

Boston Tea Party Patriot Adventure



*Celebrating a
250th
Anniversary
Event*



The America250 SAR Committee is please to present these lesson plans to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of our nation. Suitable for students and scouts from between 5 to 18 years old, the activities can be modified for age and grade level, the activities outlined below are for educators and youth leaders intended to educate the youth about the history of one of the earliest events of the American Revolution.

Background: On November 29, 1773, the Sons of Liberty of Boston, MA, organized a meeting in protest of the British Parliament's tax on tea. The British ships *Dartmouth*, *Eleanor*, and *Beaver* had arrived bearing 340 chests (92,000 lbs.) of tea for the colonies. Protests by the Patriots kept the tea from being unloaded. Following another meeting on December 16, a group of Patriots, disguised as Mohawk Indians, boarded the three ships and hurled the tea into Boston Harbor, resulting in a loss of \$1.7 million of cargo.

Activities

Tea Time!: Tea was a household staple in the colonies, and drinking tea was a cultural way of life, much like coffee drinking is today.

Make Tea: Demonstrate the brewing of loose-leaf tea, having students participate in the boiling of water and the filtering and pouring of tea as is appropriate and safe for the age of your students. Everyone can enjoy a taste!

Boycott: American colonists were upset with the British Parliament because the English government required them to buy tea from the East India Company and pay a tax on it. To avoid this, many Americans drank Dutch tea smuggled from the Caribbean. When the British cracked down on smuggling, Americans faced a choice – drink the East India Company tea or boycott it. Many colonists signed pledges not to drink tea, and newspapers ran advertisements to convince people to support the boycott.

Convince Your Neighbor: Make your case to your fellow group members about why the tax on tea is unjust and what should be done about it in one of the following ways:

- Write a “letter to the editor” explaining your position. Recommend at least 50 - 100 words for 3rd grade and younger, and 200 words for 4th grade and older.
- Write a short speech and deliver it in the “town square.” Recommend at least 50 to 100 words for 3rd grade and younger, and 200 words for 4th grade and older.
- Make a poster or newspaper ad to convince people not to drink British tea, and present it to your class or youth group.
- For a modern twist have students design a social media post, short video, or podcast segment to make their case!. You could also present a PowerPoint presentation designed to convince your fellow citizens on the boycott.

You may use the arguments the colonists did – that it was not fair to be forced to buy East India Company tea, that the tax on the tea was unjust, or even that tea was bad for your

health! Or you can make your own creative argument!

Don't Let It Land: In September and October 1773, seven ships carrying East India Company tea were sent to the colonies. Four ships headed for Boston, and one each for New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. Colonists were successful in convincing the New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston ships to return to England or not let the tea out of customs, and one of the ships bound for Boston wrecked. Three ships landed tea in Boston, and the Massachusetts governor was insistent that it be sold.

Protect the Harbor: Divide your group into two teams of equal size. One team will be the "colonists" and the other team will be the "British." The object of this game is for the British to score as many points as possible by shooting balls into a goal.

Outdoor version: Play on one half of a soccer field. Using 3 to 7 soccer balls, have the British team attempt to kick as many balls as possible into a goal defended by the Colonists. The British team may not enter the goal box, and the Colonist team may not go beyond the penalty box. Once all the balls have entered the goal, turn them all back over to the British team and begin again. Play for 10 minutes, and then switch sides. The team that allows the fewest number of goals is the winner!

Indoor version: Play on one half of a basketball court, or a large room using a bean bag toss using tape to line the floor. Using 3 to 7 red rubber balls, have the British team attempt to throw as many balls as possible against a gym mat on the wall behind the basketball hoop. The British team may not enter the three-point arc, and the Colonist team may not go beyond the three-point arc. Only a direct hit counts (no bounce passes or Colonist deflected balls will count). Play for 10 minutes, and then switch sides. The team that allows the fewest number of hits is the winner!

Secret Code: When the Sons of Liberty learned that tea had landed in Boston, they began organizing the people of Boston to resist unloading and selling the tea. Their communications were sometimes conducted in secret.

Crack the Code: Decode the message from the Sons of Liberty about the tea shipments that are about to arrive! The activity and its answer key are at the end of this packet.

Rebels in Disguise: Because the penalty for destroying tea could mean imprisonment, Tea Party participants disguised themselves as Mohawk warriors to conceal their identities. Possibly Combine with an Art Unit.

Make Your Disguise: Using your own supply of craft materials, make a mask to hide your identity. Alternatively, show your support of the colonists by making a Tricorn hat using the template available at <http://allfreeprintable.com/cont/crft/pdf/patt-tricrn.pdf>. Cut pattern and trace around black or dark blue construction paper, making three identical pieces. With a white crayon color, a ½ inch stripe along the top curved edge of each piece. Staple the pieces together at ½ inch from the side seam to form a three corned hat. Adjust staples placement to make the hat larger or smaller.

Toss the Tea: Tea at the time was compressed into blocks and shipped in chests. Colonists either heaved the chests over the side of the ships or broke into the chests and dumped the tea into the Harbor. Possible Combine with a Physical Education Unit.

Tea Toss: Divide the group into teams of 4 to 6 members for a relay race. Have team members stand in line about 5 paces apart. Using 5 boxes roughly 12"x12"x12" (Amazon boxes work well), toss each box down the line – one at a time – with the last person in line throwing the box into a hula hoop, trash can, or similar target. If a box hits the ground, or the target is missed, the box is returned to the front of the line to start over. When the last person in line successfully throws the box into the target, that person yells “Tea overboard!” and runs to the front of the line. The line shifts down toward the target, and the next box is sent down the line. The first team to land all their “tea chests” in the target wins!

