

# The Struggle for North America

## Unit 4

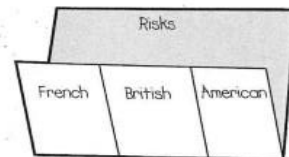


**Essential Question**  
Why do people take risks?



### Main Idea and Details

Make and label a Concept map before you read this unit. Write the word **Risks** at the top. Label the three tabs **French**, **British**, and **American**. Use the Foldable to organize information.



For more about Unit 4 go to [www.macmillanmh.com](http://www.macmillanmh.com)

British General Braddock was fatally wounded during the French and Indian War.

## Lesson 1

### VOCABULARY

tributary p. 149

territory p. 149

### READING SKILL

#### Main Idea and Details

Copy the chart below.

Use it to fill in the main idea and details about the French exploration of the Mississippi River valley.

Main Idea	Details

### INDIANA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

5.1.6, 5.3.10

# The French in Louisiana



French explorers paddled canoes from the Great Lakes to the mouth of the Mississippi River.

### Visual Preview

How did France's control of the Mississippi River affect settlement?



**A** La Salle claimed new territory for France and named it Louisiana.



**B** French settlers built settlements at Biloxi Bay and New Orleans.

## A LA SALLE CLAIMS LOUISIANA

In 1670 New France consisted of only a few fur trading posts in Canada. This would change after 1673, when two French explorers reached a mighty river flowing south. Native Americans called it the Mississippi—"Father of Waters."

The first French colonists to explore the Mississippi River were Jacques Marquette, a missionary, and Louis Jolliet, a fur trader. In 1673 they traveled by canoe as far as the Arkansas River, a tributary of the Mississippi, before turning back. A tributary is a river or stream that flows into a larger river.

### La Salle's Expedition

As word of the enormous river spread across New France, other explorers saw an opportunity to gain wealth. In 1682 Robert de La Salle led an expedition down the Mississippi River. His followers built a fort at what is today Memphis, Tennessee. Then they continued, paddling to the mouth of the river on the Gulf of Mexico. There La Salle claimed the Mississippi River and its tributaries for France. He named the territory Louisiana. A territory is an area of land controlled by another country.

### Plan for Settlement

Excited by his discovery, La Salle sailed to France to gather support for a new colony. Two years later, he returned with several hundred men. The plan was to sail

west across the Gulf of Mexico and build a settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi River. From there, La Salle planned to travel farther west and take control of silver mines in New Spain.

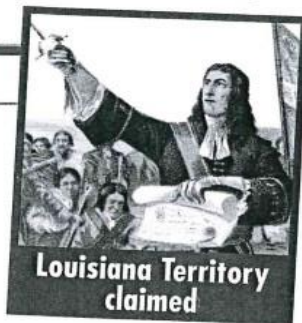
La Salle's plan excited his followers, but it ended in failure. A poor navigator, he sailed 400 miles past the mouth of the river, landing in present-day Texas. Many of La Salle's men died from disease and starvation. Still others were killed by Native Americans. In the end, the few men who survived revolted against La Salle. He was killed by his own men.

### QUICK CHECK

**Main Idea and Details** What happened on La Salle's second expedition to the mouth of the Mississippi River?

### EVENT

On April 9, 1682, Robert de La Salle claimed the Louisiana Territory for France. He named the territory for the French king, Louis XIV.

