



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Course: US History/Ms. Brown**

**Homeroom:**



7<sup>th</sup> Grade US History  
Standard # – Do Now – Day #57

**Aims:** SWBAT explain two details of the battles of Lexington and Concord and their significance  
SWBAT compare different perspectives on what happened at Lexington and Concord

**DO NOW**

**Scenario:** You are a loyalist during the colonial era. You are living in a town full of patriots but you disagree with what they have been doing to the British. Everyone in your town is telling you that the British are bad and you need to join the Patriots. Recently, someone wrote on your property "Join or Die." What would you do in this situation?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

1. What was the purpose of the First Continental Congress?

---

---

---

2. What did the First Continental Congress resolve to do?

---

---

---



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

## Vocabulary

1. Sons of Liberty- \_\_\_\_\_

2. Minute Men- \_\_\_\_\_

3. firebrand- \_\_\_\_\_

4. militia- \_\_\_\_\_

### **Background**

By 1775, Britain had been imposing laws and **taxes** on its colonies in America without any deference (asking) to local governments or popular consent for more than ten years – and colonists' protests had become increasingly vehement. Hoping to avoid an armed rebellion, British troops in Boston, Massachusetts, marched under the cover of darkness toward nearby Concord to seize the local militia's supply of arms and gunpowder. Patriots from Boston alerted the countryside, and at dawn on April 19, a militia unit gathered on the green of Lexington. They were neighbors, fathers, sons and cousins; at least one was a slave; some were old men, some were teens.

During the standoff between the Americans and British troops, a shot was fired. Nobody on the green in Lexington could tell where the shot came from; nobody would ever know. In the ensuing melee (chaos), the redcoats fired a musket volley, fixed their bayonets, and charged. All was confusion; one of the witnesses, Paul Revere, could discern only "a continual roar of musket fire." In fifteen minutes it was over. Eight colonists lay dead and ten were wounded.

From Lexington, British troops marched to Concord, where they destroyed the few supplies the militia had not hidden. After a fierce skirmish with militia, they started back to Boston. Hundreds of militiamen joined the counterattack, forcing the British to make desperate retreat through a gauntlet of musket fire. Exhausted and panicked, British soldiers lashed out, killing civilians, ransacking and looting houses, and setting fires.

News of the fighting at Lexington and Concord rallied "Friends of American Liberty" in all the colonies. Some colonists recoiled from the notion of taking up arms. Others joined the fight resolved to save themselves and their children from lives of "perpetual slavery" under British rule.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why did the British march to Lexington, Massachusetts?

---

---

---

2. What types of people made up the colonial militia? Infer, how is this different than the British soldiers.

---

---

---

3. Who shot the first shot at the Battle of Lexington?

---

---

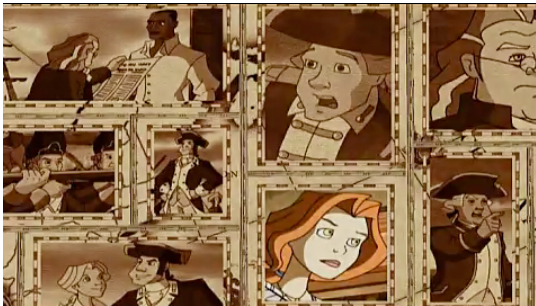
---

4. Who was the winner of the Battle of Lexington? How do you know? (Infer)

---

---

---



**Video Analysis: Liberty’s Kids – The Shot Heard Round the World 3:34 – 10:00**

1. Who do you think fired the first shot at the Battle of Lexington? Use evidence from the video to support your answer.

---

---

---

2. Why is the first shot fired considered “The Shot Heard Round the World?”

---

---

---



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_



A view of the South Part of Lexington, engraving by Amos Doolittle, 1775 Courtesy of Connecticut Historical Society

	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Questions</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>Objects</b>	Write one sentence describing the objects you see
<b>P</b>	<b>People</b>	List all the people you see (specific or general)
<b>T</b>	<b>Title and Time Period</b>	Read and circle the title and record the time period if known  Title:  Time Period:
<b>I</b>	<b>Importance (Main Idea)</b>	What is the main idea or central message based on the objects, people, and title & time period you see?
<b>C</b>	<b>Connection</b>	How does this main idea support, add to, or challenge something you already know about the topic?



