



Name: _____

Boston Tea Party Text One

The Boston Tea Party was a significant event in American history that took place on December 16, 1773. It was a protest against the British government's tax on tea, which was imposed on the American colonies.

At that time, the American colonists were frustrated with the British government's unfair taxes and lack of representation. The Tea Act of 1773 was particularly infuriating because it gave the British East India Company a monopoly on tea, which meant that the colonists had to buy their tea only from this company and pay high taxes on it.



Throwing the taxed tea into Boston Harbor by John Cassell

In response to this injustice, a group of colonists known as the Sons of Liberty organized a plan to protest against the Tea Act. On the night of December 16, around 60 colonists disguised themselves as Native Americans and boarded three British ships: the Dartmouth, the Eleanor, and the Beaver.

The colonists, led by Samuel Adams, dumped 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor. This act of defiance was a powerful symbol of resistance against British oppression. The value of the tea destroyed was estimated to be around \$1 million in today's currency.

The British government was furious and responded with harsh measures. They passed the Intolerable Acts, which were a series of laws that punished the people of Boston for their actions. These acts further fueled the flames of revolution and united the American colonists in their fight for independence.

The Boston Tea Party played a significant role in the lead up to the American Revolution. It showed the colonists' determination to stand up against unfair taxation and paved the way for future acts of resistance. The event sparked a sense of unity and solidarity among the American colonists, eventually leading to the birth of a new nation.

Today, the Boston Tea Party is remembered as an important moment in American history. It serves as a reminder of the power of protest and the fight for freedom and justice.



Name: _____

Boston Tea Party Text Two

The Boston Tea Party was a pivotal event in American history that took place on December 16, 1773. It occurred in Boston, Massachusetts, during a time when tensions between the American colonies and Britain were escalating.

Here's a simplified breakdown:

Taxation without Representation: The British Parliament had imposed various taxes on the American colonies, including the Tea Act of 1773. This act granted the British East India Company a monopoly on tea sales in the colonies and allowed them to sell directly to the colonies, bypassing colonial merchants. This angered many colonists who saw it as unfair taxation without their representation in the British government.



Protest and Action: In response to the Tea Act, *Throwing the taxed tea into Boston Harbor* by John Cassell a group of colonists, known as the Sons of Liberty, organized a protest. Disguised as Native Americans, they boarded three British ships - the Dartmouth, Eleanor, and Beaver - that were carrying tea and dumped 342 chests of tea into the Boston Harbor. This act was a form of protest against the Tea Act and the British government's control over the colonies.

Consequences and Impact: The British government responded harshly to the Boston Tea Party, passing the Coercive Acts, which the colonists called the Intolerable Acts. These acts were meant to punish Massachusetts for the destruction of the tea and included the closing of the Boston Harbor, restricting town meetings, and quartering British troops in private homes. Instead of quelling resistance, these acts further united the colonies in their opposition to British rule, leading to the formation of the First Continental Congress and eventually the American Revolutionary War.

The Boston Tea Party symbolized the colonists' resistance against unfair taxation and their fight for greater representation in the British government. It became a significant event that fueled the growing movement toward American independence.

This act of protest and the events that followed played a crucial role in shaping the path towards the American Revolution and the eventual founding of the United States as an independent nation.



Name: _____

The Boston Tea Party

1. When did the Boston Tea Party take place? _____

2. Why were the colonists angered by the Tea Act of 1773? _____

3. Who organized the protest against the Tea Act?
 - a) Sons of Liberty
 - b) Daughters of Liberty
 - c) British Parliament
 - d) Native Americans

4. Briefly describe what happened during the Boston Tea Party? _____

5. What were the consequences of the Boston Tea Party? _____

6. Which question can be answered by using text 1, but not text 2?
 - a) How many chests of tea were dumped in the harbor?
 - b) When did the Boston Tea Party take place?
 - c) How many colonists participated in the Boston Tea Party?