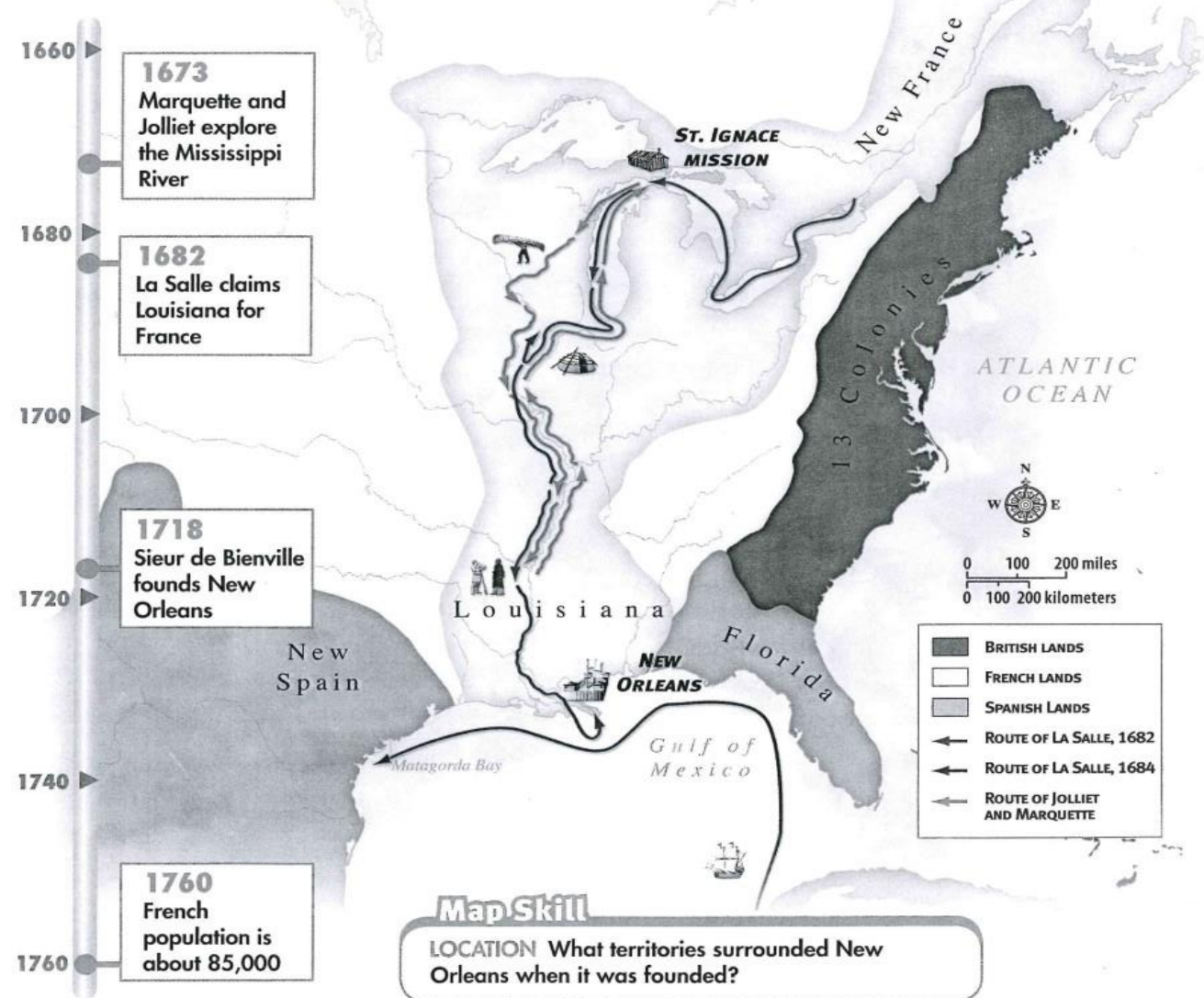


## B SETTLING LOUISIANA

By 1690 France had claimed much of what is now the central United States and Canada. At that time only a few thousand settlers lived in New France. Almost no Europeans had settled in the Louisiana Territory.

The French realized that they were in danger of losing Louisiana to England or to Spain, whose explorers had reached the area. King Louis XIV of France decided to strengthen French control of the region.

### THE FRENCH IN NORTH AMERICA





The city of New Orleans was settled about 100 miles north of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

### First Settlements

In 1698 the French king appointed Pierre Le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville as the first governor of Louisiana. D'Iberville agreed with the king—France needed to control the Mississippi River. To do that, France needed a larger population in the area. D'Iberville wrote that he feared the English would take over:

“If France does not seize this most beautiful part of America and set up a colony . . .”

### New Orleans

After d'Iberville died in 1706, his brother Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville became governor of Louisiana. In 1718 he founded New Orleans about 100 miles north of the mouth of the Mississippi River. The settlement drew many settlers to Louisiana.

New Orleans became the largest French settlement in Louisiana. Unlike settlers of New France, who worked mainly in the fur trade, colonists in Louisiana built plantations. Planters brought in enslaved Africans to raise indigo, rice, and tobacco.

### Slow Growth

By 1740 France claimed an area from Canada down the Mississippi River to the Gulf

of Mexico. By 1760 the French had 85,000 settlers, compared to 2 million in the English colonies. However, French control of the area prevented the English from moving west.

### QUICK CHECK

**Main Idea and Details** In what ways were settlers in Louisiana different from settlers in New France?

### Check Understanding



**1. VOCABULARY** Write two sentences about Louisiana that use these vocabulary words.  
tributary    territory

**2. READING SKILL Main Idea and Details.** Use the chart from page 148 to explain how New Orleans was founded.

Main Idea	Details



**3. Write About It** What made La Salle take the risk of sailing from France around Florida to the mouth of the Mississippi River?

