

Modern History for Elementary

Melissa Bontadelli

Week 1: French and Indian War (1754–1763)

Objective: To learn the causes, events, and effects of the French and Indian War

Day 1: Causes of French and Indian War



Prior to the French and Indian War, English colonies extended in a thin fifteen-hundred-mile-long line along the eastern coast of North America. The colonies often did not extend much more than 100 miles inland from the coast. As settlers pushed out beyond the coastal region, conflicts with other nations and tribes occurred.

Both France and England were expanding their empires into the Ohio River Valley. In 1753, a chain of forts was built by the French on the eastern end of the Ohio region to keep the British out.

Also, in 1753, Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie dispatched an expedition against Fort Duquesne in Western Pennsylvania. Led by twenty-one-year-old George Washington, the expedition demanded that the French abandon their new forts and return to Canada. The French refused.

Washington reached the Ohio Valley, where he built Fort Necessity. In 1754, the French counterattack at Fort Necessity took it from the British.

During this time, the leaders from the colonies met with the support of the English government to negotiate a treaty with the Iroquois. They determined that they needed to unify to confront the threat of the French and the Indians. Out of this meeting, they developed the Albany Plan.

Activity

Fill in the blank from today's lesson.

1. The colonies often did not extend much more than _____ inland.
2. France and England were expanding into the _____.
3. _____ dispatched an expedition against Fort Duquesne.
4. The expedition was led by _____, who was 21 years old at the time.
5. George Washington built _____.
6. The French and Indian War started in _____ and ended in _____.
7. Colonial leaders met to negotiate a treaty with the _____.
8. The _____ was proposed at this meeting of colonial leaders.

Day 2: The Albany Plan



Benjamin Franklin

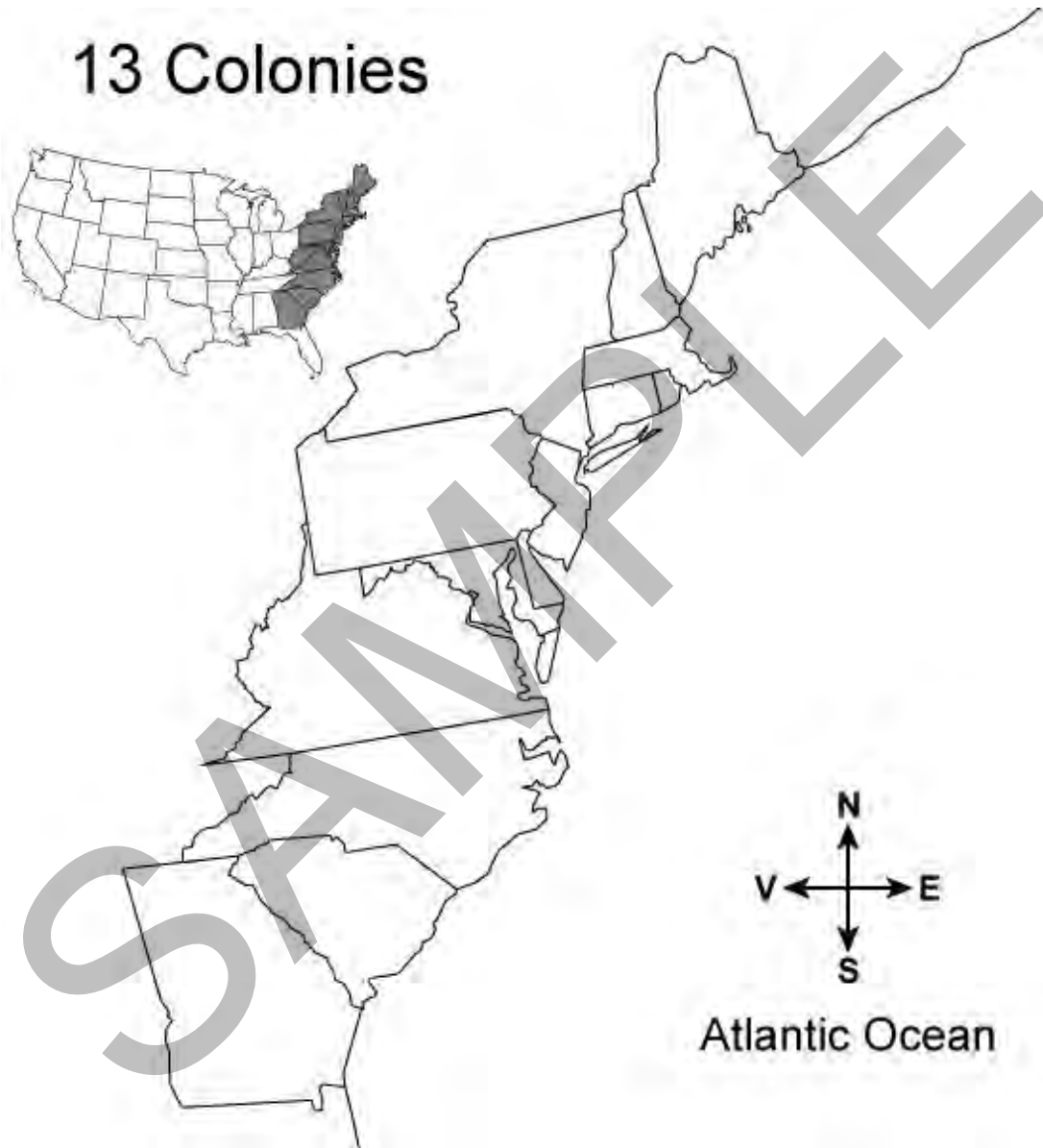
In 1754, when representatives from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland met in Albany, New York, it was the first formal proposal for the unification of the American Colonies.

