

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will understand the significance of the Boston Tea Party, its causes, and its impact on American history. The student will also develop critical thinking skills by discussing what they would do if they were in the colonists' shoes.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and pencil for note-taking and drawing
- Tea bags (optional for a fun tasting activity)
- Access to a computer or tablet for research (if needed)
- Space to act out a skit or role-play (optional)

Before the lesson, familiarize yourself with the basic facts of the Boston Tea Party, including the events leading up to it and its aftermath. Prepare to engage in discussions and activities that will encourage creativity and critical thinking.

Activities

• Tea Party Role-Play:

Have the student choose a character from the Boston Tea Party (like a colonist, a British soldier, or a tea merchant) and act out a scene from that day. This will help them understand different perspectives.

• Tea Tasting:

If possible, brew some tea and have a tasting session. Discuss how tea was an important part of the colonists' lives and how the British taxes affected their enjoyment of it.

• Creative Poster:

The student can create a poster that highlights key facts about the Boston Tea Party. They can include images, quotes, and their own thoughts on why this event was important.

• Discussion and Debate:

Hold a discussion about the reasons for the Boston Tea Party. Ask the student what they think about the colonists' actions. Would they have done the same? Why or why not?

Talking Points

- "The Boston Tea Party happened on December 16, 1773. It was a protest against British taxes on tea."
- "Colonists were upset because they had no representation in Parliament. They believed it was unfair to be taxed without a say."
- "During the Boston Tea Party, colonists disguised themselves as Native Americans and dumped 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor."
- "This event was a key moment that led to the American Revolution. It showed that the colonists were willing to take action against British rule."
- "Imagine if you were a colonist. How would you feel about the tea tax? What would you do if you were in their position?"