



SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

CAUSES AND EFFECTS AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Activity Description

After learning about the Declaration of Independence (Unit One of *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution*), students will distinguish between causes and effects of the Declaration of Independence. Students will cut out and arrange events into a Multi-Flow Thinking Map. It will have the causes leading up to the creation of the Declaration of Independence on one side with the effects on the other.

Suggested Grade Level

Upper elementary

Estimated Time to Complete

10–15 minutes

Objectives

Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.

Materials Needed

1. Scissors
2. Cause and Effect worksheet (follows)
3. Paper

Which are causes and which are effects of the Declaration of Independence?

Cut out each box and determine which are causes and which are effects of the Declaration of Independence. You will glue these on a separate sheet of paper to create a multi-flow map.

The dispute between England and her colonies is no longer viewed as a civil war but as a war between two independent countries.

King George III ignored the Olive Branch Petition that the Continental Congress sent.

Thomas Paine writes *Common Sense*, arguing that the colonists should stop being a part of Great Britain.

The Treaty of Paris is signed in 1783 making America an independent nation.

Colonists are angered by the new taxes Parliament passed.

Other countries seeking independence from monarchs and/or colonial rule use the document as an example for their own independence.

The war lasts another five years and ends with the British surrender at Yorktown in 1781.

Hostilities break out into war on April 19, 1775 at the Battle of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.