The meeting was to negotiate a treaty with the Iroquois Indians. The gathering quickly concluded an agreement with the five northern tribes. The colonial representatives realized that the real issue was unification of the colonies.

At the meeting, Benjamin Franklin, a representative from Pennsylvania, proposed a plan of union. This plan would have created a federal council composed of representatives from all the colonies. The council would have the power to make treaties with the Indians, levy taxes, and raise armies. Delegates at the meeting in Albany approved the plan. The colonial assemblies, however, rejected the plan. They feared the council would infringe on the independence of the individual colonies.

Activity

On the map below, label the colonies that had representatives at the meeting in Albany.



Day 3: Events during the French and Indian War



Fort Niagara

Early in the French and Indian War, the French were victorious. In 1755, British and colonial soldiers led by General Edward Braddock tried to take Fort Duquesne. As they neared the Fort, they were ambushed by French and Indian forces. General Braddock was killed along with many of his men. The remaining British and colonial troops were led to safety by George Washington.

The British and colonial forces also tried to take Crown Point (northeast New York) and Fort Niagara (north New York, on Niagara River). Both attempts ended in failure.

In 1756, the French forces in North America came under the command of the Marquis de Montcalm. Under his command, the French captured Fort Oswego (north central New York) and destroyed Fort William Henry (northeast New York).

William Pitt became the secretary of state in Britain in 1756. He established a policy of total war on multiple fronts including India, Africa, the West Indies, and America. In 1758, the British captured Louisbourg (Nova Scotia) and Fort Frontenac (Ontario). The British believed Fort Frontenac a strategic victory as it fed supply lines west.

In 1759, the British took Crown Point, Fort Niagara, and Fort Ticonderoga (northeast New York). The British then besieged Quebec. For three months, the British attacked Quebec under the command of General James Wolfe. On September 12, 1759, Wolfe marched his troops to the Plains of Abraham and blocked the supply lines to the fort. Montcalm, not trusting the French navy, attempted a hurried attack outside the fort. The British then won in a fifteen-minute battle, with both leaders dying. Later in 1760, Montreal also fell to British forces.

Spain joined the French side of the war in 1762. By this time, it was too late for Spain to affect the outcome of the war.

Activity

Define the following terms.

1. Ambush
2. Marquis
3. Strategic
4. Besieged
5. Effect
6. Affect
7. Capture
8. Command
9. Policy
10. Victorious

Day 4: The Treaty of Paris

The Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763. The British got all of France's land east of the Mississippi except New Orleans and all of France's colonies in India. From Spain, Britain received Florida in exchange for Cuba.

France had given New Orleans and its lands west of the Mississippi to Spain in 1762.

Word Find

Words to find:

ALBANY
BRITISH
FRANCE
INDIAN
MONTCALM
TREATY OF PARIS
WILLIAM PITT
BRADDOCK
DUQUESNE
FRANKLIN
MARQUIS
OHIO
WASHINGTON

I S V E Z T T D Z D Q R K M F W C I S W
Z F E E I F K X I B A B Y G T N H A I I
A D S R J L I T J Z E L U N D A W I U L
C U G R C R O Z C M O T U C F O Y Y Q L
K W A S H I N G T O N K T S R U M O R I
T X H B D A O V D C D T X H A O P A A A
K X F L O P S Q O R F H F W N V X C M M
F N V Z Q E I A Q O O P M V C S L X A P
R Y W N X S I I X K L X G L E C E O D I
A T E S Z K F C Z U D U O W A Q J R E T
N B R A D D O C K W L G E M Z C H G Q T
K Q W H B C J M B R I T I S H V T J E C
L H C K T R E A T Y O F P A R I S N N Q
I Z E I N D I A N H J G X O A A K D O G
N A N O U D U Q U E S N E P L Y P U N M
M N H X I Q S O I J W Z F M B U N D G P
W E O O Q G T L Q D I O X N A R Q Y M F
Q L I Z I X S H I Z Y V U D N O J R R D
B H V W O P E F O Z Y V Z I Y K E Y N H
O A L M K U T G K S H L Z O C C W H O T

Day 5: Quiz

1. Into what territory were both France and Britain expanding their empires?
2. Who dispatched an expedition against Fort Duquesne in Western Pennsylvania?
3. Who led the expedition against Fort Duquesne?
4. What tribe did colonial leaders form a treaty with in Albany?
5. Who proposed the Albany Plan for unification of the colonies?
6. Who led the French troops in North America after 1756?
7. Who became secretary of state in Britain in 1756?
8. What city did Britain besiege for three months?
9. What did Britain get from France in the Treaty of Paris?
10. When did Spain get New Orleans?

Going Deeper

Video

- The French and Indian War: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Su_GPNrk5k

Readings

- World Book Online: <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar210800&st=french%2Band%2Bindian%2Bwar&tab=homepage>

SAMPLE

SchoolhouseTeachers.com note: Parents should closely monitor children's use of YouTube and Wikipedia if you navigate away from the videos and articles cited in these lessons. We also recommend viewing the videos on a full screen setting in order to minimize your students' exposure to potentially offensive ads and inappropriate comments beside or beneath the video.