



A Country is Born U.S. History Unit Companion

Directions

- Complete the Prepare section before you begin a unit.
- Complete the Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes section as you work through each lesson.
- Complete the Unit Review sections before you take the cumulative assessment.

NOTE: Your teacher may require that you complete and submit this unit companion.

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Prepare

Throughout the A Country is Born unit, you will explore the following Essential Questions.



Unit Essential Questions

- What events unified the American colonists against Britain?
- What ideas influenced the Declaration of Independence?
- How did the colonists win their independence?
- How did the American Revolution affect the society of the new nation?
- Why didn't the Articles of Confederation survive as the nation's first government?
- How did debate and compromise help form the U.S. Constitution?

You will learn about the following topics in the A Country is Born unit:

- British colonial policies and colonists' reactions
- events leading to the colonists breaking away from Britain
- battles and leaders during the American Revolution
- changes in society during and after the American Revolution
- the successes and failures of the first government, the Articles of Confederation
- the process for writing and ratifying the U.S. Constitution

You will take a cumulative quiz and test over the content in this unit.



Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes

Each lesson is summarized on the following pages. Read the summary before a lesson to preview the most important information, including people, places, and events. Read the summary after a lesson to review the lesson content without rereading every word. As you complete each lesson, record information in the Guided Notes section. Some questions have been provided for you. You may also take notes on other important lesson information.

Colonial Discontent Summary

After the French and Indian War, Britain wanted the American colonists to help pay their war debts. Continued conflicts between colonists and Native Americans on the frontier prompted King George III to establish the Proclamation Line of 1763, which prevented colonial settlement beyond that line. That action and other laws created discontent in the colonies. When colonists protested, the British pushed back harder, giving themselves authority to make laws and tax the colonists however they wanted. The colonies unified under this injustice and violence broke out. The stage was set for revolution.

Colonial Discontent Guided Notes	
What did the British want the colonist to help pay for in 1765? (slide 1)	The British were in debt because of the French and Indian War. Britain wanted the colonist to help pay those debts.
What was the cause of Pontiac's Rebellion? (slide 2)	
Why did King George establish the Proclamation Line? (slide 3 interactive activity)	
What British laws were passed to get payment from the American colonies? (slides 4 and 5)	
What resulted from the Stamp Act and Quartering Act? (slide 6)	
How did the Sons of Liberty and Daughters of Liberty protest British laws? (slide 7)	

Colonial Discontent Guided Notes

What law gave Parliament the power to make laws and tax the colonies? (slide 8)	
What did the Committees of Correspondence do? (slide 9)	
How did colonists respond to the increase in British troops? (slide 10)	
How did the British react to the Boston Tea Party? What laws were passed after that event? (slide 11 video)	
What was the intent of the Coercive Acts? (slide 12)	

Declaring Independence Summary

The First Continental Congress of 1774 convened to determine an appropriate response to the Intolerable Acts. Local militias formed and began to prepare for conflict. In April 1775, fighting began in Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts. The start of the American Revolution became known as the “shot heard round the world” because of the impact this event would have for generations to come. Colonists decided the time for independence had come, and the British learned that an inexperienced militia could put up a fight. Thomas Jefferson was tasked with writing the Declaration of Independence, and he looked to Enlightenment thinkers such as John Locke for inspiration. The Declaration of Independence offers a revolutionary statement about the purpose of government that has influenced many other countries since it was approved on July 4, 1776.

Declaring Independence Guided Notes	
Why was independence a huge risk for the American colonists? (slide 1)	The colonists had lived under monarchy for generations. They considered themselves to be British, and a government based on liberty had never been tried.
Why did the First Continental Congress meet? (slide 2)	
What led to the formation of minutemen? (slide 3)	
Why did General Gage take British troops to Concord? (slide 4)	
What happened when the militia trapped the British inside Boston? (slide 5)	
What are the two radical ideas that Thomas Paine explained in <i>Common Sense</i> ? (slide 7)	

Declaring Independence Guided Notes

What is Locke's social contract idea?
(slide 8)

Why did the Founding Fathers send copies of the Declaration of Independence to other countries?
(slide 9)

Give Me Liberty! Summary

The Second Continental Congress established the Continental Army to unify the various state militias into one fighting force. They were still disadvantaged compared to British forces, but over the course of the war gained advantages from fighting in their own country, where they had the support of the domestic population. The Continental Army suffered a series of defeats, but crossed the Delaware River on December 25, 1776, and delivered a blow to the British. The American victory in the Battle of Saratoga convinced the French to assist them. After years of fighting, the British were defeated in the Battle of Yorktown and the war ended. The Treaty of Paris in 1783 brought peace and a recognition that the United States were free, sovereign, and independent.

