into our homes”
24. Stand up on your chair, raise you fist in the air and yell “These Acts are INTOLERABLE!”
25. Stand up and beckon others to follow your example and yell: “I’m a son/ daughter (of Liberty. It’s time for payback! Return to your seat.
26. Act as if you’re hiding your wallet and whisper to your neighbor: “I’m not buying English stuff, I’ll make my own clothes”
27. Whisper wickedly to your neighbor: “I’m smuggling rum:
28. Whisper suspiciously to your neighbor: “I’m spying on the British”
29. Stand and yell.... “Come on Sons of Liberty, let’s burn a effigy of the tax collector” Return to your seat.
30. Go to the front of the room, raise both hands in the air and say: “We have to hide our weapons and store our guns- let’s put them in Concord!” Return to your seat.
31. Run to the window yell: “The British are coming, the British are coming!” Return to your seat.
32. Stand up make a motion like you are shooting a gun and say “bang, bang. Gotcha.” Return to your seat.

33. Go to the light switch, turn the lights off and on and declare in a loud voice “Wow, those people in Boston are going to pay for what happened at Lexington and Concord!” Return to your seat.
34. Go to the front of the room and lay down as if dead say: “I died at Bunker Hill”. Return to your seat.
35. Stand up on your chair and say “Hey look, the British are leaving Boston!” Return to your seat.
36. Stand by your seat and say, “I hear Thomas Jefferson is home writing the Declaration of Independence.” Return to your seat.
37. Go to the front of the classroom and read in a loud voice as if reading in front of an audience:
“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”
Return to your seat.
38. Stand up, raise your hand above your eyes as if looking into the distance and say “Oh, no, the British are taking New York!” Return to your seat
39. Run to the door and yell “Run Washington Run!” Return to your seat.
40. Go to the front of the classroom in a loud voice as if reading in front of an audience:
“Thomas Paine said: These are the time that try Men’s souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot, will in this crisis shrink from the service of his country, but he that stands in now deserve the love and thanks of men and woman”
Return to your seat
41. Stand up and sing the first stanza to Jingle Bells. Return to your seat
42. Stand up and say: “The Americans attacked the Hessians at Trenton on Christmas Eve”. Return to your seat
43. Go to the window and yell: “The Americans Rock!” Return to your seat.
44. Stand by your desk and run in place while saying: “On No! The Americans lost at Brandywine....Congress is on the run, the British are in Philadelphia” Return to your seat.
45. Stand up and act like you are shivering, say: “We froze at Valley Forge”
46. Stand up, act as if you are pointing a musket and say with a German accent “Because of Baron Von Steuben we became an Army at Valley Forge!”
47. Stand up and pump and kiss your biceps and say: “Yee Haw! The Americans under Benedict Arnold forced $\frac{1}{3}$ of the British army to surrender at Saratoga.” Return to your seat

48. Turn to you neighbor and say: “Benjamin Franklin secured an alliance with France. The French will use their navy, money and soldiers to help fight the war”
49. Raise a fist in the air and yell: “Viva la France”
50. Clap your hands three times and yell, “Viva the Marque de Lafayette!”
51. Stand and act as if you are holding a newspapers in front of you, say: “Good news for the Patriots, England is not unified in the war against we colonists” Stay standing until #53 is completed.
52. Stand face the previous student and respond to #51 and say: “Yeah but lots of Black Colonists and Natives, are helping the British fight AND they are winning most of the battles”. Stay standing until #53 is completed.
53. Stand face the previous students and respond to #52 and say: “BUT the American are winning the Guerilla battles, AND the French are making things harder for the English” Return to your seat.
54. Stand, hold your hands to your face as if to reflect surprise, yell: What! The British are trapped at Yorktown!” Return to your seat.
55. Go to the board and write down “Yorktown” Return to your seat
- 56.. Stand up point in the distance and yell: “Hey look the British are losing!”
57. Run to the window and yell: “British go home!” Return to your seat