## Lesson 2

### VOCABULARY

French and Indian War p. 153

Treaty of Paris p. 154

Proclamation of 1763 p. 154

### READING SKILL

**Main Idea and Details**

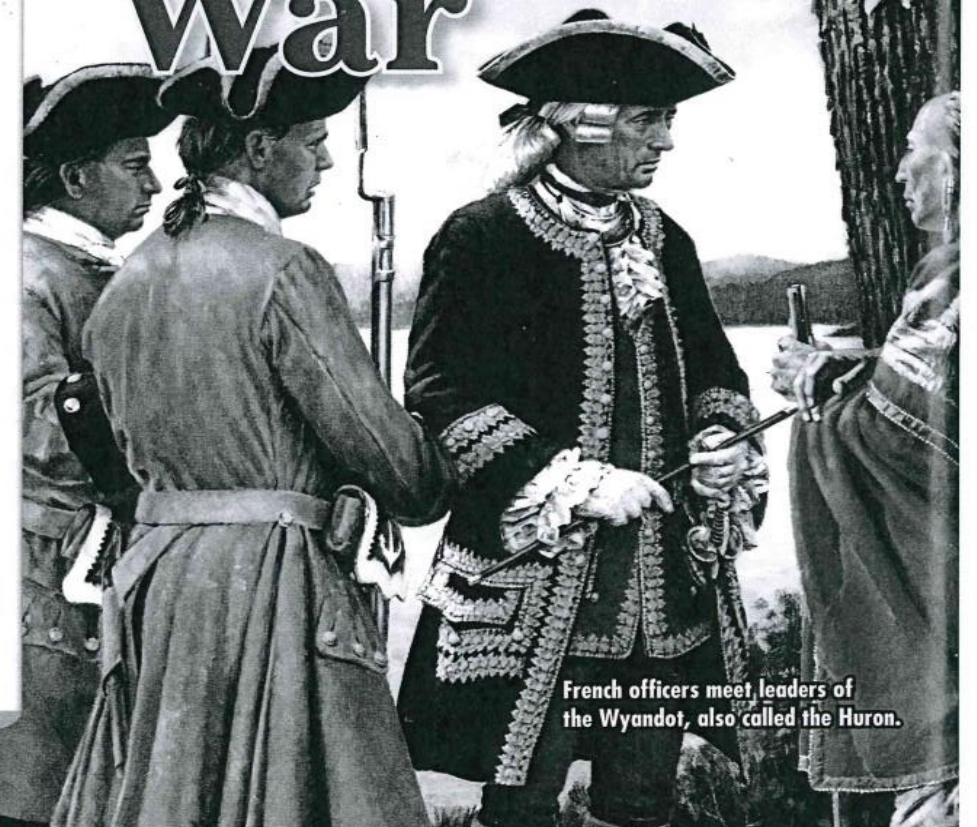
Copy the chart. Use it to list the main idea and details about the French and Indian War.

Main Idea	Details

INDIANA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

5.1.8, 5.1.10, 5.4.8

# The French and Indian War



French officers meet leaders of the Wyandot, also called the Huron.

### Visual Preview

How did the French and Indian War change the colonies?



**A** English settlers moved to land claimed by France.



**B** Great Britain's victory united English colonists for the first time as Americans.

## A WAR IN NORTH AMERICA

In 1707 the queen of England united England and Scotland and named the new country Great Britain. Its people were now known as "British." British settlers fought the French over land in North America.

Disagreements between France and Great Britain arose when English colonists settled on land claimed by France in the Ohio River Valley. The settlers were farmers. The French trappers feared that the newcomers would cut down forests, which would hurt their fur trade. The dispute over land led to the French and Indian War. In this war, the French and their Native American allies, the Wyandot, fought the British.

### Washington's Victory

In 1754 the lieutenant governor of Virginia sent a young officer, George Washington, to Fort Duquesne, located in present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Washington's men defeated a force of French soldiers near the fort. It was the first battle of the French and Indian War. But Washington did not capture the fort.

### Loss for Great Britain

In 1755 British General Edward Braddock led British troops against Fort Duquesne. Washington was one of his officers. This time the British were defeated. Nearly 900 British troops were killed or wounded by the French and Wyandot. Braddock was killed.

Washington later wrote:

"I luckily escaped . . . though I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot out under me."

### The Turning Point

News of the French victory caused panic among the British colonists. They asked British leader William Pitt to spend more money in the war. In November 1758, with Pitt's support, the British captured Fort Duquesne. They renamed it Fort Pitt. What city still bears his name?

### QUICK CHECK

**Main Idea and Details.** Why did French trappers want to keep British settlers out of the Ohio River Valley?

▼ British and French troops also fought in Canada during the French and Indian War.



## B THE WAR ENDS

After the victory at Fort Duquesne, the British decided to drive the French out of Canada. In June 1759 British forces attacked Quebec, which is located on steep cliffs above the St. Lawrence River. To carry out this surprise attack, British troops silently climbed narrow paths up the cliffs at night.

The French awoke to find the British at the gates of the city. The siege lasted for months. Finally, on September 13, the French surrendered Quebec. One year later, the British seized Montreal, and the French were forced from Canada.

### The Proclamation of 1763

War between Great Britain and France in Canada ended with the fall of Montreal. But battles between the two countries continued in Europe until 1763, when France was defeated. The two countries signed the Treaty of Paris, ending the French and Indian War. After the treaty was signed, Great Britain claimed all of France's colonies in North America.

After the war, the French could no longer help the Native Americans. On the other hand, Great Britain could not afford to use troops to protect settlers in the Ohio Valley. As a result, Great Britain issued the Proclamation of 1763. This official announcement set aside land west of the Appalachian Mountains for Native American groups.