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_



*The Battle of Lexington, engraving by Amos Doolittle, 1775, Courtesy of Connecticut Historical Society*

	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Questions</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>Objects</b>	Write one sentence describing the objects you see
<b>P</b>	<b>People</b>	List all the people you see (specific or general)
<b>T</b>	<b>Title and Time Period</b>	Read and circle the title and record the time period if known  Title:  Time Period:
<b>I</b>	<b>Importance (Main Idea)</b>	What is the main idea or central message based on the objects, people, and title & time period you see?
<b>C</b>	<b>Connection</b>	How does this main idea support, add to, or challenge something you already know about the topic?





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOMEWORK**

\_\_\_\_\_/10 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

King George had made many mistakes in his decisions about the colonies. The First Continental Congress listed all these mistakes in its message to the King. Now he made another one.

Rather than consider the colonists' complaints, King George refused even to answer their message. "The New England governments are in a state of rebellion," he said. "Blows must decide whether they are subject to this country or independent." In Boston, General Gage, the King's commander of British troops in America, got ready to deliver those blows.

**The First Blow at Lexington** In April 1775, a spy told General Gage that the colonists were hiding a large supply of gunpowder and weapons in the nearby village of Concord. General Gage decided to strike at once.

The General ordered 700 of the best troops to march to Concord and seize the weapons. To keep the colonists from moving the weapons, the attack had to be a surprise. So Gage had his troops march the 20 miles to Concord at night.

The colonists had their own spies. When Gage's troops slipped out of Boston on April 18, 1775, Patriots were watching their every move. Soon Paul Revere and others were galloping through the countryside, warning colonists that the British soldiers were coming.

The news reached Lexington, a town on the way to Concord, in the early hours of April 19. Led by John Parker, a small band of minutemen gathered nervously in the chilly night air.

At dawn, the British troops reached the town green. "Stand your ground," ordered Parker. "Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here." As the Minutemen faced the British troops, a shot rang out – from where, no one knew for certain. Without orders, the soldiers rushed forward, shooting wildly. A few minutemen managed to return fire.

When the firing stopped eight colonists lay dead or dying. Another ten were limping to safety with painful wounds. The British troops gave three cheers for victory and marched on to Concord.

**The Second Blow at Concord** By breakfast time, the British were in Concord, searching for gunpowder and weapons. But the colonists had hidden them. In frustration, the soldiers piled up a few wooden tools, tents, and gun carriages and set them on fire.

On a ridge outside of the city, militiamen from the surrounding countryside watched the smoke rise. "Will you let them burn the town down?" shouted one man. Captain Isaac Davis replied, "I haven't a man that's afraid to go." Davis marched his volunteers down the hill. As they approached Concord's North Bridge, the British troops opened fire. Davis fell dead, a bullet through his heart.

The British expected the Americans to break and run. To their surprise the Minutemen stood their ground and fired back. Two minutes later, it was the redcoats running away in panic.

The retreat back to Boston was a nightmare for the British. More than 4,000 armed and angry Minutemen lined their route, shooting at every redcoat they saw. By the end of the day 74 British soldiers were dead and another 200 were wounded or missing. The colonists their own losses at 49 dead and 41 wounded. A British officer described what it was like to face the colonists' fury that day. "Whoever looks upon them as an irregular mob," the officer said, "will find himself much mistaken."

