



*First  
Continental  
Congress*

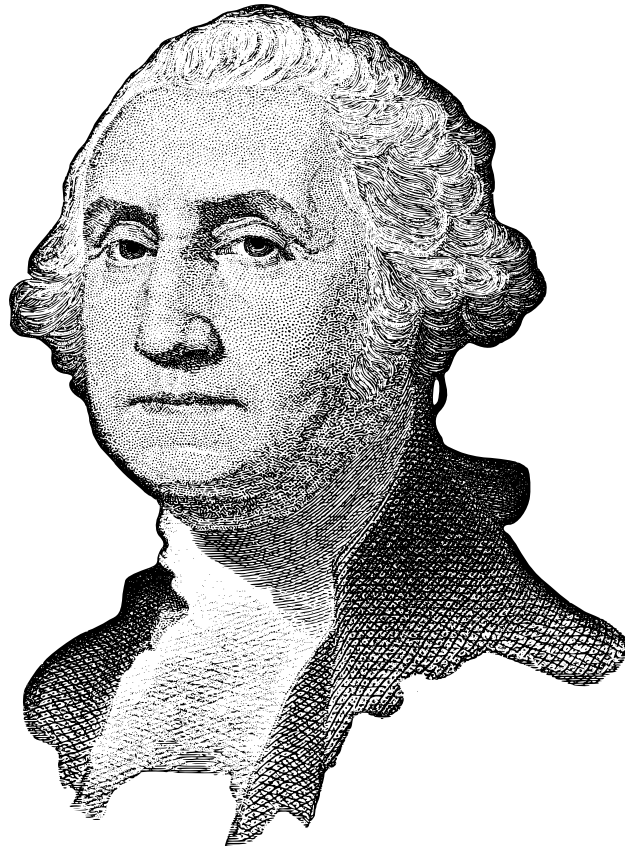
# resource information

## **Standards:**

- ALCOS.2010.SS.5.8
- ALCOS.2010.SS.10.3

## **Objectives:**

- I can explain what happened at the First Continental Congress and its impact on the colonies.
- I can explain the connection between the Intolerable Acts and the First Continental Congress.



# lesson plan

## **Engage:**

- Bell Ringer
  - What is a consequence?
  - Are there positive and negative consequences?
  - What kind of consequences do you think King George III gave Bostonians after the Boston Tea Party?

## **Explore:**

- What are the Intolerable Acts? Matching Game
- Use Teacher Notes to explain the Intolerable Acts.
  - Graphic Organizer Provided

## **Explain:**

- The Intolerable Acts were a consequence of the Boston Tea Party. In turn, the First Continental Congress meets as a consequence to the Intolerable Acts.
  - Cause and Effect Graphic Organizer Provided

## **Elaborate:**

- Dear King George III Letter
  - Have students take the information they've learned and write a letter to King George. The letter should include reasons why the Coercive Acts should be repealed and what the consequence will be if they are not.
    - Template Provided

## **Evaluate:**

- Assess Comprehension Questions
- Assess Letter with rubric appropriate for your students

## **Extend:**

- Art: Allow students to draw what they think the First Continental Congress looked like.
- STEM: Allow students to build Carpenter Hall or a model of the meeting room.

# teacher notes

## **The Intolerable Acts**

After the Boston Tea Party, King George III and Parliament were furious over the destruction of property done by the colonists. 340 chests of tea were emptied into the harbor, which would equal about 1.7 million dollars today. This tea was the property of the British East India Trading Company. Soon after the Tea Party, the Intolerable Acts, also known as the Coercive Acts, were issued. There were four parts of these acts that were created to mainly effect those residing in Massachusetts Bay.

The first act issued was the Boston Port Act. This act focused on a blockade of Boston Harbor. The results of this blockade would prevent exports to other countries, which in turn would harm the local economy.

Right after the Boston Port Act, the Massachusetts Government Act was issued. This act prevented the elected colonial officials from meeting and placed royal officials in charge of Massachusetts Bay. Judges were also chosen by the Crown and town meetings were restricted to once a year unless special permission was given by the governor.

Quickly following the first two acts, the Administration of Justice Act is rolled out. The Crown appointed governor had the power to move trials to another colony or even across to ocean to England. This eliminates the right to a trial by peers.

