

Battles of Lexington and Concord

Lesson

Interactive
Notebook Activity

Primary Source
Activity

07/25/2012

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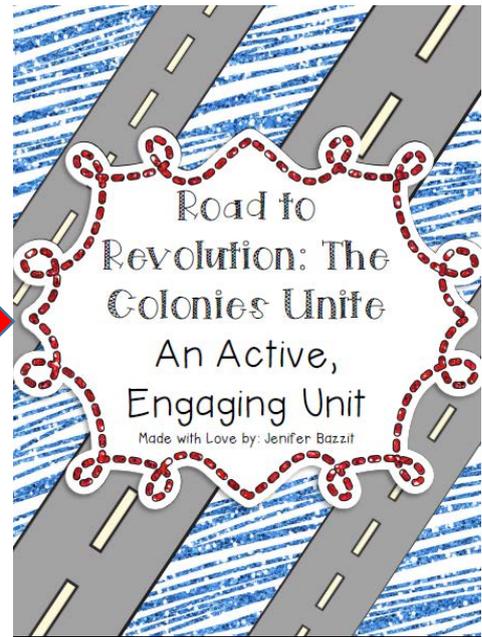
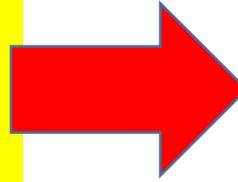
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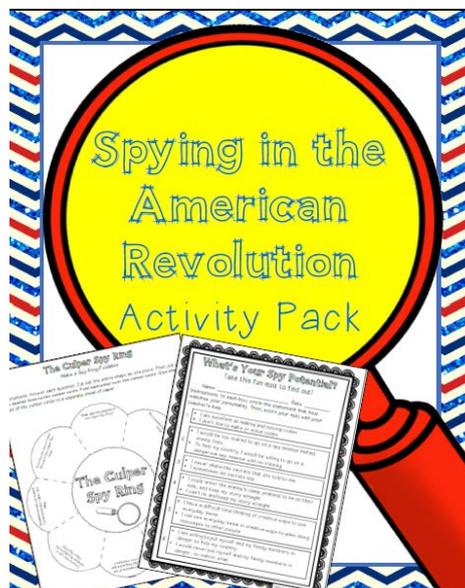
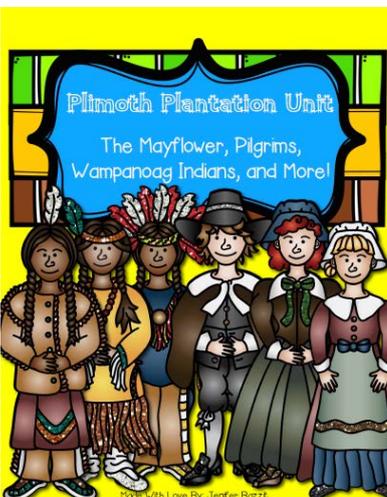
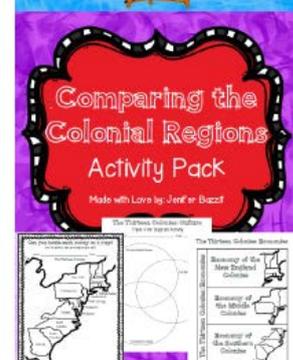
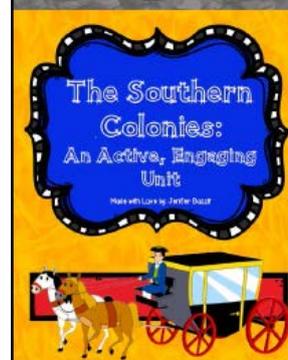
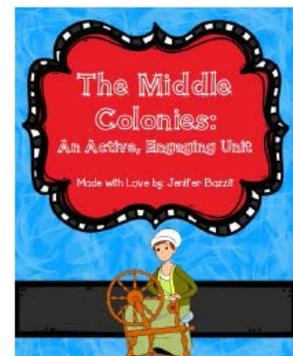
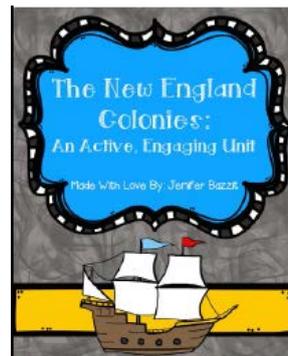
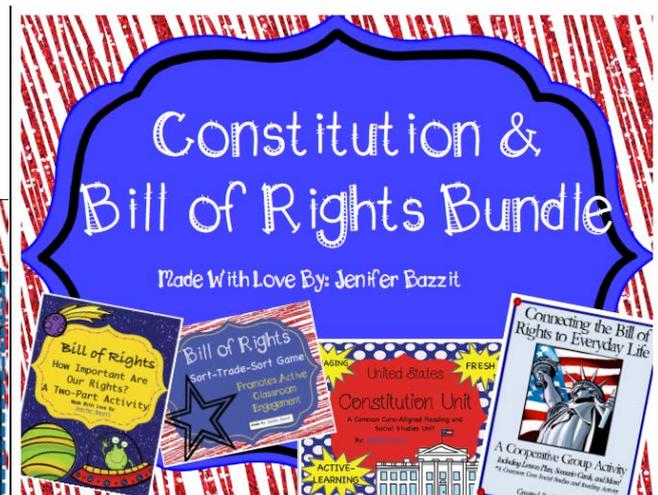
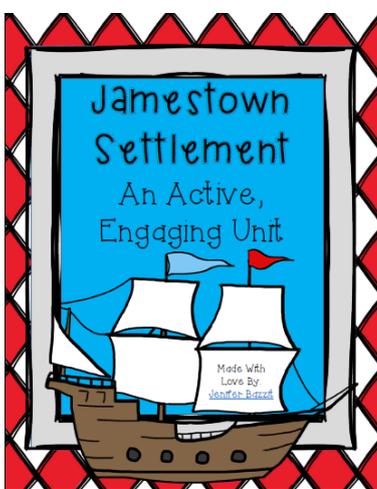
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The Battles of Lexington and Concord