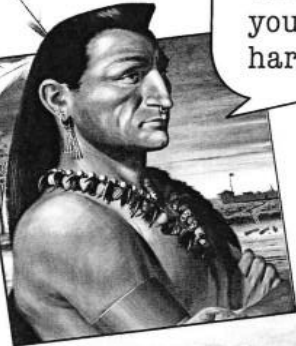
### Map Skill

**LOCATION** Why was land under Spanish control called Louisiana?

**Pontiac**

Although the British claimed former French lands, they did not have firm control of them. In 1763 Ottawa Chief Pontiac united Native Americans in the Ohio River valley to drive out the British. He called the British:

Those who will do you nothing but harm.



British troops climbed the steep cliffs below Quebec and attacked French troops in the city.

Pontiac's fighters captured and burned several British settlements in the area but were defeated by the British army in 1763.

**Results of the War**

The British victory in the French and Indian War united the colonists. They had joined together to fight a powerful enemy. They had discovered strong leaders such as Washington. Soon a new, independent spirit developed among the "Americans," as they called themselves. Victory in the French and Indian War set the stage for the American Revolution.

**QUICK CHECK**

**Main Idea and Details** What was the purpose of the Proclamation of 1763?

**Check Understanding**



**1. VOCABULARY** Make a time line of the French and Indian War. Use the terms below.  
 French and Indian War    Treaty of Paris  
 Proclamation of 1763

**2. READING SKILL Main Idea and Details** Use the graphic organizer to help write two paragraphs about the French and Indian War.

Main Idea	Details

**EXPLORE The Big Idea** **3. Write About It** Explain the risks that British settlers took when they moved to the Ohio River Valley.

**Lesson 3**

**VOCABULARY**

- Stamp Act p. 157
- boycott p. 157
- repeal p. 157
- delegates p. 159

**READING SKILL**

**Main Idea and Details** Copy the chart below. Use it to fill out the main idea and details of the colonial protests against Great Britain.

Main Idea	Details

**INDIANA ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

5.1.10, 5.3.12, 5.4.3, 5.4.8

**COLONISTS' PROTEST BRITISH RULE**



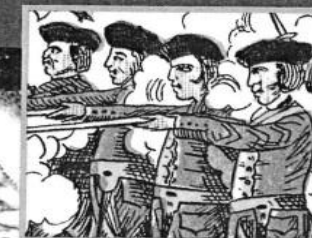
Colonists burned printed documents and British stamps to protest the Stamp Act.

**Visual Preview**

**What caused the colonists to unite against Great Britain?**



**A** The colonists protested the taxes British leaders raised to pay war debts.



**B** British troops came to Boston and other cities to stop protests.

## A NEW TAXES

*An angry crowd marched down the narrow streets of Boston protesting the newly passed Stamp Act. Why were they so angry about stamps?*

The French and Indian War was very costly for the British government. In 1763 King George III and British leaders agreed that taxes should be raised to pay the war debts. But British citizens were already paying high taxes. So British leaders decided to raise taxes on the colonists.

### The Stamp Act

In 1765 the British government passed the Stamp Act. Under this act, colonists had to buy stamps and place them on all printed documents, including letters, wills, newspapers, and even playing cards.

Many colonists said the British could not tax them without their consent, or agreement. One colonist who led the fight against the Stamp Act was Samuel Adams of Massachusetts. He sent protest letters to newspapers. In one letter he wrote:

“If our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? Why not . . . everything we possess or use?”

### Colonists Organize

When the Stamp Act went into effect on November 1, angry colonists staged a boycott. To boycott means to refuse



