

Colonial Seeds of American Independence

CLEI Summer Civics Series
2022 Professional Learning Series

Bureau of Standards and Instructional
Support

Agenda

- **Opening Question**
- **Four Thematic Questions**
- **Wrap Up**



Session Purpose



Colonial Expectations

What colonial expectations made independence from England a reasonable position to hold in the 1770s?

- Self-government tradition.
- Rule of Law.
- Robust, but limited, popular sovereignty.
- Deliberative political process.
- Government isn't everything.



Image from The National Archive



An American Mind

Primary Source

The Braintree Instructions, drafted by John Adams in September 1765, was one of the first important declarations of the American colonists rights.



John Adams

Image from The National Archive



An American Mind

Place holder for Braintree Instructions PDF.
Please read the excerpt provided on Nearpod
and answer the question.



Conditions for Independence

Soil



Seeds



Fruit



Thematic Question One: What conditions allowed the British colonies in North America to engage in self-government?

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Conditions for Independence

Reasons for Colonial Settlement



Economic



Religious



Social



Conditions for Independence

European Colonization in North America, 1500–1700



Image from Smithsonian Magazine

- European countries started to establish trading posts and colonies.
- First conquest were made by the Spanish and Portuguese.
- English, Dutch and French would soon follow.



Conditions for Independence

Salutary Neglect

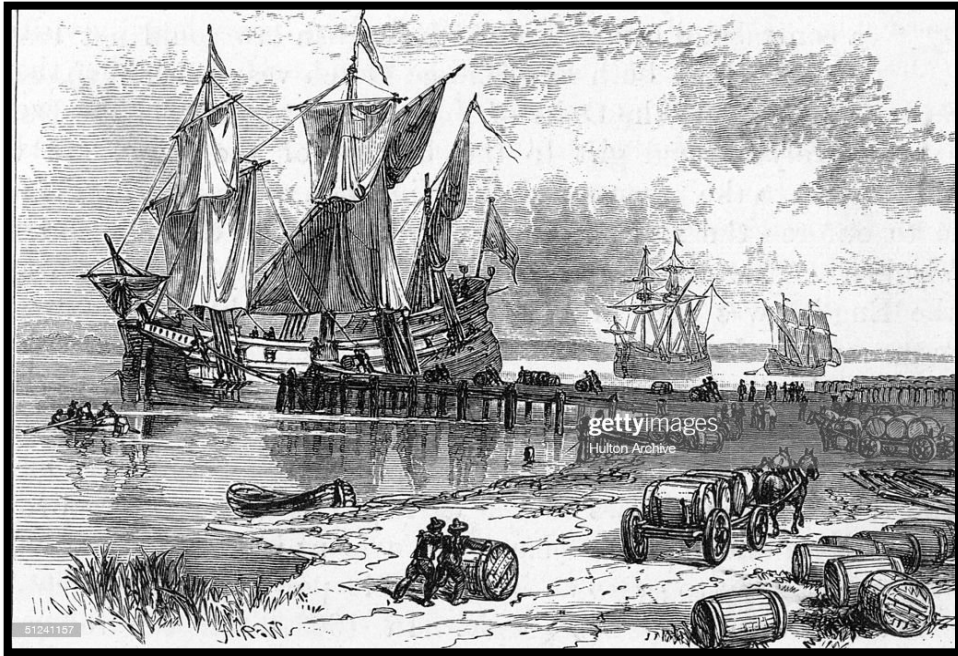


Image from Getty Images

- England didn't want to “foot the bill” for the colonies.
- Trade regulations were loosely enforced.
- Oversight of internal colonial affairs was minimal.



Conditions for Independence

Self-Government



Image from History.com

- Self-government requires a people committed to civic and moral virtue.
- Religion was the inculcator for virtue.
- Christian principle of covenant with God reflected in Locke's social compact theory.



Conditions for Independence

Popular Sovereignty



The first assembly of the House of Burgesses, Jamestown, VA, 1619.

Image from History.com

Colonists created their own legislatures
comprised of representatives from the colony.