Finally, the last act was the Quartering Act. There is a common misconception that this act allowed British soldiers to move into colonists' homes, but it allowed them to move into unoccupied buildings. It also made the colonists responsible for the costs of food and supplies needed by the soldiers. This act would effect all of the colonies.

As a result, the economy was effected, many were hungry, representative government was dismantled, the right to a fair trial was removed, and the close presence of British troops was ensured.

# teacher notes

## The First Continental Congress

Not too long after all four parts of the Intolerable Acts were issued, twelve out of thirteen colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia. Georgia abstained from sending a delegate as they were possibly facing a war with nearby Native Americans. If this would have happened, they would need British support.

Delegates met from September 5–October 26, 1774 at Carpenter's Hall. The goal was to address the Intolerable Acts. The first order of business was to elect a President of the Congress. This job was given to Peyton Randolph, a delegate from Williamsburg, Virginia.

Several decisions were made starting with the passing of the Suffolk Resolves country wide. The Resolves were basically an order to not follow the Coercive Acts, boycott British goods, and raise a militia. A Declaration of Rights was drafted. This document, if agreed to, would give colonists the right to life, liberty, prosperity, and the right to tax their own people. Several grievances were listed as well. If the document was agreed to, the colonists would work on repairing their relationship with England like many of them wanted. If it was not agreed to, independence was the only answer.

The acts were never repealed.

Washington even knew war was on the horizon and there is historical evidence that he purchased a musket and military apparel as well as a military strategy book before leaving Philadelphia.

The Second Continental Congress was scheduled for May 1775. Many of the delegates returning for the second meeting heard about the Battles of Lexington and Concord on their way to Philadelphia.

# Matching Game

Teacher Directions: Cut and laminate the puzzle pieces below. Students should have four sets of matching pieces. Give them scrambled pieces and allow them to try and match the correct definition to the name of the act.

**BOSTON  
PORT  
ACT**

**CLOSED  
BOSTON  
HARBOR  
TO TRADE**

**MASSACHUSETTS  
GOVERNMENT  
ACT**

**PUT A  
BRITISH  
GOVERNOR  
IN CHARGE  
OF BOSTON**

# Matching Game

Teacher Directions: Cut and laminate the puzzle pieces below. Students should have four sets of matching pieces. Give them scrambled pieces and allow them to try and match the correct definition to the name of the act.

**ADMINISTRATION  
OF JUSTICE ACT**

**ALLOWED  
TRIALS TO BE  
MOVED TO  
ANOTHER  
COLONY OR  
EVEN TO  
ENGLAND!**

**QUARTERING  
ACT**

**ALLOWED  
REDCOATS  
TO LIVE IN  
COLONISTS'  
EMPTY  
BUILDINGS**

Directions: Cut on the dotted lines for usage in a notebook.

# Intolerable Acts

BOSTON PORT ACT

MASSACHUSETTS  
GOVERNMENT ACT

ADMINISTRATION OF  
JUSTICE ACT

QUARTERING ACT



## The Intolerable Acts or Coercive Acts

# Intolerable Acts

### BOSTON PORT ACT

- closed Boston Harbor + was blockaded by British troops
- consequence: damaged economy, unemployment raised, + food shortage in Boston

### MASSACHUSETTS

### GOVERNMENT ACT

- abolished colonial government + put a royally appointed governor in charge
- consequence: representative government dismantled

### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACT

- allowed trials to be moved to other colonies or even England
- consequence: colonists lose right to trial by peers

### QUARTERING ACT

- allowed British troops to live in empty buildings on colonists' property + colonists had to pay for their food + supplies
- consequence: gave British troops the ability to live close to the colonists

Directions: Cut on the dotted lines for usage in a notebook.

# The First Continental Congress

CAUSES

EFFECTS

## The First Continental Congress

# The First Continental Congress

### CAUSES

- Issue of Intolerable Acts
- Blockade of Boston Harbor
- Crown appointed governors and sheriffs, trials moved out of Boston, + Quatering Act
- Intolerable Acts were not repealed after rising tensions

### EFFECTS

- • 1st Continental Congress is called. All colonies except Georgia send delegates
- • Boycott of British goods (Suffolk Resolves)
- • Declaration of Rights drafted
- • Beginning of American Revolution