◀ A British stamp used on printed documents

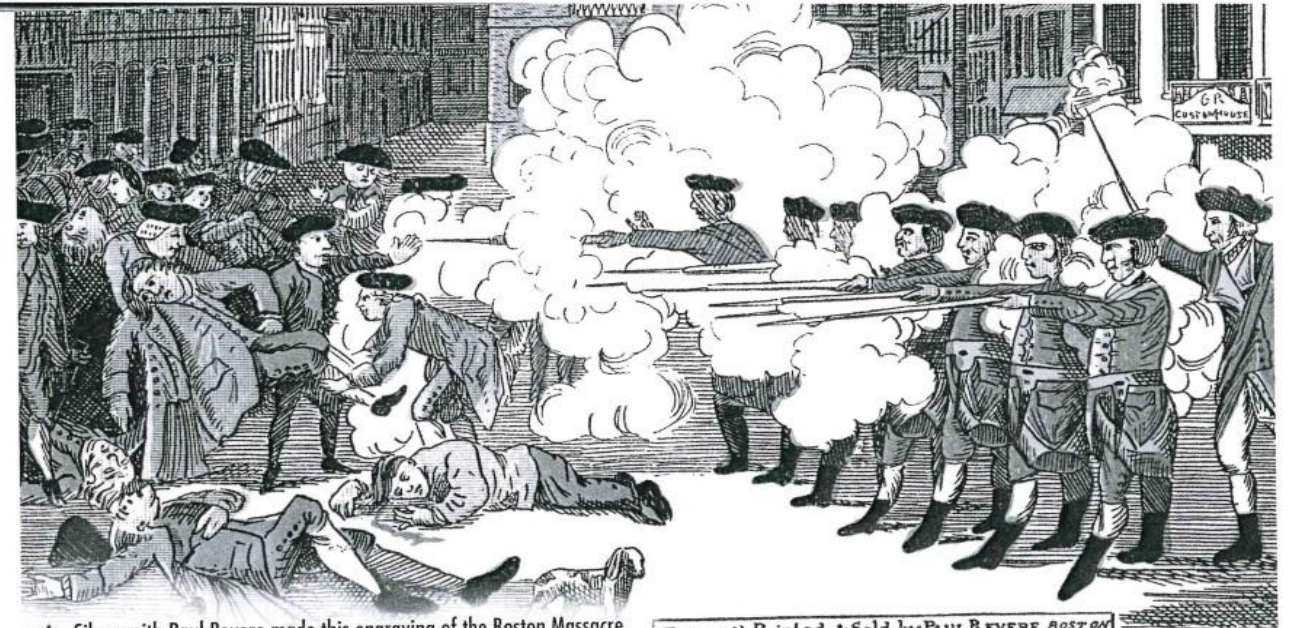
to buy goods or services from a person, group, or country. Most colonists refused to use the stamps. To protest the Stamp Act, Adams and other colonists formed a group they called the Sons of Liberty.

In 1766 Parliament voted to repeal, or end, the Stamp Act. However, in 1767 Parliament passed the Townshend Acts. They taxed factory-made goods such as paper, glass, and paint.

Again, the colonists boycotted the newly taxed items. They also boycotted any colonial merchant who sold or used taxed goods. British leaders feared that the boycotts could lead to violence. They sent troops to the city of Boston, whose citizens had caused the most trouble.

### QUICK CHECK

Main Idea and Details How did British leaders raise taxes on the colonies?



▲ Silversmith Paul Revere made this engraving of the Boston Massacre. Engraved Printed & Sold by PAUL REVERE BOSTON

## B PROTEST IN BOSTON

No city in the colonies caused more problems for the British than Boston, Massachusetts. It was the location of two key events that led to the Revolution.

### The Boston Massacre

On March 6, 1770, colonists gathered at the Boston Customs House, where taxes on goods from Great Britain were paid. The group included Crispus Attucks, a person who had escaped from slavery. Historians are uncertain exactly what happened next.

It seems that a member of the crowd insulted a British soldier, who knocked the boy down. Other colonists threw snowballs at the guard. British soldiers fired into the crowd, killing five colonists, including Attucks. This event became known as the Boston Massacre.

### The Boston Tea Party

The British government repealed the Townshend Acts, but it passed the Tea Act in

1773. This act was passed to help the British East India Company. Parliament allowed the British East India Company to sell tea in the colonies without paying import taxes. Instead a tax was placed on colonists who bought tea. The tax was low, but colonists were angered that another law had been passed without their consent or approval.

In November 1773 three British East India Company ships entered Boston Harbor. Colonists refused to allow the ships to unload. The governor of Massachusetts, Thomas Hutchinson, ordered the ships to stay in the harbor until the tea was sold.

On the night of December 16, 1773, about 50 Sons of Liberty, some disguised as Mohawk Indians, boarded the ships. They broke open the tea chests and emptied them into the harbor. Similar attacks took place in Annapolis, Maryland, and New York city. However, this event became known as the Boston Tea Party.

The British Parliament responded by closing Boston Harbor until the colonists paid for the tea. Town meetings were banned. More British soldiers were sent to the colonies. Colonists called Parliament's actions "The Intolerable Acts." Intolerable means unbearable. The Intolerable Acts united the colonies against Great Britain. Delegates from the colonies met in Philadelphia to discuss the problem. Delegates are people who are chosen to represent other people. The delegates formed the First Continental Congress to decide what action to take against Great Britain.

### QUICK CHECK

**Main Idea and Details** Why did the Intolerable Acts cause problems between the colonies and Great Britain?

▼ Colonists disguised as Mohawk Indians threw British tea into Boston Harbor.

