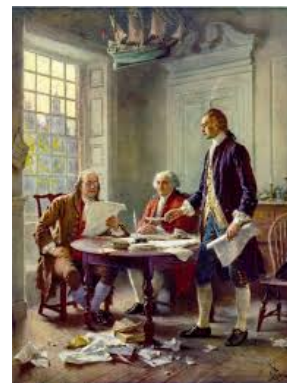


# Declaration of Independence

## Language Arts Activities



Imagine you are a colonist at the time of the writing of the Declaration of Independence. Choose ONE of the following language arts activities to illustrate the events surrounding this famous document.

### VISUAL ARTS

1. Draw and color a picture of Thomas Jefferson writing the Declaration of Independence by himself. Where was he sitting? What was he wearing? What did his face look like? What did his studio apartment look like? What kind of tools did he have to do his writing?
2. Design a picture in full color that represents independence to YOU. After finishing, glue your picture carefully to a piece of puzzle board. When it is dry, cut your picture into large puzzle pieces. We can keep this as a class puzzle!

### WRITING

1. Pretend you are a reporter in Philadelphia when the Declaration of Independence was signed. Write a newspaper article reporting what happened on July 4, 1776, and how this will affect the new colonies and their new America. Remember to represent people the 'facts', just as a newspaper article usually does.
2. Pretend you are a close friend of Thomas Jefferson, and that you have just heard about the writing and adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Write

a letter of congratulations to Thomas, including your excitement about the country's new found independence from Britain. You will have to decide if you are a soldier in the Revolutionary War, a store owner in a colonial town, a farmer at home with a family, or a member of the Continental Congress.

## SPEAKING

1. Memorize the first 170 words of the Declaration of Independence. Recite this well-known part of this document in front of the class. Be prepared to use as much enthusiasm and emphasis as you can!