Modifiers:

- Use soccer balls, red rubber balls, or basketballs if boxes are not readily available
- Increase the distance between team members
- Make the size of the target difficult to fit all of the boxes
- Put weights or objects in the boxes to make them lopsided
- Wear masks or disguises during the challenge as the Tea Party participants did

Consequences: To punish Bostonians for the destruction of the tea, the British Parliament passed four laws which: closed the Port of Boston until the tea was paid for and civil order was restored (the Boston Port Act), ended the free election of local officials in Massachusetts (the Massachusetts Government Act), allowed the British government to move trials from Massachusetts to England (the Administration of Justice Act), and required Americans in all colonies to pay for the housing of British troops (the Quartering Act). Colonists scrambled to store up supplies as trade came to a halt when the port was closed.

Gather Supplies: Ask your students to gather food or other necessary items for a local food bank, shelter, or veteran's organization. Contact your local SAR chapter if you need assistance delivering these items.

Interactive Experiences

Experience Living History: If time, travel and budget permit for your group, visit the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum for a hands-on experience with live actors, interactive exhibits, and a full-scale replica of a tea ship. For more information, visit <http://www.bostonteapartyship.com>.

Patriot Chest Presentations: Your local SAR Chapter would enjoy visiting your classroom or youth group at any time of the year to deliver a Patriot Chest presentation. The Patriot Chest is filled with many items that American colonists and Revolutionary soldiers used in everyday life. SAR members often present in uniform and take an interactive, hands-on approach to discussing events of the American Revolution.

For more information and resources about the Boston Tea Party visit this link at Education.SAR.org or scan here.



Commemorative Event Patch

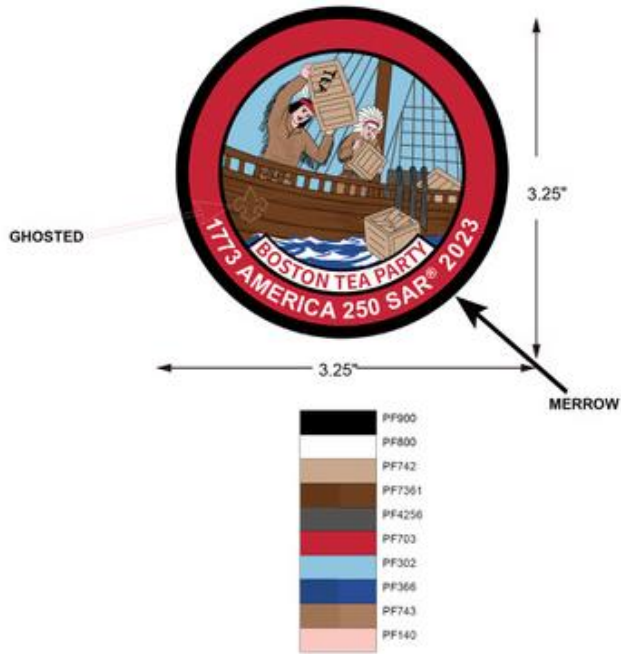
Your organization may order the event patch below to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party and recognize your youth for completing the recommended activities. The SAR recommends that youth complete at least 3 activities, or 1 interactive experience and 1 activity, as a means of earning the patch.

The patch may be ordered as shown, or your organization may add its name in the top part of the outer circle. For information on design and ordering, please email Lorie@abemblem.com at A-B Emblem to get a custom price based on the number ordered. There is a 50 piece minimum order.

446092A

3.25" x 3.25"

EMBROIDERED EMBLEM



Approval Signature: _____ Date: _____

Due to color variances among color monitors, the colors that appear on screen, and then in print, may NOT be an exact match to our thread and embroidery colors. The artwork may have been slightly modified to more effectively reproduce your design in embroidery. Every effort will be made to match colors. However due to texture, brilliance, colors and shades, and differences between-eye kits there may be a variation in color or shade. We will only accept claims for color accuracy if a physical pre-production sample has been approved by the customer. Once this artwork is approved changes cannot be made. PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING, INCLUDING SPELLING, IS CORRECT BEFORE APPROVING THIS ARTWORK.



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08/11/2022

Linda



BOSTON TEA PARTY ADVENTURE

CRACK THE CODE



Using the Key you have been provided by Samuel Adams, leader of the Sons of Liberty, complete your codebook.
Then use the codebook to decipher an important message!

KEY

S	O	N	S	O	F	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y
1	23	22	1	23	14	20	17	10	13	26	2	7

CODE BOOK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

SECRET MESSAGE

15 9 2 16 13 26	9 2	2 16 13	23 20 12	1 23 3 2 16
21 13 13 2 17 22 16	16 23 3 1 13	23 22	12 13 11 13 21 10 13 26	
1 17 6 2 13 13 22 2 16	24 20 9 22 22 17 22 15		2 23	
2 16 26 23 5	2 13 9	17 22	16 9 26 10 23 26	9 2
15 26 17 14 14 17 22 ' 1	5 16 9 26 14			



BOSTON TEA PARTY ADVENTURE



CRACK THE CODE ANSWER KEY

Using the Key you have been provided by Samuel Adams, leader of the Sons of Liberty, complete your codebook.
Then use the codebook to decipher an important message!

KEY

S	O	N	S
1	23	22	1

O	F
23	14

L	I	B	E	R	T	Y
20	17	10	13	26	2	7

CODE BOOK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R

SECRET MESSAGE

G	A	T	H	E	R
15	9	2	16	13	26

A	T
9	2

T	H	E
2	16	13

O	L	D
23	20	12

S	O	U	T	H
1	23	3	2	16

M	E	E	T	I	N	G
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H	O	U	S	E
16	23	3	1	13

O	N
23	22

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
12	13	11	13	21	10	13	26

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P	L	A	N	N	I	N	G
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W	H	A	R	F
5	16	9	26	14