### Check Understanding



**1. VOCABULARY** Write three sentences using two of the words below.

Stamp Act                      repeal  
boycott                         delegate

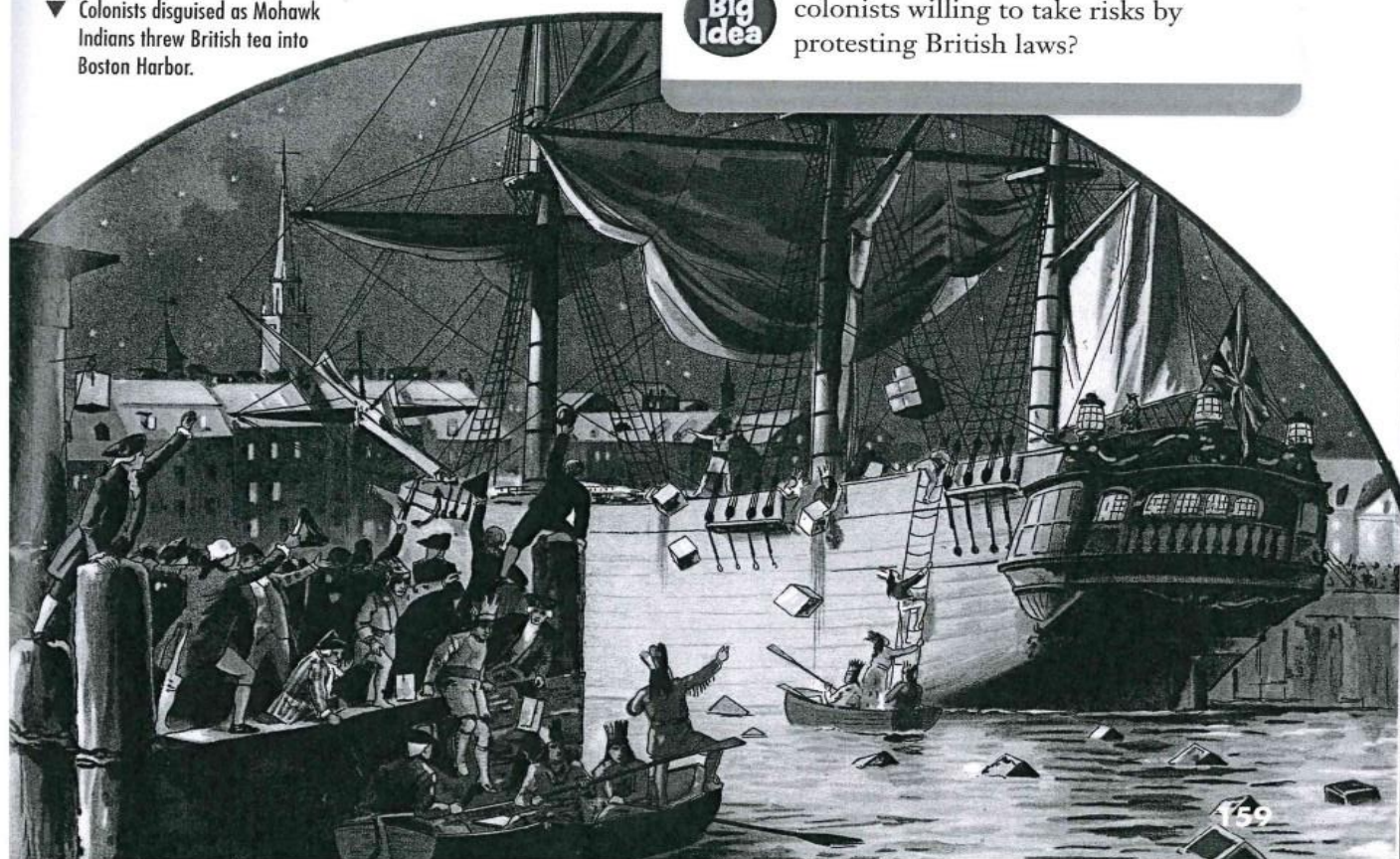
**2. READING SKILL Main Idea and**

**Details** Use the chart from page 156 to write a paragraph about disagreements over taxes that led to protests in the colonies.

Main Idea	Details



**3. Write About It** Why were colonists willing to take risks by protesting British laws?



## Lesson 4

### VOCABULARY

militia p. 161  
ammunition p. 163

### READING SKILL

**Main Idea and Details**  
Copy the chart below. Use it to fill in the main idea and details of the first battles of the Revolution.