Give Me Liberty! Guided Notes	
What effect did Patrick Henry's 1775 speech have? (slide 1)	Patrick Henry's famous speech united colonists around the patriot cause for independence.
Why were colonial militias replaced by the Continental Army? (slide 2)	
What were the strengths of the Continental forces during the Revolutionary War? (slide 3)	
Who commanded the British in the final battles of the Revolutionary War? (slide 4 interactive)	
Why did the British battle Continental forces in New York? (slide 5)	
Who was defeated in the Battle of Trenton? (slide 6)	

Give Me Liberty! Guided Notes

What did the French do after the Battle of Saratoga? (slide 7 podcast)	
Why was French help important in the Revolutionary War? (slide 8)	
How did Baron von Steuben help the Continental Army? (slide 9)	
Why was disease dangerous to the Continental troops, and what did General Washington do to fight disease? (slide 10)	
How did the Revolutionary War lead to food riots? (slide 11)	
Why did the British move their fighting to southern states? (slide 12)	
Why is the Battle of Yorktown important? (slide 13)	
What did the Treaty of Paris do? (slide 14)	

Social Awakenings Summary

The Revolutionary War affected all people living in the American colonies. People had to decide if they would remain loyal to the British crown or take up the patriot cause. Women who supported the Continental Army did not want to be forgotten in the formation of a new nation. Their roles were defined by the responsibilities of home and family. African Americans might have gained freedom in exchange for fighting with the British, but they did not receive equal rights in the country that would not abolish slavery. Native Americans were living in areas that had been granted to the Americans in the Treaty of Paris. Conflicts erupted as settlers moved into those areas. The revolutionary ideas inspired these groups in America to push for more equitable treatment in society, but social change was slow.

Social Awakenings Guided Notes	
What groups were inspired by the ideas of the American Revolution? (slide 1)	The American Revolution inspired African Americans, Native Americans, and women to push for changes in society.
What happened to loyalists after the Revolutionary War? (slide 2)	
What was Dunmore's Proclamation? (slide 4)	
What is the difference between manumission and abolition? (slide 5)	
What was the Treaty of Greenville, and how did it affect Native Americans? (slide 7)	
In what ways were women involved in the American Revolution? (slide 8 video)	

Social Awakenings Guided Notes

Why was it important for women to be educated, according to Benjamin Rush?
(slide 10)

Articles of Confederation Summary

The first government of the United States was the Articles of Confederation, a league of friendship between the states. This new government had a legislature that could create laws, but most of the power was reserved for individual states. Even though the nation generated money through the sale of lands in the Northwest Territories, the government did not have enough money to deal with a growing financial crisis. Americans were finding that a strong central government was necessary to deal with financial issues, foreign policy, and uprisings such as Shays's Rebellion.

Articles of Confederation Guided Notes	
What did freedom mean for the new citizens of the United States? (slide 1)	After earning their freedom, the people of the United States had to decide what kind of nation they would be. They had to make many decisions about how the country should be run.
What is republicanism? (slide 2)	
What is a democracy? (slide 3)	
Why didn't the Articles of Confederation create an executive branch? (slide 4)	
How did the land ordinances made legal under the Articles of Confederation affect the country? (slide 5)	
How did the Articles of Confederation cause financial problems for the United States? (slide 6)	

Articles of Confederation Guided Notes

Why did Shays's Rebellion trouble people in the United States?
(slide 7 video)

Constitutional Convention and the Constitution

Summary

Delegates for the Constitutional Convention had planned to amend the Articles of Confederation but soon decided to write a new Constitution for the United States. They had to address the questions of representation, slavery, and democracy during the convention debates. Eventually they came to a compromise and developed a plan for proportional representation in the House of Representatives and equal representation in the Senate. The Constitution created three branches of the federal government, and established several key principles of governance to guide the United States. After the Constitution was signed, it went to the states for ratification. During the ratification process, two groups argued for and against the new plan of government. Federalists and Anti-Federalists came to an agreement on how to best protect the rights of individuals with the Bill of Rights. This was added to the Constitution as the first 10 amendments.

Constitutional Convention and the Constitution Guided Notes	
Why did the Confederation Congress authorize a convention in Philadelphia? (slide 1)	The members of the Continental Congress feared the nation might not survive under the weak government, so they authorized delegates to convene and amend the Articles of Confederation.
What did delegates to the Constitutional Convention disagree about? (slide 2)	
What is the difference between proportional and equal representation? (slide 3)	
What was the Great Compromise/Connecticut Compromise? (slide 4)	
How did the Three-Fifths Compromise help slave states? (slide 5)	

Constitutional Convention and the Constitution Guided Notes

How does the principle of checks and balances aim to maintain appropriate power in federal branches? (slide 6 video)	
What are the differences between Federalists and Anti-Federalists? (slide 7)	
What was the purpose of <i>The Federalist Papers</i> ? (slide 9)	
Why was the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution? (slide 11)	
What was the purpose of the Constitutional principles? What are these principles? (slide 12)	
How did the injustices of British rule inspire the Constitution and Bill of Rights? (slide 13)	



Unit Review – Key Words

Describe the following key words from the A Country is Born unit. Your descriptions should be as detailed as possible. Include names, dates, and relevant facts related to each key word. Be sure to explain why each person or term is important.