Conditions for Independence

Deliberative Political Process

- Contrasts with “arbitrary” or “non-rule based” political process.
- Affords relatively open discussion or debate.
- Patriots cited the colonial tradition of "deliberative political process" when declaring Independence.

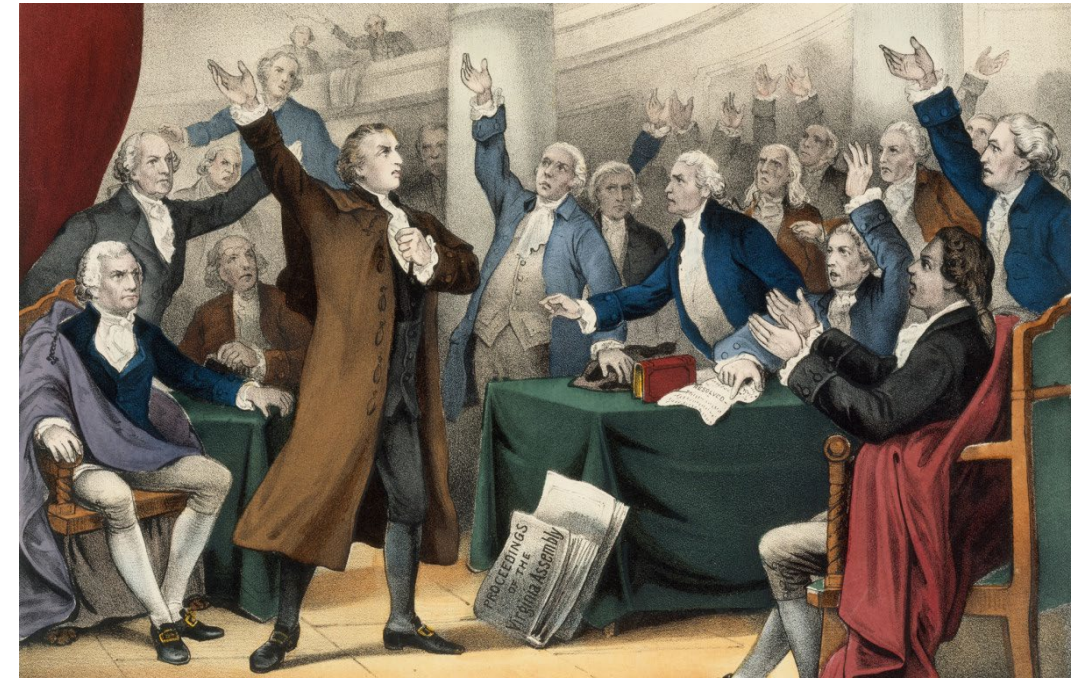


Image from History.com



Conditions for Independence

Rule of Law

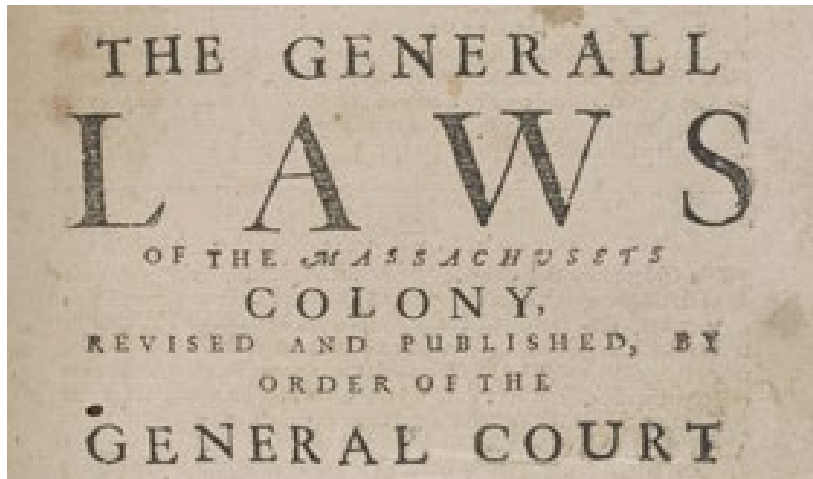


Image from Library of Congress

- The patriot position was the colonies should be governed through the rule of law.
- The impartiality of law guaranteed no one would be “above” the law.