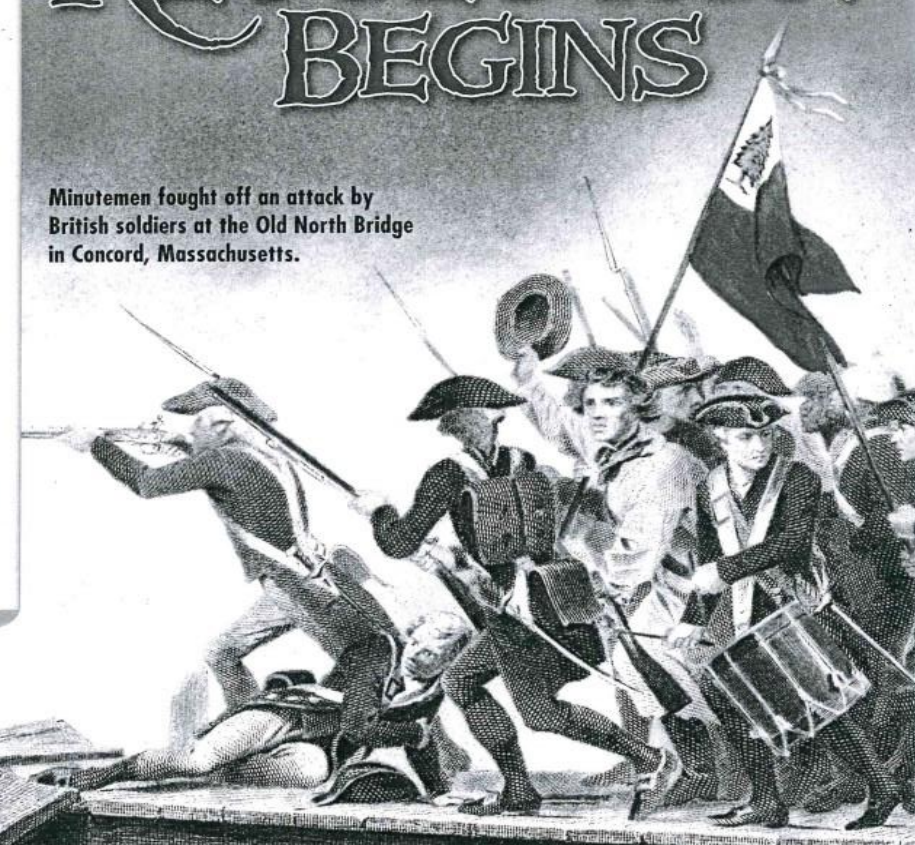
Main Idea	Details

### INDIANA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

5.1.8, 5.1.10, 5.1.12

# THE REVOLUTION BEGINS

Minutemen fought off an attack by British soldiers at the Old North Bridge in Concord, Massachusetts.



### Visual Preview



**A** The first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord.



**B** Colonists took over Fort Ticonderoga but lost at the Battle of Bunker Hill.



**C** By 1776 the British left Boston, but most colonists felt independent.

## A LEXINGTON AND CONCORD

By 1775 colonists had stored weapons in Lexington and Concord, near Boston. Two well-known supporters of independence, Samuel Adams and John Hancock, were also in Lexington.

On April 18, 1775, British general Thomas Gage sent about 700 soldiers from Boston. They had orders to seize the weapons and arrest Samuel Adams and John Hancock.

Paul Revere, a Boston silversmith, set off for Lexington to warn of the British approach. A second rider, William Dawes, took a different route. A third rider, Dr. Samuel Prescott, also joined them.

By the time the British reached Lexington, Adams and Hancock had fled. Captain John Parker waited with colonial militia, called minutemen. Militia are volunteer soldiers who fight only in an emergency.

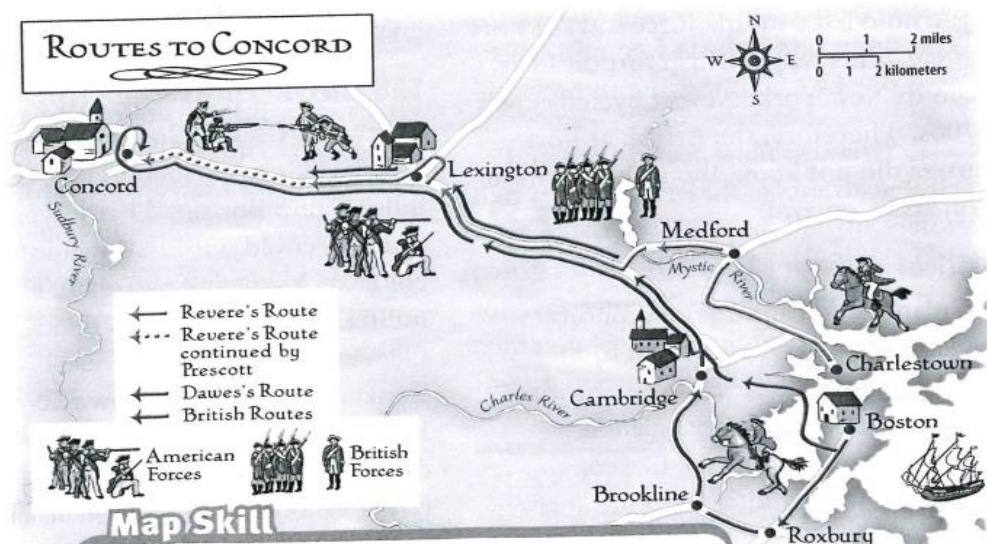
### The First Shots

No one knows who fired first, but many shots rang out. Eight militia members were killed. British troops continued toward Concord, about ten miles away.

When the British soldiers arrived, many minutemen were waiting. They stopped the British there. As the British retreated to Boston, minutemen continued shooting along the way. More than 90 British soldiers were killed.

