

# BR: T2D8

Imagine you (a local colonist) are asked by the local newspaper to create an ad / poster sharing your opinion about the growing problem in the American colonies. What do you think? Write down your thoughts.

Get together with the people at your table, and create a **poster** arguing for / against what the British / Patriots are up to. You have 10 minutes to complete it! Here are the requirements:

Make a **poster**! Grab a Packing Paper Sheet for your poster!

Have a title; make your **opinion obvious**

**Include** at least 3 **bullet points** explaining your position

Include an illustration to make your poster appealing.

When finished, hang it up in the room. We'll vote on which one is **most persuasive**, and why. Winners get candy!!!

# U.S. History I

Ch. 5.3 A Call to Arms

# Many Americans Still Unsure

Most Americans still wanted to have peace with Britain, but also keep their liberty. For example, a popular song of the time (called *The Bold Americans*) went like this:

*We'll honor George, our sovereign, while he sits on the throne.*

*If he grants us liberty, no other king we'll own.*

*If he will grant us liberty, so plainly shall you see,*

*We are the boys that fear no noise! Success to liberty.*

However, events would make that opinion increasingly difficult to hold.



# The Continental Congress

Colonial leaders realized that if they indeed wanted the liberty they were singing about, more than boycotts were needed.

September 1774, 55 men meet in Philadelphia. Every colony except Georgia had sent these men as delegates to create a **political body** that would **represent** the **interests** of the **American colonies**. This was the **Continental Congress**.

Some important colonial leaders attended: **Samuel** and **John Adams**, for Mass.; **Richard Henry Lee** and **Patrick Henry** from Virginia, two very outspoken critics of the British, along with **George Washington**, & others

They disagreed on many things, but they did agree on the following:

*The acts and taxes passed since 1763 by Parliament must be repealed*

*All British goods and trade must be boycotted*

*The **Suffolk Resolves** was supported: all colonies should prepare **militias** to defend themselves, if the need arose. [VID](#)*

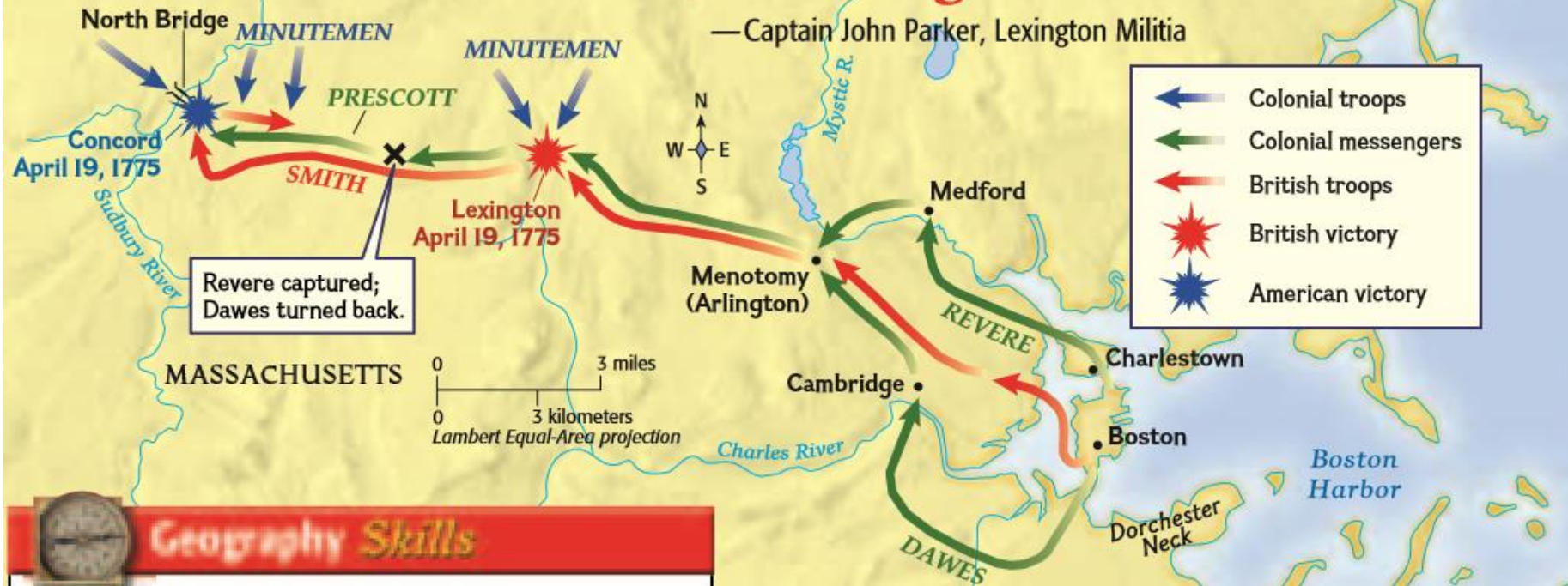
# Battle Brewing



Most colonists expected that if war broke out, it would likely

*“Stand your ground . . . if they mean to have a war, let it begin here!”*

— Captain John Parker, Lexington Militia



Geography Skills

Successfully warned, the British troops are met at **Lexington** by the Minutemen: [VID](#), [VID 2](#)



# The War Has Begun



*Benedict Arnold would later betray the colonists, and join the British as a General*

Shortly after this engagement, the Americans send 400 troops under **Benedict Arnold\*** to seize **Ft. Ticonderoga** on Lake Champlain. Arnold is joined by **Ethan Allen**, and his **Green Mountain Boys**, and they successfully surprise and capture the fort in May, 1775. [VID](#)

The next several weeks were tense. Neither side wanted to make the first move, and so the colonists gathered and trained militiamen, and prepared for conflict. The colonists set up defenses on **Breed** and **Bunker Hill**, to hills that overlook Boston. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1775, the British attacked: [VID](#)

# Time to Choose!

As this was occurring, Americans had to choose: remain a **loyalist**, loyal to the British Crown, or become a **patriot**, and fight the British? It wasn't an easy choice. [VID](#)

Now, it is time for you to decide! Each table will be assigned a side (**loyalist**, **patriot**, or **neutral**); now, as a table, recall and come up with reasons why you would support your position (dissenting ideas are ok, just write them down, be ready to debate them).

Choose a spokesman, and in 5 minutes, be prepared to make your points! We will be having a **debate** at the end (write down your side, arguments defending your position, etc. Turn this in at the end of class for credit)

# Debate:

## Debate Rules:

Mr. Wright is the Moderator; listen to him!

Each table will be given ~60 seconds to make their case. Make it count! I'll be judging who makes the best arguments.

We will hear one table, then another that is of the opposite viewpoint, and so on.

At the end, each side will choose one final spokesman to make an argument. We will then vote on which table (can't vote for your own, sorry) made the most compelling arguments!

It was a tough call; arguments could be made for both sides! [VID](#)