

Date:

Student Name:

***Week 29 -The French and Indian War* (General Information for All Grades)**

General Information for All Grades

This week we will study the French and Indian War in America, and its counterpart, the Seven Years' War, in Europe. Together, these wars have been termed the Great War for Empire (and even the first world war). This name reflects the fact that the European countries which were involved (including France, England, Spain, and Holland) were striving to develop colonies and trading posts around the globe, from the Caribbean, South America, and Central America to Africa, India, and the Far East. During the warfare between 1753 and 1763, European conflicts were carried to virtually all the world.

As we saw in Unit 3, earlier disputes between European countries had been fought primarily on the continent of Europe but had also spilled over into the various colonial holdings. The American colonies were no exception. Thus, for different reasons each time, the French and English fought a series of four wars over the course of 74 years. In the colonies, the first three were called King William's War, Queen Anne's War, and King George's War. These titles reflect the detachment colonists felt from these European wars and their diplomatic objectives. They also indicate the reality that in America, the first three wars did little to change the balance of power or territory of either European mother countries or colonial holdings. The fourth conflict, however, ended with a British victory and the effectual end of French power in North America. While some historians call all four of these wars "The French and Indian Wars," it is more common to call only the fourth and decisive war by this title, which names the two enemies of the victorious British: the French and their Indian allies.

In our study of the founding of the thirteen colonies, we learned how very different each individual colony was. Even if two colonies in the same region had common interests, their concerns were different from the cares of colonies in other, more distant regions. In the 1750's, the colonists were far from united, as is evidenced in the failure of the Albany Congress, whose attempt to formally unite the colonies in the French and Indian War floundered. At the Congress, colonial leaders met together in the face of a very real and present enemy, yet they failed to overcome mutual suspicion and disagreements in order to join together effectively against their common foe. They were still like self-centered children awaiting the coming of a parent who would step in, settle their differences, and save them from the bully across the street. Still, the French and Indian War promoted unity across political and regional lines. Soldiers from the various regions traveled during the years of battle, and colonists began to unite, despite differences in backgrounds, customs, and religions.

Not only did the colonists learn to stop fighting one another, but also their view of their parent country changed. The British army was, at the time, one of the best and most respected armies in Europe, where the tactics they employed were virtually irresistible. When they fought in America, though, it was a different story. The French and Indian War taught the colonists the following lessons about the country from which they were soon to seek independence:

1. England's army was not an invincible machine. It could be defeated in North America, using new methods of warfare that were well-suited to colonial resources.
2. Officers of the British army were mortal men and were often both arrogant and ignorant of American conditions.
3. The American colonial soldiers serving with the British performed well against the French troops from Europe.
4. Colonists did not need to rely on the British for help; they were able to defend themselves against both French and Indian enemies.
5. Colonial soldiers like George Washington gained valuable experience in both warfare and army management.

Once the French were removed by agreement of the Treaty of Paris of 1763 and the Proclamation Line of 1763 established a tall mountain border between the British colonists and the Indians, the colonists felt less need for British protection than they ever had before. The last effect of this war that we shall touch upon was religious. For better or worse, the banishment of the French from North America meant the end of a strong Roman Catholic presence in America. Protestantism would continue to be the dominant form of worship in the English colonies. With the challenging presence of the Roman Catholic French settlers removed, the settlers who eventually crossed the Proclamation Line of 1763 carried Protestantism with them.

READING

ALL READING BASE

- The Story of the World, Vol. 3 by Susan Wise Bauer Chapter 21**
- Streams of Civilization, Vol. 2 by Garry J. Moes 94-95 (stop at "India"), 107-108 (stop @ the American War).**
- Anything about the initial writing of the Declaration of Independence**

LG ENRICHMENT READING

- And Then What Happened, Paul Revere? by Jean Fritz**
- Matchlock Gun, by Walter D. Edmonds**

UG ENRICHMENT READING

- The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth George Speare**
- Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin, by Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis**

DIALECTIC & RHET Reading

- The Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence (2 weeks)**
- This Country of Ours, by H. E. Marshall, chapters XLVIII – L *or***
- Goerge Washington's World, by Genevieve Foster P 73-91 (Stop @ A Young Poet Named Phillis")**

READING DURING OPENING

Trial and Triumph by Richard Hannula Chapter 35

Lower Grammar Words

wilderness

stirrups

carriage

gentleman

copy book

surveyor

fortress

chieftain

backwoodsman

Upper Grammar Words (All Lower Grammar Words +)

regiment

stockade

artillery

militia

siege

invasion

fortification

infantry

skirmish

Lower Grammar People

George Washington

Lawrence Washington

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Upper Grammar People - All Lower Grammar people +

Edward Braddock

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

Louis Joseph Marquis de Montcalm

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James Wolfe

Handwriting practice lines for the name "James Wolfe".

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Dialectic and Rhetoric People - All Lower Grammar people +

Chief Pontiac

Thomas Jefferson

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Adam Smith

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Dialectic and Rhetoric Questions

1. Accountability Questions

1. In what way was George Washington responsible for starting the French and Indian War?
2. Who was William Pitt, and what was his role in the French and Indian War?
3. Why did the Seven Years' War begin in Europe?
4. What event during the coronation of George III was considered a bad omen?
5. What territorial changes did the Treaty of Paris of 1763, which ended the French and Indian War and Seven Years' War, bring about in Europe and North America?

NO THINKING QUESTIONS. WORK ON EXAM.