General Thomas Gage, the new Royal Governor of Massachusetts, had orders from England to control the rebellious colonists. He made a plan to capture rebel leaders John Hancock and Samuel Adams who were temporarily hiding out in Lexington. He also learned from his spies that colonists were storing weapons in Concord, a small town outside of Boston.

April 18, 1775

Paul Revere and others learned of the British plan to march to Concord at night to gather and destroy the colonial weapons stores. Revere and two other men rode across the countryside warning colonists that the "Regulars" or "Redcoats" were coming. It is very unlikely that they would have said "The British are coming." At the time, colonists still considered themselves British.

April 19, 1775

At dawn, the British troops arrived in Lexington and saw around 70 militiamen gathered on the town green. The militiamen were heavily outnumbered against the 700 British soldiers. The commander of the militiamen ordered the men to hold their fire. John Parker, a commander of the militiamen is reported to have told his men, "Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here." Then, a shot rang out. The British soldiers fired several rounds at the militiamen and when the smoke cleared, eight militiamen were dead. No redcoats died at that confrontation.

The British soldiers continued to Concord to seize the colonists' weapons and ammunition. They were not aware that the majority of the arms were already hidden or destroyed. Hundreds of Concord militiamen gathered at the North Bridge, which was being defended by

the British soldiers. The British fired at the militiamen first and the militiamen returned fire. This exchange is now known as "The Shot Heard 'Round the World."

After searching Concord for several hours, the British soldiers started their march back to Boston. Unfortunately for them, around 2,000 militiamen had gathered in the area and more were arriving by the minute. They fired at British soldiers from behind buildings, trees, and walls. The British soldiers were fired upon for eighteen miles on their march back to Boston.

At the end of the day on April 19, 1775, around 250 British soldiers were killed or wounded while 90 militiamen were killed or wounded. This action by the militiamen proved that colonists were willing to stand up to England, the most powerful army in the world. This was just the spark needed to begin the American Revolution.



Concord's North Bridge

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

Make a Timeline

Purpose: Students will review the events surrounding the Battles of Lexington and Concord. They will create a timeline to show the events in order.

Materials:

1. One Timeline Template page per student
2. One Events and Tab page per student
3. Scissors, glue (liquid glue works best), paper, pencils
4. "Battles of Lexington and Concord" information sheet

Procedure:

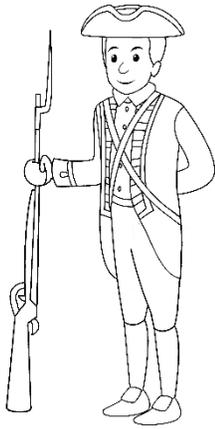
1. Cut out each vertical strip as one piece. You will have two long strips.
2. Glue the top rectangular tab of one strip to the bottom of the other strip. Remember to only use tiny glue dots. This will create one long strip with eight sections.
3. Starting near the end with the rectangular tab, fold accordion style on the dashed lines. Fold under first.
4. Place tiny glue dots on the back of the tab. Attach the rectangular tab to a separate sheet of paper.
5. Cut out and glue the triangle tab to your paper. This triangle will serve as a tab to hold the accordion book in place once it is folded. Remember to only glue the two outside edges of the triangle with little glue dots. Look at the example.
6. Glue the events on the accordion sections in order. Use the "Battles of Lexington and Concord" information sheet to help you.

