



Contributor: Sarah Tenney Sharman **Grade Level:** 4th

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

Grade 4 – South Carolina – Addresses State Standards

State of SC 4th Grade Social Studies, Standard 4.2:

Demonstrate an understanding of the identity of a new nation, including the state of South Carolina between 1730-1800. Enduring Understanding: Colonial revolt against British regulations and restrictions resulted in the creation of the United States as an independent nation comprised of individual states. Following the American Revolution, Americans developed a new form of government that embodied and contradicted the ideals for which they had fought and unified the new nation.

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

Students will become familiar with the colonial era and Patrick Henry, a patriot who became a founding father, known as the voice of the American Revolution. He was a great orator who believed in liberty and inspired others to stand up for their rights. He took significant personal risks in the period leading up to the American Revolution and eventually became an important supporter of the Bill of Rights.

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

PowerPoint Slide show (attached), projector, and small prizes (patriotic pencils, erasers, key chains, and wristbands).

4. Introduction of the topic:

During the years 1740-1776, American settlers, not only men but also women and children, lived without many of the luxuries and rights we enjoy today. They were ruled by Britain, a faraway country with a king. Today, we focus on Patrick Henry, a patriot who spoke out against the Stamp Act and advocated for individual rights, despite the personal risks involved.

5. Procedure for instruction

Present the PowerPoint slide show. Ask students questions that might help them relate to the lives of colonial children and consider luxuries we enjoy today that colonists and their children did not have. Award prizes for student contributions.

6. Lesson Closure

Discuss with students the reasons for the colonists' rebellion, including the motto "no taxation without representation" and the risks entailed in Henry's famous quote, "Give me liberty or give me death." Conclude by pointing out most important among the modern luxuries we have that the colonists did not have are individual rights, like freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and due process.

7. Assessment of Understanding

Ask each student to write short essay titled "What liberty means to me."



Patrick Henry

Voice of the American Revolution

National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
(NPG.77.291)

- Known as one of America's Founding Fathers
- He was a farmer, lawyer, politician, and first governor of Virginia

➤ Fun Fact: He had 17 children!



https://www.ducksters.com/history/colonial_america/thirteen_colonies.jpg

Why was Patrick Henry Important?

- Patrick Henry fought for American independence from British rule.
- He believed everyone should have liberty (freedom).
- He inspired people to stand up for their rights.



Origin

- Patrick Henry was born on May 29, 1736, in Virginia.
- His father, John Henry, was an immigrant from Scotland who became a planter (farmer).
- His mother, Sarah Winston Syme, was from a prominent family.



Studley Plantation, Hanover County

Life was different in the 1700s

- Girls wore long dresses over shifts with aprons; boys wore long shirts and breeches
- Most children didn't go to school. They learned at home or worked on farms.
- Families grew their own food, made their own clothes, and used candles for light.
- Boys learned to hunt and fish and helped their fathers tend livestock and crops
- Girls learned to cook and sew and helped their mothers with chores
- Fun Fact: Children played games like tag and hopscotch!



Meals

- Most families lived on what they could grow, hunt, or make at home
- For breakfast, children would often have porridge made from oats, wheat, corn, or beans
- For lunch, children might have a hard biscuit with cheese or meat and an apple
- For dinner, families often had meat pies or stews

➤ Fun fact: Children drank cider (diluted)



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Patrick Henry

- Went to school until he was 10. Then, he learned at home from his father and his uncle
- His uncle, the Reverend Patrick Henry, was an Anglican minister. This may be where Patrick Henry got his oratory skills
- As a boy, Patrick Henry, loved hunting, exploring nature, and music
- He learned to play the flute, the violin, and the piano



Off the farm...

- When he was 15, Patrick Henry went to work in a store
- When he was 18, he married 16-year old Sarah Shelton and began his own farm called Pine Slash
- But it was in the midst of a major drought!
- Then, he worked in his father in-law's tavern and learned he liked to talk and argue politics and law
- So, he studied and became a lawyer in 1760. He quickly became very successful. He had found his calling!



Virginia House of Burgesses

In 1765 Henry became a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses

This was the same year the British introduced the Stamp Act – a heavy tax on the colonists

Henry argued against the Stamp Act



French and Indian War 1754-1763

- Colonists drafted to serve in Britain's war
- Colonists charged taxes to pay for the war
- Colonists forbidden from settling land beyond the Appalachian mountains
- Colonists not consulted or represented in Parliament



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Why?

- The American colonies were ruled by Britain, which was far away and had a king
- Colonists had to pay high taxes but had no say in the government – “No taxation without representation!”
- Colonists wanted to make their own choices - “If this be treason, make the most of it!”

First Continental Congress

Patrick Henry was elected to the First Continental Congress in 1774.

On March 23, 1775, at the Virginia Convention, he gave a famous speech arguing that the colonists should mobilize an army against the British.

In this rousing speech he declared the memorable phrase "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

This encouraged the colonists to fight for independence



Then what?

- During the Revolutionary War, Patrick Henry served as a Colonel in the 1st Virginia Regiment
 - After the War, he became the first governor of Virginia
 - He did not support the Constitution; insisted on the addition of the Bill of Rights
- Fun Fact: After Patrick Henry's first wife, Sarah, died in 1775, he married Dorothea Dandridge, a cousin of Martha Washington

Why we remember Patrick Henry

- Patrick Henry stood up for what he believed in.
- He showed courage by speaking out, even when it was dangerous.
- He helped inspire America's fight for independence.
- He was a champion of human liberty, including
 - Freedom of speech
 - Freedom of the press
 - Freedom of Religion
 - Freedom of Assembly
 - Right to a fair trial