Fifth Grade Social Studies Curriculum

Unit	Content

The Road to War	• Causes and events leading up to the American Revolution
	  o French & Indian War
	  o Taxation imposed upon the colonists by the British government
	  o Boston Tea Party
	  o Boston Massacre
	  o Continental Congress
	• War begins
	  o First battles of the Revolution
	  o Olive Branch Petition
	• Important historical figures

The Revolutionary War	• Declaring Independence
	  o Thomas Paine's "Common Sense"
	  o Declaration of Independence
	• Life during the war
	  o Patriots and Loyalists
	• The war in the North
	  o Valley Forge
	  o Trenton
	  o Saratoga
	• Winning the War
	  o Patriot leaders
	  o Yorktown
	  o Treaty of Paris
	• Important historical figures

Federal Government	• A New Nation
	  o Articles of Confederation
	  o Northwest Territory
	  o Shay's Rebellion
	• Constitutional Convention
	• The Constitution
	  o Drafting the Constitution
	  o Amendments
	• Democracy
	• Branches of government
	  o Checks and balances
	  o Federal v. state government
	• President's cabinet
	• Political parties

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Skills
• Describe and explain the principles and ideals of American government • Identify and describe the characteristics of places and regions by their population, cultural, settlement, economic , and political activities • Identify important revolutionaries and groups, and explain their contributions impact on United States history • Indentify historic sites important to United States history • Identify cause and effect relationships between groups • Read, analyze, and interpret social studies text and related materials • Understand and use primary sources and texts • Use graphic aides such as: pictures, charts, graphs, political cartoons, diagrams, and illustrations • Understand chronological thinking • Use a map to interpret sequence of events • Explain main ideas behind independence • Compare and contrast British and colonial perspectives, as well as identify and examine various viewpoints