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

Timeline Template

Battles of Lexington and Concord

Order of Events



Name: _____

The Battles of Lexington and Concord

Events and Tab Page

The British soldiers and militiamen confronted each other at Concord's North Bridge. This is where the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" happened.

British troops arrive in Lexington and see seventy militiamen gathered on the town green. The British commander orders the militiamen to go home.

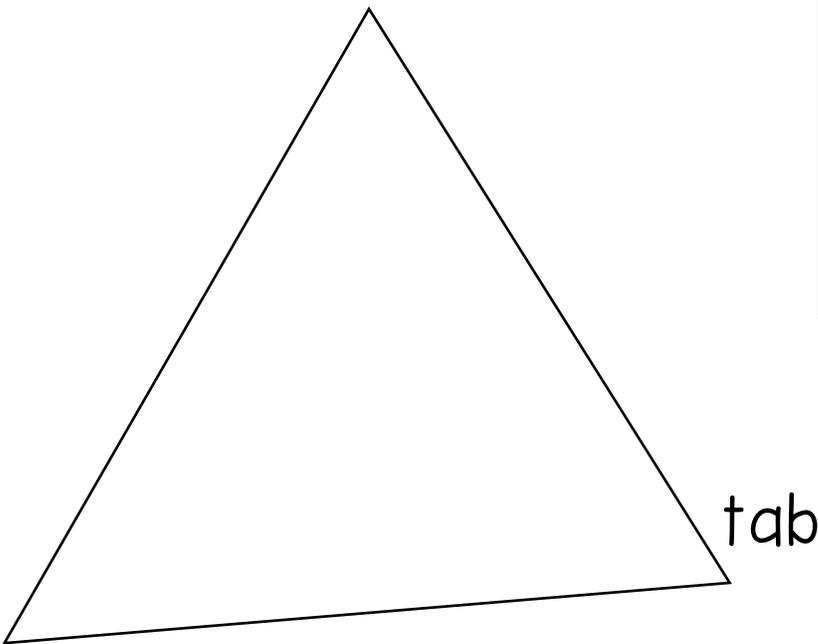
General Gage made a plan to capture rebels John Hancock and Samuel Adams and to destroy the weapons hidden by colonists in Concord.

Thousands of militiamen fired on British soldiers from behind trees, buildings, and walls as the soldiers walked back to Boston. The American Revolution has now started!

British soldiers and militiamen exchanged fire on Lexington green. Eight militiamen were killed.

Paul Revere and others learned of General Gage's plan and rode across the countryside to warn colonists that the Regulars were coming.

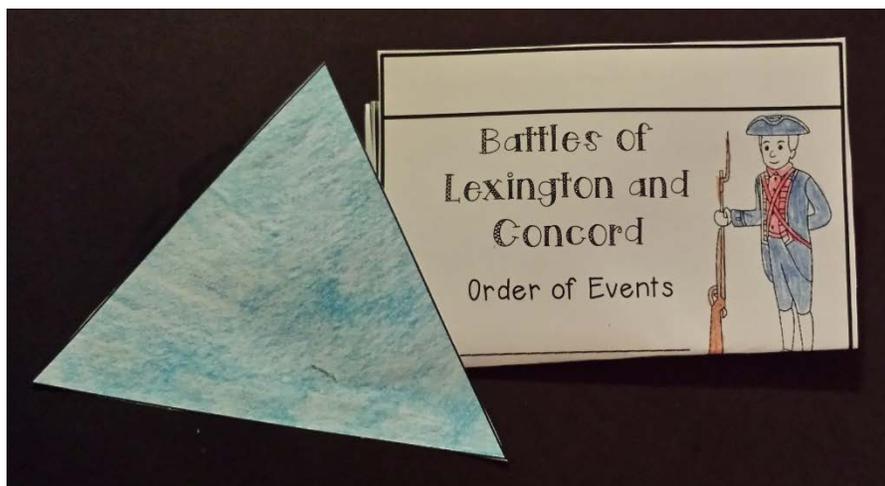
The British continued their march to Concord to destroy colonial weapons. They did not know that most of the weapons were already moved or destroyed.



The Battles of Lexington and Concord

Make a Timeline

EXAMPLE



Battles of Lexington and Concord
Order of Events
Name _____



General Gage made a plan to capture rebels John Hancock and Samuel Adams and to destroy the weapons hidden by colonists in Concord.