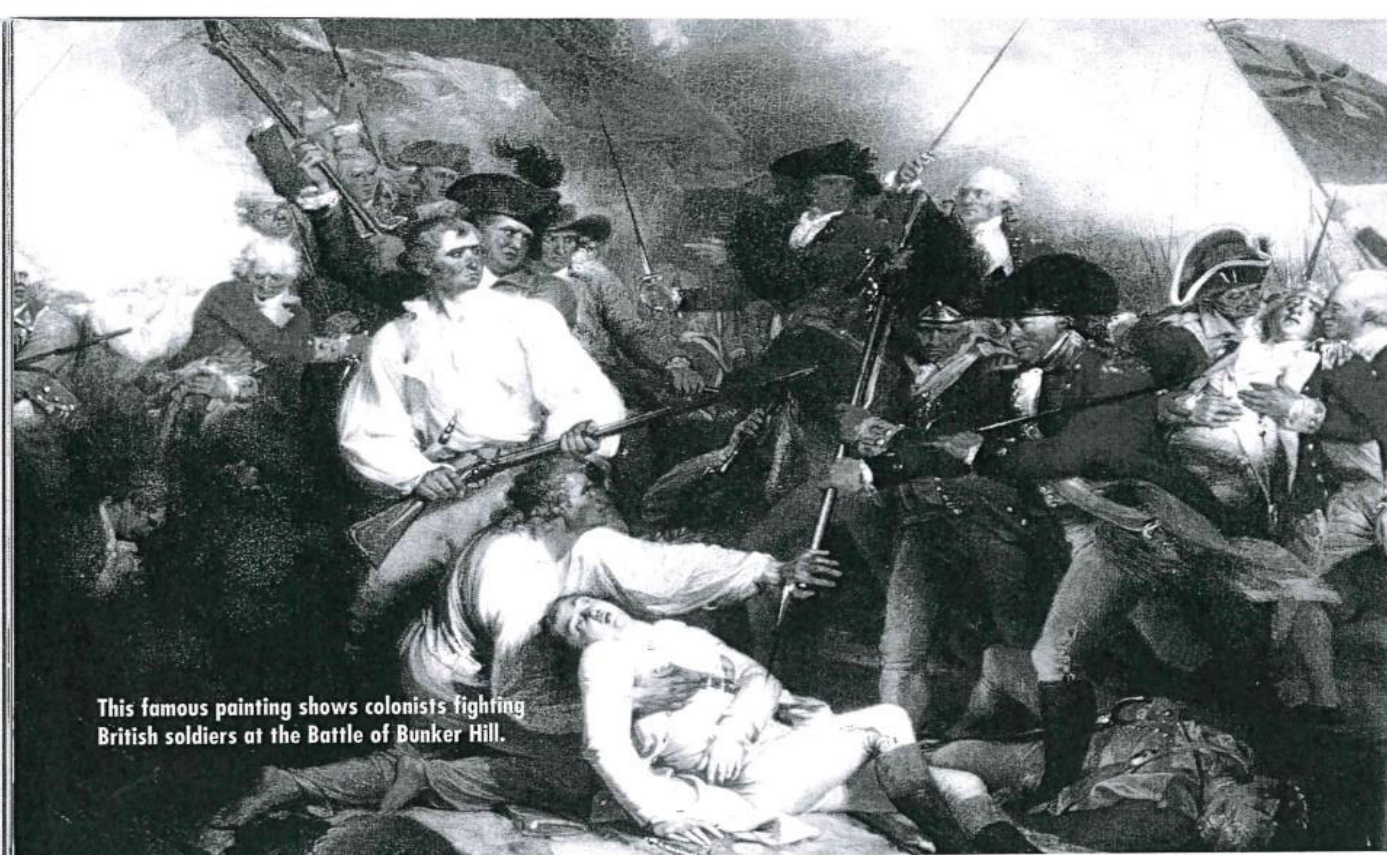
### QUICK CHECK

Main Idea and Details What did British troops do on April 18, 1775?



**Map Skill**  
MOVEMENT Which American rode the longest distance to warn colonists that the British were coming?

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This famous painting shows colonists fighting British soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

## B EARLY BATTLES

Three weeks after the battles took place in Massachusetts, a young New Englander named Benedict Arnold led a militia force toward Fort Ticonderoga. This was a British fort on Lake Champlain in New York. News traveled slowly in the 1700s. Therefore, the British at Fort Ticonderoga did not know about the events at Lexington and Concord.

### Ethan Allen

Arnold planned to capture the cannons at Fort Ticonderoga and take them to the colonial army camped near Boston. His force joined those of another New Englander—Ethan Allen. Allen's troops, the Green Mountain Boys, were militia from the area that is now Vermont.

Early on May 10, 1775, Allen's men sneaked into Fort Ticonderoga. They surprised the guards, capturing the fort without firing a shot.

### The Battle of Bunker Hill

In June, back in Boston, British general Thomas Gage decided to take control of the hills around Boston. That way, American cannons could not fire down into the city. But colonists learned of the plan. The colonial militia, led by Colonel William Prescott and General Israel Putnam, were ordered to defend Bunker Hill in Charlestown across the Charles River from Boston. Instead, they decided to defend Breed's Hill, which was closer to the river. The colonists worked all night to build earthen walls for protection.

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