Conditions for Independence

“This will of his Maker is called the law of nature. For as God, when He created matter, and endued it with a principle of mobility, established certain rules for the perpetual direction of that motion; so, when he created man, and endued him with free will to conduct himself in all parts of life, He laid down certain immutable laws of human nature, whereby that free will is in some degree regulated and restrained, and gave him also the faculty of reason to discover the purport of those laws.”



Thematic Question Two: How did the English view their colonization efforts in British Colonial America?

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European Colonization

Pre-English Colonization

- Spanish Conquistadors went to the Americas for 3 general reasons:
 - God
 - Gold
 - Glory



Image from USHistory.com



Civics Literacy Excellence Initiative

English Colonization

English View of the New World



Saw it as a resource-rich
“plantation.”



Permanent Settlements.



Space for undesirables
such as criminals and the
poor.



English Colonization

Mercantilism and Empire

- Economic theory that trading goods will produce wealth.
- Monetary wealth gives nations more power.
- Increased colonial economic liberty.



Image from Bill of Rights Institute



English Colonization

Native American Lands

- Millions of Native Americans already here.
- Colonists sought to convert natives to Christianity.
- Contact with native tribes shaped both natives and the colonists.



Image from Library of Congress



Thematic Question Three: Who came to the British colonies in North America? Why did they come?

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Colonial Demographics



Aristocrats



Indentured
Servants



Religious
Dissenters



Enslaved
People



Colonial Demographics

English Aristocrats in Colonial America



Image from Yale Center for British Art

- Feudal laws of primogeniture and entail drove second and third born sons to the colonies.



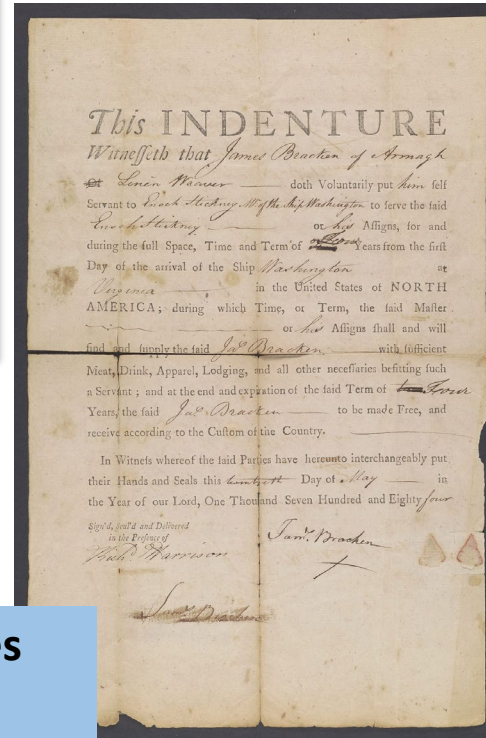
Colonial Demographics



Image from Social Studies for Kids

Indentured Servants in Colonial America

- Men and women signed a legal contract.
- They were not enslaved.
- Work for a patron for four to seven years to expunge the debt for crossing.



Indenture of James Bracken, 1784



Colonial Demographics

Religious Dissenters

- Pilgrims and Puritans fled Europe seeking personal religious freedom.
- Fleeing persecution.



Image from Christian Heritage Fellowship

In the name of god Amen. We whose names are underwritten,
the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord King James
by his graces of god, of great Brittain, France, & Ireland King
defender of the faith, &c.
Having undertaken, for the glory of god, and advancement
of christianity, and honour of our king & country, a voyage to
plant the first Colonie in the Northern parts of Virginia: God
by these presents solemnly & mutually in the presence of god, and
one of another, Covenant, & combine our selves together into a
civill body politick; for the better ordering, & preservation & fur-
therance of the ends aforesaid; and by vertue hereof, to enacte,
constitute, and frame such just & equall Lawes, ordinances,
acts, constitutions, & offices, from time to time, as shall be thought
most meete & convenient for the generall good of the Colonie: unto
which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness
whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape-
Codd the 11. of November in the year of the raigne of our sovereign
Lord King James of England, France, & Ireland King
and of Scotland the fifth fourth Jan: Dom. 1620.