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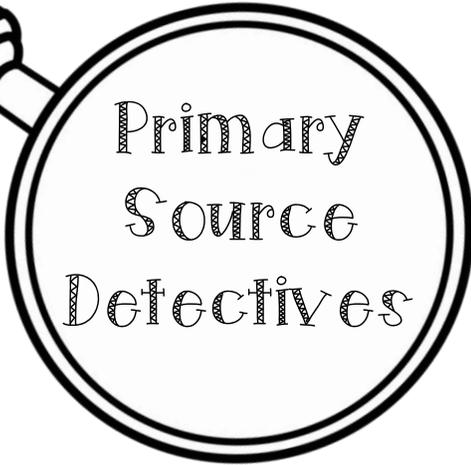
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Thousands of militiamen fired on British soldiers from behind trees, buildings, and walls as the soldiers walked back to Boston. The American Revolution has now started!



Primary
Source
Detectives

News of the Battles of
Lexington and Concord-
Article Excerpt from a New
York newspaper
April 23, 1775

Name: _____ Date: _____

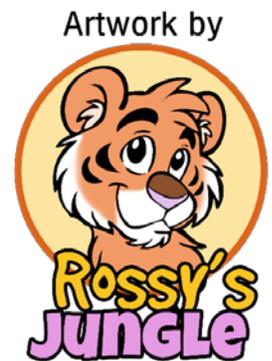
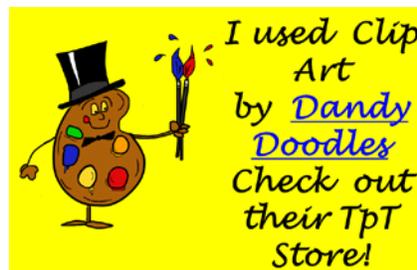
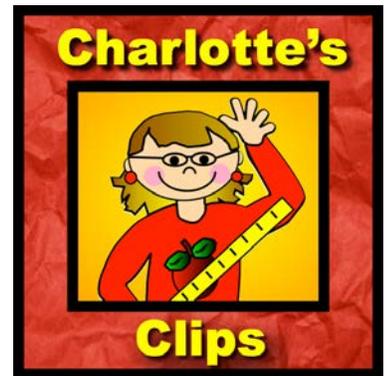
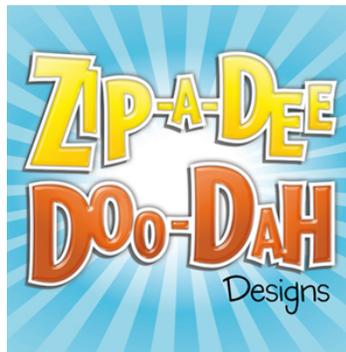
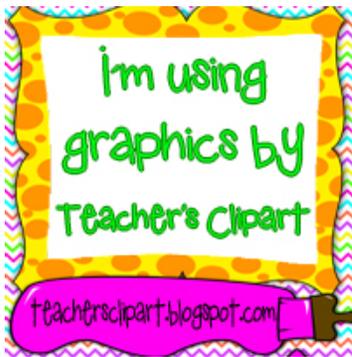
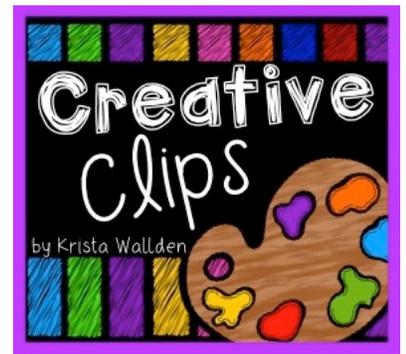
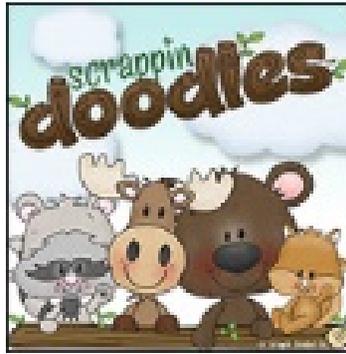
Instructions: Read the article excerpt and discuss its meaning. Then, answer the questions that follow.

“Sir, this evening intelligence hath been receiv’d that about 1200 of the regular troops, have proceeded from Boston toward Concord; and having fired on the inhabitants, and killed a number of them, at Lexington, are now actually engaged in butchering and destroying our brethren in the most inhuman manner. The inhabitants opposed them with zeal and courage, and numbers have already fallen on both sides.” (Source: Library of Congress)

Activity: Make a chart to show statements from the article that are correct and statements from the article that may be propaganda (partly true information that was meant to anger or inflame colonists).

True Statements	Propaganda

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