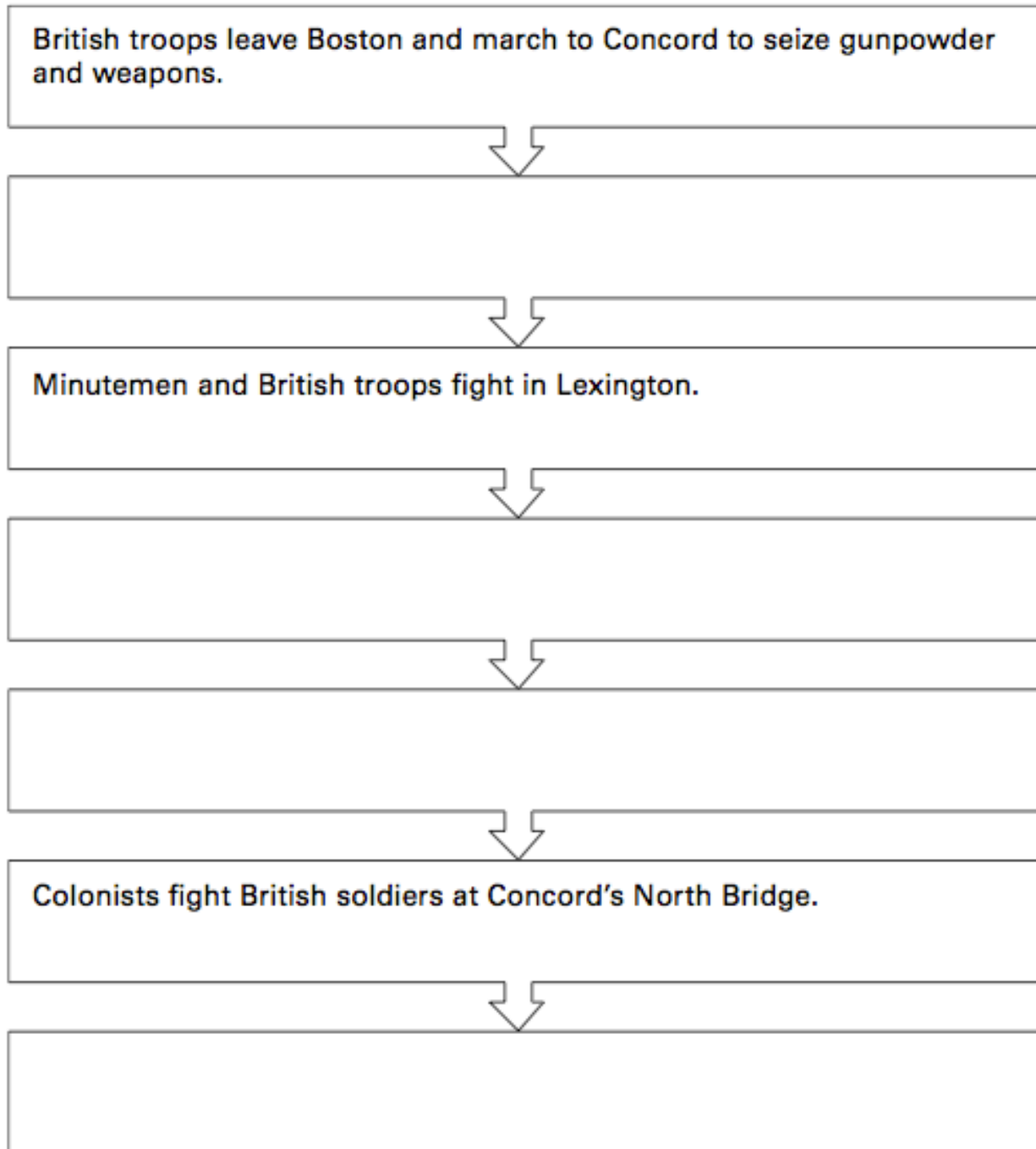


At North Bridge in Concord, the Minutemen fired upon British troops who had occupied the town. Surprised by the fury of the colonial attack, the British fled in panic. The photograph shows the bridge today.



Indeed since the French and Indian War, the British had been mistaken about the colonists again and again. Their biggest mistake was thinking that ordinary people – merchants, workers, and housewives – would not fight for their rights that they held dear. At Lexington and Concord, Americans proved they were not only will to fight for their rights. They were even willing to die for them.

Complete the flowchart of key events of the battles at Lexington and Concord.







Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXIT TICKET**

\_\_\_\_\_/5 Mastered/Passing/Not Mastered

1. King George responded to the First Continental Congress by
  - a. calling for a formal meeting between royal governors and colonists
  - b. reducing all taxes on British imported goods, such as tea, paint, and paper
  - c. attempting to seize colonists' gunpowder and weapons in Concord
  - d. writing a fatherly letter to the colonists, scolding them for their ungrateful behavior
  
2. Where was the first confrontation between the Minutemen and British troops?
  - a. Concord
  - b. Boston
  - c. Lexington
  - d. Waltham
  
3. What did the colonists prove in the fighting in Lexington and Concord?
  - a. They were too poorly trained to stand to the British soldiers
  - b. They still saw themselves as British subjects
  - c. They were little more than an irregular mob
  - d. They were willing to fight to the death for their rights
  
4. What became evident when the colonists and British troops clashed at Lexington and Concord?
  - a. The British soldiers were fearful of the colonial militia
  - b. The British troops were eager to start a war with the colonies
  - c. The colonial militia was no match for the well-trained British troops
  - d. The colonists were willing to fight for the rights to govern themselves