Colonial Demographics

Religious Freedom

- Seeking religious freedom, not toleration.
- Diversity was among Christian denominations.
- Rhode Island accepted religious refugees from Massachusetts.
- Other colonies were created as religious havens.



John Winthrop

Image from Bill of Rights Institute



Colonial Demographics

The Maryland Toleration Act

“...noe person or persons ...professing to beleive in Jesus Christ, shall from henceforth bee any waies troubled...in respect of his or her religion nor in the free exercise thereof within this Province or the Islands...”

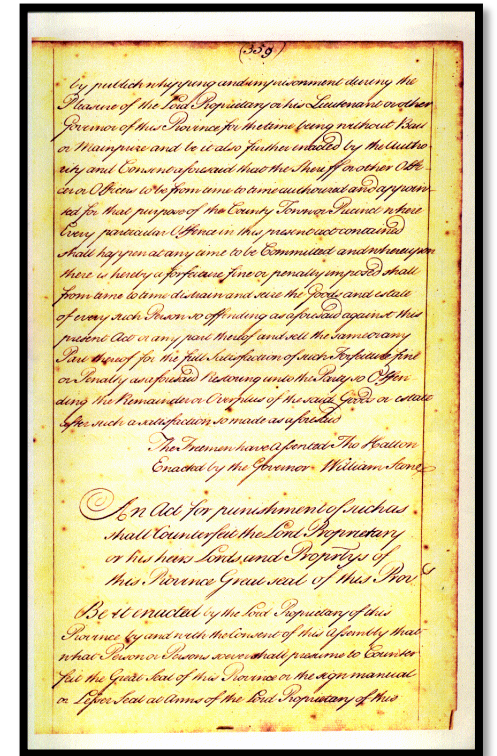


Image from Maryland State Archives



Colonial Demographics

What words or phrases can you identify from the Maryland Toleration Act that show an expansion of religious toleration at that time?



