

“Causes of the American Revolution” CBRT Script

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- 1 This is a story...
2 about the causes of ...
ALL: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR.
3 Uhh...what *were* the causes?
4 Britain needed...
ALL MONEY! {Gesture}
5 So Britain taxed the 13 American colonies.
6 I thought Britain was rich.
7 Why did Britain NEED the money?
8 Britain needed the money...
9 to pay for a war...
10 that Britain had just finished fighting...
ALL THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.
11 Britain *won* the war...
12 And Britain forced the French..
13 To leave North America.
ALL BYE, BYE....FRENCH FRIES! {Gesture}
14 Having the French gone
15 Made life much safer...
16 For the American colonies.
17 So Britain figured...
18 Since the Colonies have *benefited* from the war...
19 the Colonies should help
ALL PAY FOR THE WAR! {Gesture}
20 One of the first taxes
1 Britain imposed on the Colonies...was
ALL THE STAMP ACT! {Gesture & S.E.}
2 It put a tax on paper goods...
3 such as...
4 newspapers
5 books...
6 legal contracts
7 and even playing cards,
8 The Stamp Act made the Colonists *angry*
ALL NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION! {Gesture}
9 The colonists argued ...
10 that Britain had no *right*...
11 to *tax* the American Colonies...
12 because the Colonies
13 had *no representation* in the British Parliament.
14 Some colonists *opposed* the Stamp Act...
15 by boycotting British goods.
16 What’s a boycott?
17 A cot for a boy?
ALL NO! {Gesture}
18 A boycott is when you refuse to buy something.
19 Lots of women in the American Colonies
20 stopped buying British cloth.
1 Instead, they made their own cloth...
2 using their spinning wheels.
ALL CLICKETY-CLACK, CLICKETY-CLACK{Gesture}
3 These girls and women called themselves...
GIRLS: THE DAUGHTERS OF LIBERTY.
4 There was also a secret society called
BOYS: THE SONS OF LIBERTY.
5 They sometimes took violent action...
6 against British tax collectors...
7 by tarring and feathering them.
8 What’s tarring and feathering?
9 It’s when you pour hot, sticky tar on someone...
10 and then cover them with feathers.
ALL AAGGGHHHHH! {Gesture}
11 The fear of being tarred and feathered...
12 caused many British tax collectors...
13 to leave their jobs.
ALL I QUIT! {Gesture}
14 The Colonies boycotted so many British goods...
15 that Britain finally *repealed* the Stamp Act.
ALL YAY! {Gesture}
16 But a year later...
17 Britain passed *another* tax...called
ALL THE TOWNSEND ACTS.
18 The Townsend Acts placed taxes...

19 on all imported goods...including
 20 paper
 1 paint
 2 glass
 3 and tea.
 BOYS: TEA!
ALL {"sipping tea" S.E. & Gesture}
 GIRLS: BUT WE LOVE OUR TEA! {Gesture}
 4 Once again
 5 The colonists joined together...
 6 and boycotted British goods.
 7 And three years later...
 8 Britain repealed *most* of the Townsend
 Acts.
 9 But Britain *continued* the tax on tea.
 10 Then the British Parliament did
 something
 11 that made the Colonists *really* angry.
 12 The British Parliament passed...
ALL THE TEA ACT!
 13 It said the American Colonies..
 14 had to *buy* their tea...
 15 from the British East India Company.
 16 Britain was saying...
 GIRLS: YOU MUST PAY THE TAX ON TEA
 {Gesture}
 BOYS: OR DRINK NO TEA AT ALL!
 {Gesture}
 17 Reaction from the Colonies....
ALL AARRRRRRRRRRRR! {GESTURE}
 18 That anger...
 19 led to something called...
ALL THE BOSTON TEA PARTY.
 20 Oh, I *love* tea parties!
 1 No!
 2 This was a *different* kind of tea party.
 3 This party happened...
 4 on a cold night in Boston...
 5 in 1773.
 6 About 150 Sons of Liberty...
 7 dressed themselves up as Indians...
 8 And marched...
ALL {Gesure & Sound Effect}
 9 down to Boston Harbor.
 10 They boarded three British ships.
 11 Then, they raised their axes...
ALL {Gesture}
 12 and smashed open...

13 More than 300 wooden boxes of British
 tea.
ALL {Gesture & Sound Effect}
 14 Then they threw the tea...
 15 Into Boston Harbor.
ALL SPLASH! {Gesture}
 16 When they heard about the Tea Party,
 17 British leaders were furious!
 18 As punishment,
 19 Britain passed.
ALL THE COERCIVE ACTS...
 20 also known as the Intolerable Acts.
 1 To make a long story short...
 Boys: THE COERCIVE ACTS...
 Girls: UNITED THE AMERICAN COLONIES
 Boys: AGAINST BRITAIN.
 2 Leaders of the Colonies
 3 met in Philadelphia...
 4 at the First Continental Congress.
 5 Soon many colonies formed *militias*...
 6 small armies of citizen soldiers...
 7 These citizen soldiers were called
ALL THE MINUTEMEN {Salute}
 8 because they could be ready to fight in a
 minute.
 9 About a year later...
 10 in Massachussets
 11 in the towns of Lexington and Concord...
 12 Fighting broke out ... {2 groups face
 center}
 13 between minutemen and British soldiers.
 14 No one knows who fired the *first shot* at
 Lexington...
ALL {Sound Effect and Gesture}
 15 But the poet Ralph Waldo Emerson
 called it
**ALL (turn to face audience) THE SHOT
 HEARD ROUND THE WORLD.**
 16 It marked the beginning of ...
**ALL THE AMERICAN
 REVOLUTIONARY WAR.**
 17 a war that was fought...
 18 because American colonists...
 19 got really angry....
 20 about British...
ALL TAXES! {Gesture}