

# *The Declaration of Independence*

BELL RINGER





# resource information

**Standards:**

- ALCOS.SS.2010.5.8
- ALCOS.SS.2010.10.3
- ALCOS.SS.2010.12G.2

**Objectives:**

- I can determine what the Founding Fathers might have felt about the relationship between the government and our rights as citizens.



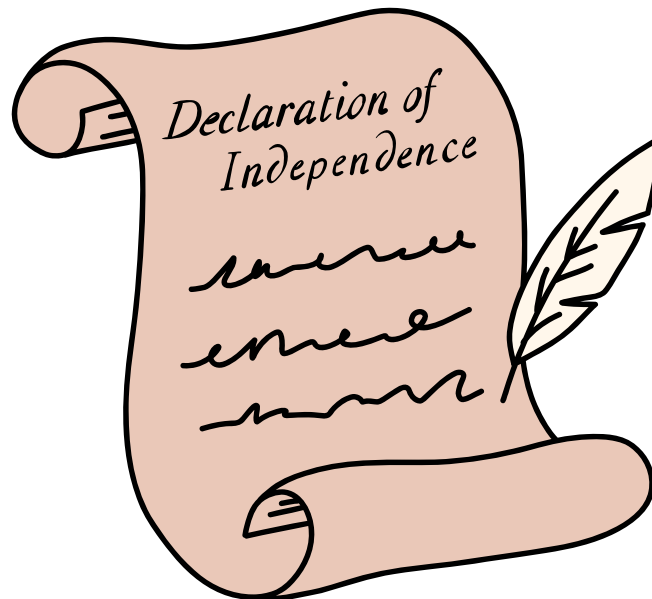
# lesson plan

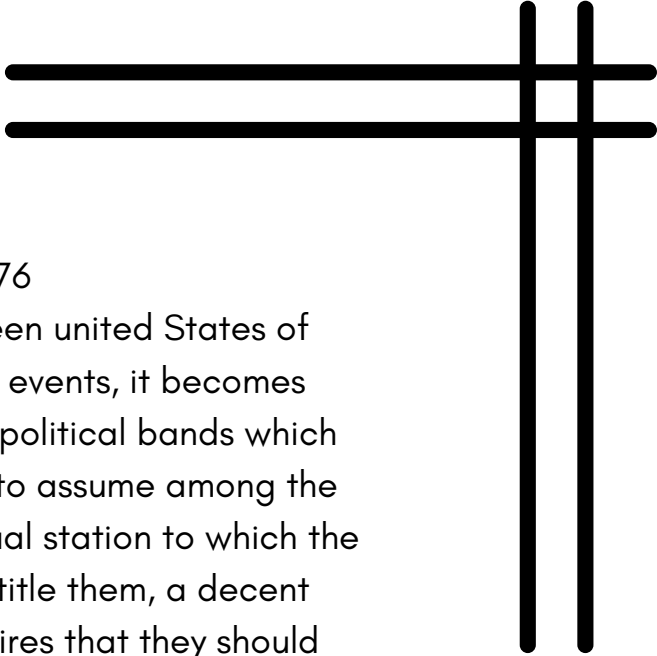
## **Materials:**

- Provide students with the partial transcript of the Declaration of Independence

## **Plan:**

- Give students a few minutes to read the partial transcript.
- Allow them to answer the two questions on paper or through discussion.

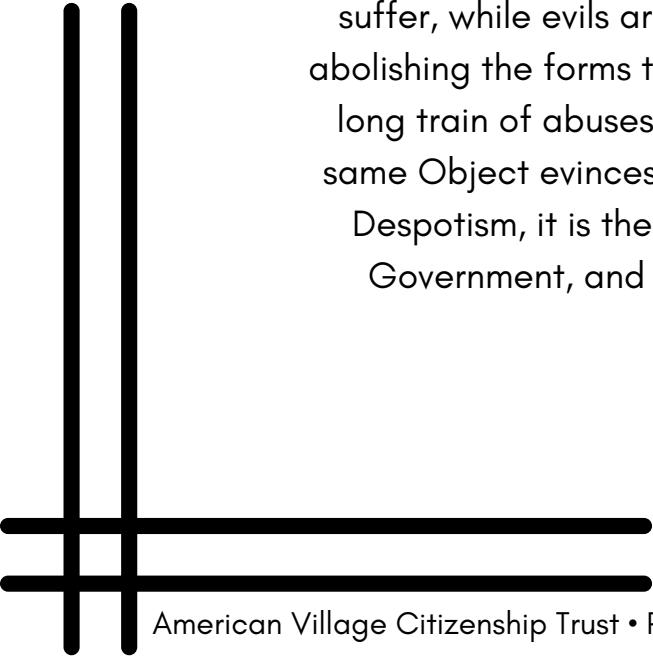




In Congress, July 4, 1776

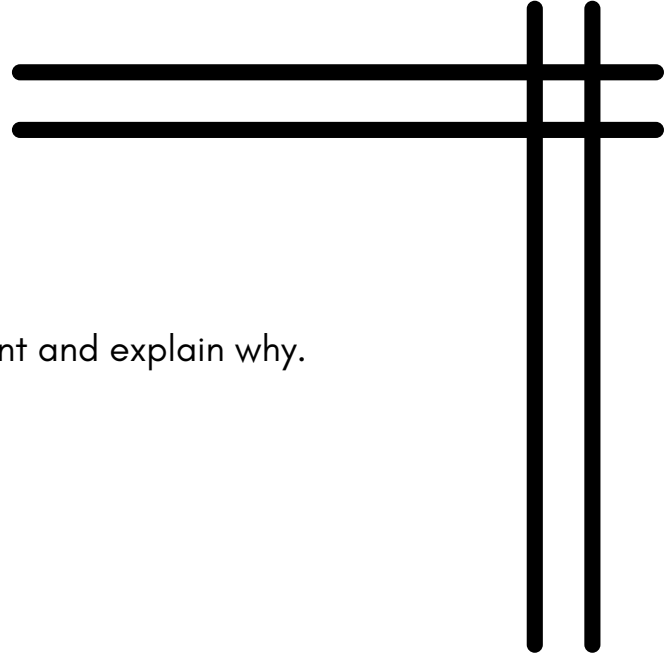
The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.....





# DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BELL RINGER



Identify 10 important words in the document and explain why.

From this portion, what do you think TJ is saying should be the relationship between our rights and government?