Colonial Demographics

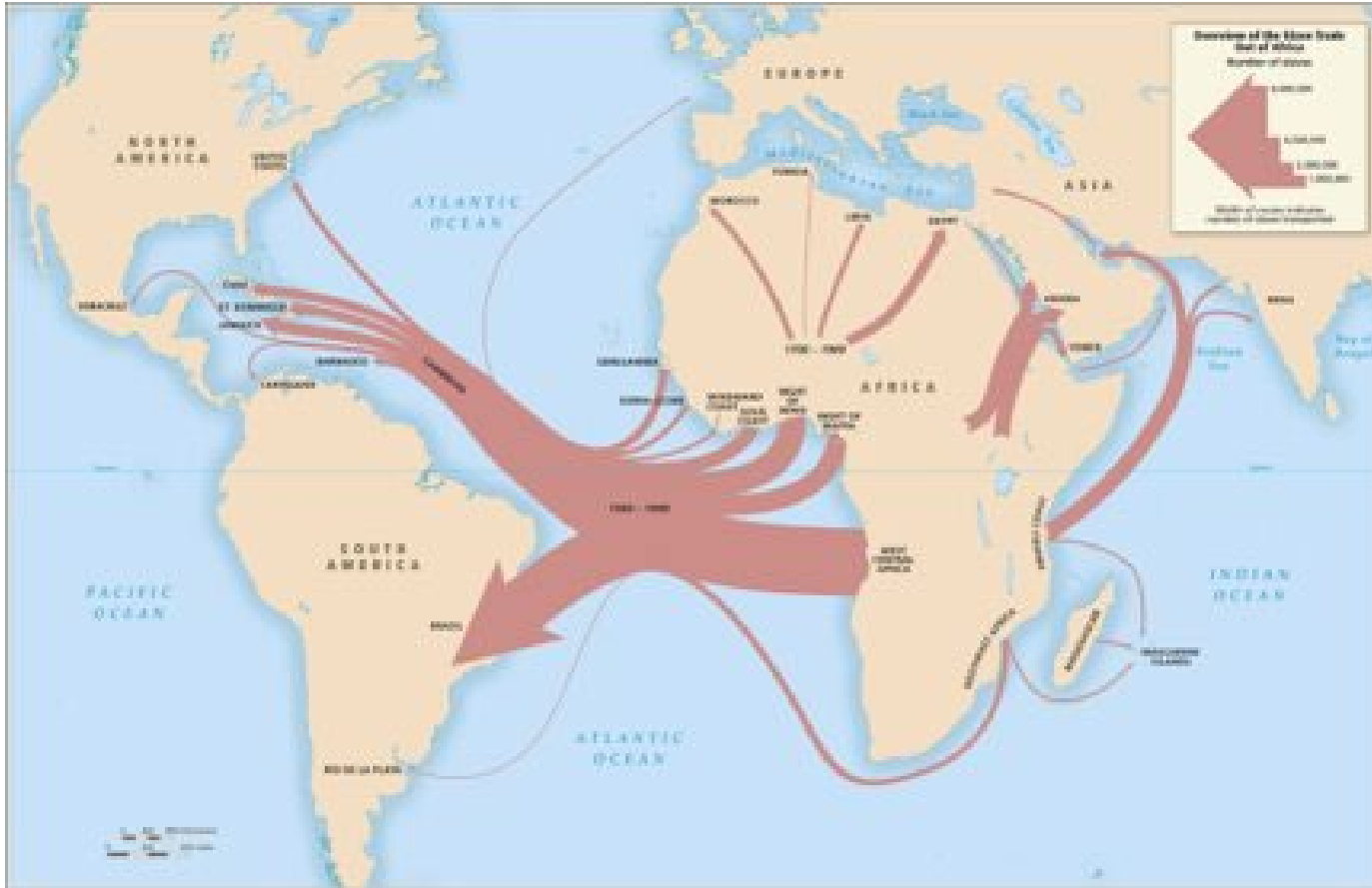


Image for National Endowment for the Humanities

Enslaved People in Colonial America

- Less than 4% of slavery in the Western Hemisphere was in Colonial America.
- Number of enslaved people increased in America through birth.



Thematic Question Four: What were the colonies' legal arrangements?