Remember to download and save this PDF before writing.

Colonial Discontent

Key Word	Description
Boston Massacre	The Boston Massacre was an outbreak of violence in 1770 between colonists and British soldiers. In the confusion, shots were fired and five colonists were killed. This event turned more colonists against the British.
Boston Tea Party	
boycott	
Coercive Acts	
Committees of Correspondence	
Currency Act	
Daughters of Liberty	
Declaratory Act	
duty	
Non-Importation Movement	

Key Word	Description
Pontiac's Rebellion	
Proclamation Line of 1763	
propaganda	
Quartering Act	
Sons of Liberty	
Stamp Act	
Stamp Act Congress	
Sugar Act	
Tea Act	
Townshend Acts	

Declaring Independence

Key Word	Description
Battle of Bunker Hill	The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought just outside of Boston during the siege of Boston. The British defeated colonial forces, but were surprised at how well the inexperienced militia fought against them.
Battles of Lexington and Concord	
Benjamin Franklin	

Key Word	Description
<i>Common Sense</i>	
Declaration of Independence	
First Continental Congress	
John Adams	
John Hancock	
John Locke	
loyalists	
militia	
minutemen	
natural rights	
patriots	
siege	
social contract	
Thomas Jefferson	

Give Me Liberty!

Key Word	Description
Baron von Steuben	Baron von Steuben was a Prussian officer who trained and organized the Continental Army so they were more prepared fight the British.
Battle of Long Island	
Battle of Saratoga	
Battle of Trenton	
Battle of Yorktown	
blockade	
Charles Cornwallis	
Continental Army	
George Washington	
Hessians	
inoculate	
John Jay	
Marquis de Lafayette	
mercenary	
Nathanael Greene	

Key Word	Description
Patrick Henry	
Treaty of Paris	
Valley Forge	
William Howe	

Social Awakenings

Key Word	Description
abolition	Abolition is putting an end to something. Many people in northern states argued for the abolition of slavery.
Confiscation Acts	
Dunmore's Proclamation	
homespun	
manumission	
republican motherhood	
Treaty of Greenville	

Articles of Confederation

Key Word	Description
Articles of Confederation	The Articles of Confederation was the first government in the United States. It did not have a strong central government, which created a lot of problems. It was replaced by the U.S. Constitution.

Key Word	Description
democracy	
majority rule	
Northwest Ordinances	
republicanism	
Shays's Rebellion	
tariff	

Constitutional Convention and the Constitution

Key Word	Description
Alexander Hamilton	Alexander Hamilton was a Federalist who was one of the authors of <i>The Federalist Papers</i> .
Anti-Federalists	
bicameral	
Bill of Rights	
Connecticut Compromise/Great Compromise	
Constitutional Convention of 1787	
Electoral College	

Key Word	Description
<i>Federalist Papers</i>	
Federalists	
James Madison	
New Jersey Plan	
Three-Fifths Compromise	
unicameral	
Virginia Plan	



Unit Review – Key Questions

Before the unit assessment, answer the following key questions. Each question contains a tip to help you locate the material in the course. You may want to add your own note about the location of the information. Write the answers in your own words, and test your memory of each answer by covering the answer column while quizzing yourself. Remember that some content may be presented in a multimedia presentation, graphic, or other resource. Refer to the transcripts or text versions for written versions of that content.

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
How did the Seven Years' War (the French and Indian War) cause conflict between the British and the colonists? (Colonial Discontent)	After the Seven Years' War, the British wanted the colonists to help pay off the war debt. They started taxing the colonists for this purpose, and the colonists resisted. Soon, discontent among the colonists grew.
What British laws did the colonists disagree with? (Colonial Discontent)	
How did the colonists respond to British actions? (Colonial Discontent)	
What events led to the writing and signing of the Declaration of Independence? (Declaring Independence)	
What ideas inspired the Declaration of Independence? (Declaring Independence)	
What were the important events during the Revolutionary War? (Give Me Liberty!)	

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
<p>What role did people from other countries play in the Revolutionary War? (Give Me Liberty!)</p>	
<p>What were the views of patriots and loyalists in the American colonies? (Social Awakenings)</p>	
<p>How were women, African Americans, and Native Americans affected by the American Revolution? (Social Awakenings)</p>	
<p>What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confirmation? (Articles of Confederation)</p>	
<p>What was the impact of Shays's Rebellion? (Articles of Confederation)</p>	
<p>What were the main conflicts and compromises of the Constitutional Convention? (Constitutional Convention and the Constitution)</p>	
<p>What were the arguments of Federalists and Anti-Federalists? (Constitutional Convention and the Constitution)</p>	