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Colonial Legal Arrangements

Three Types of Colonies

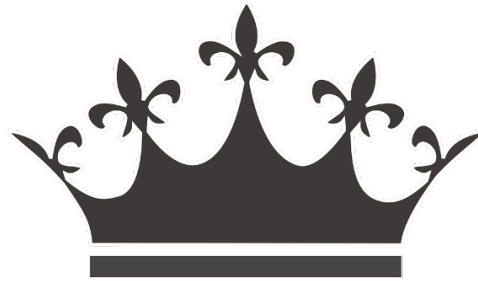
Charter

Virginia, Massachusetts Bay



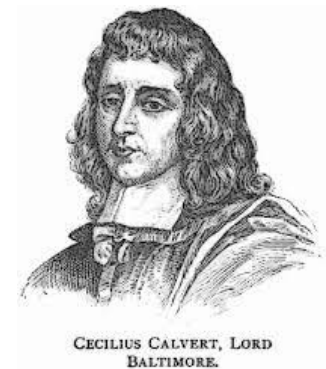
Royal

New York, Connecticut,
Carolinas, Georgia



Proprietary

Maryland, Pennsylvania,
Delaware, New Hampshire



Colonial Legal Arrangements

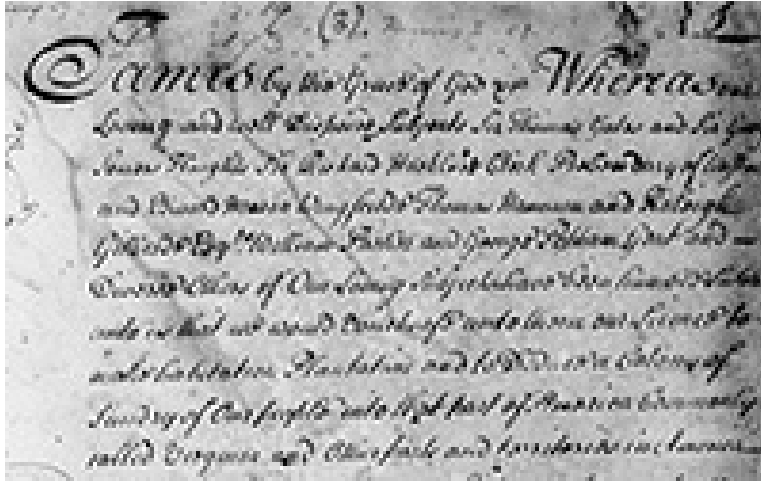


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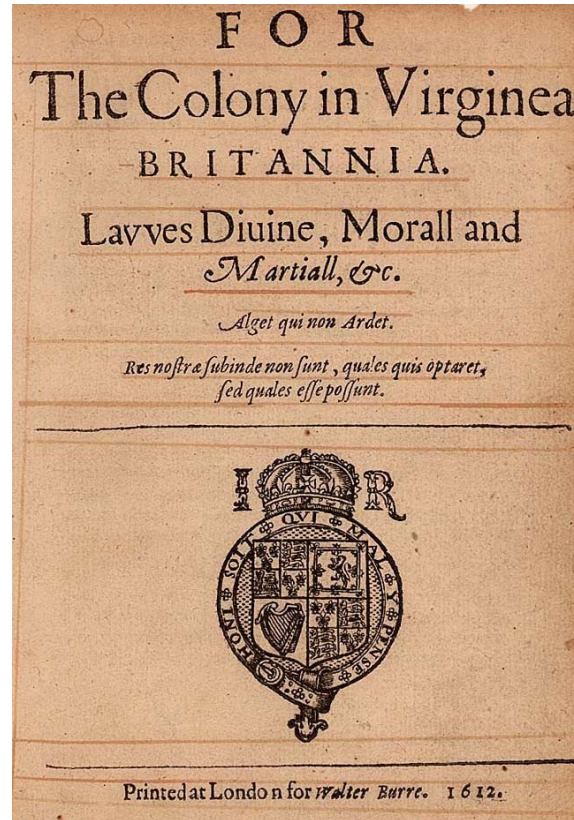


Image from Encyclopedia Virginia



Image from Encyclopedia Virginia

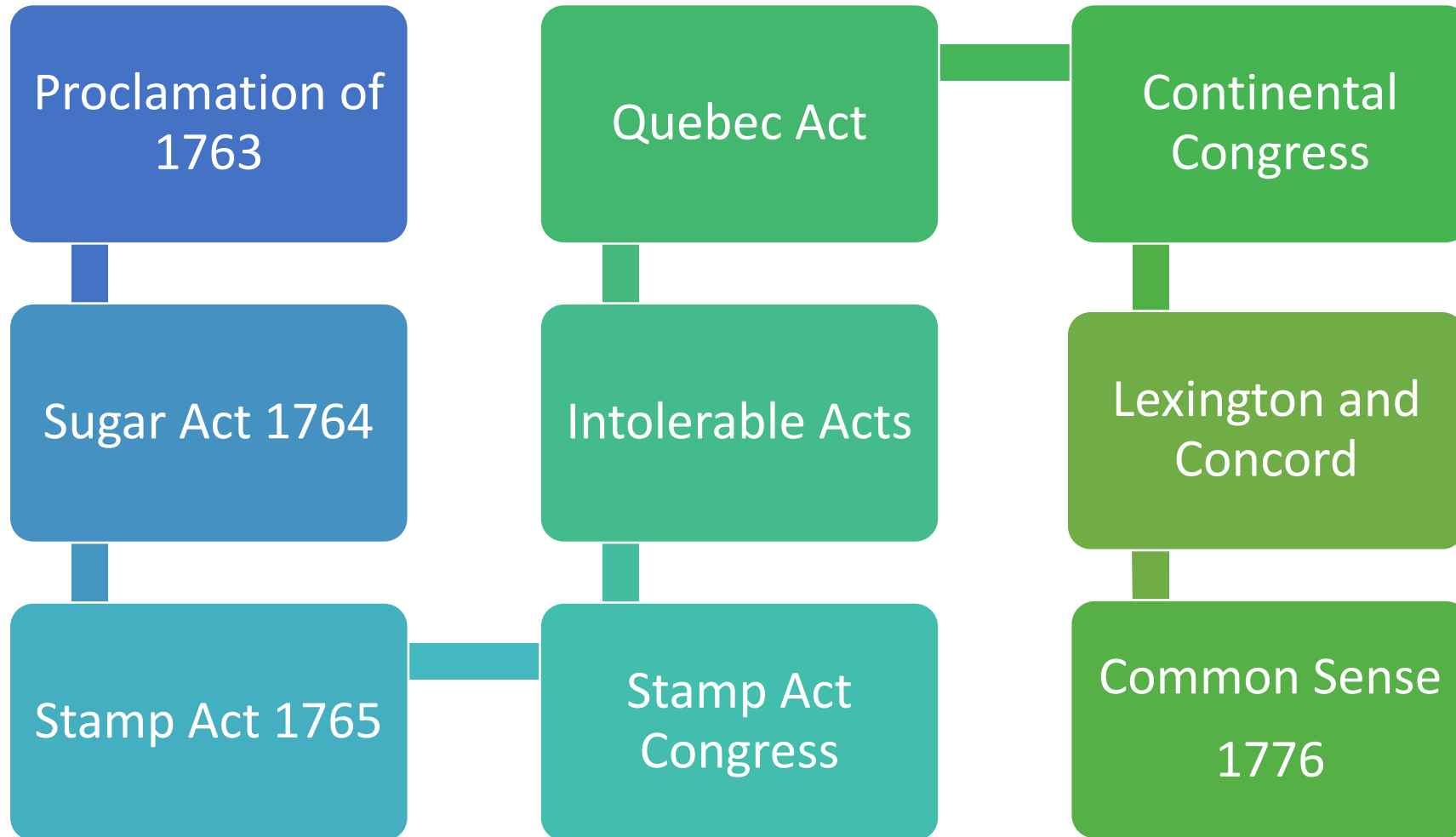


Colonial Legal Arrangements



The End of Salutary Neglect and the Road to Independence

Road to Independence

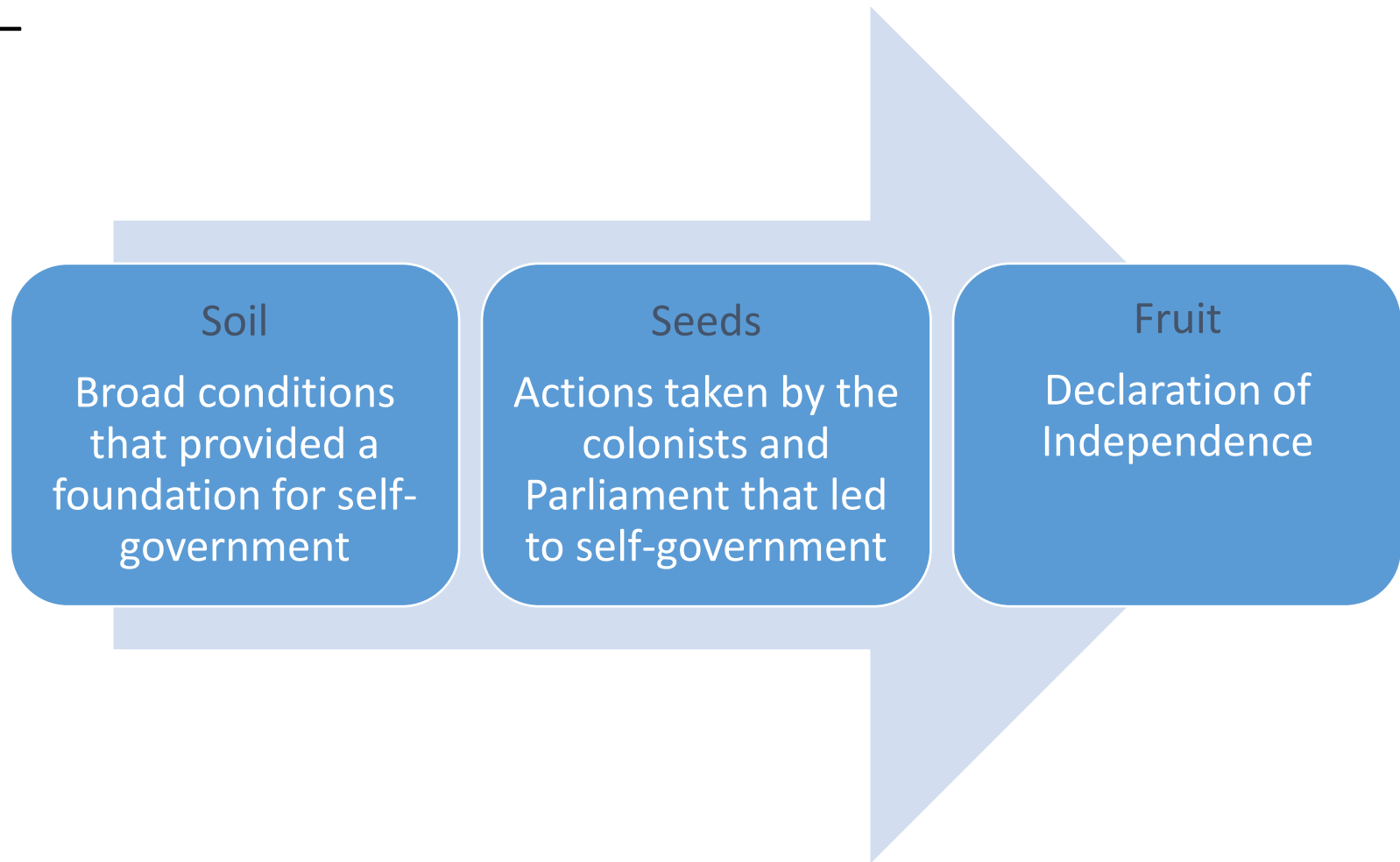


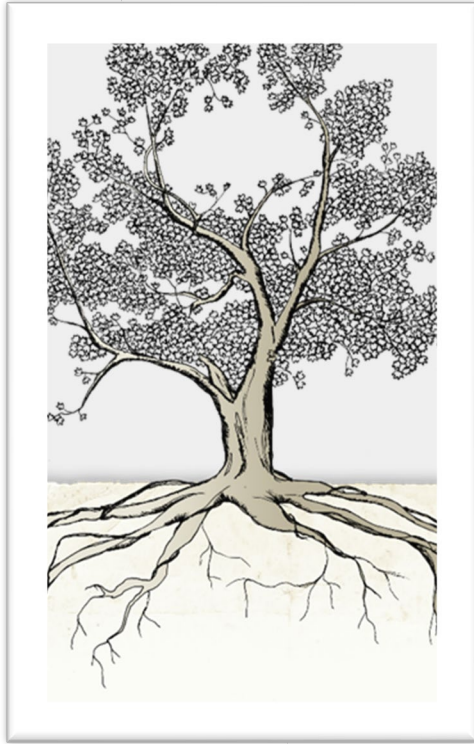
Road to Independence

Back to Braintree Instructions – John Adams



Image from The National Archive





The Fruit: The Declaration of Independence

Declaration of Independence

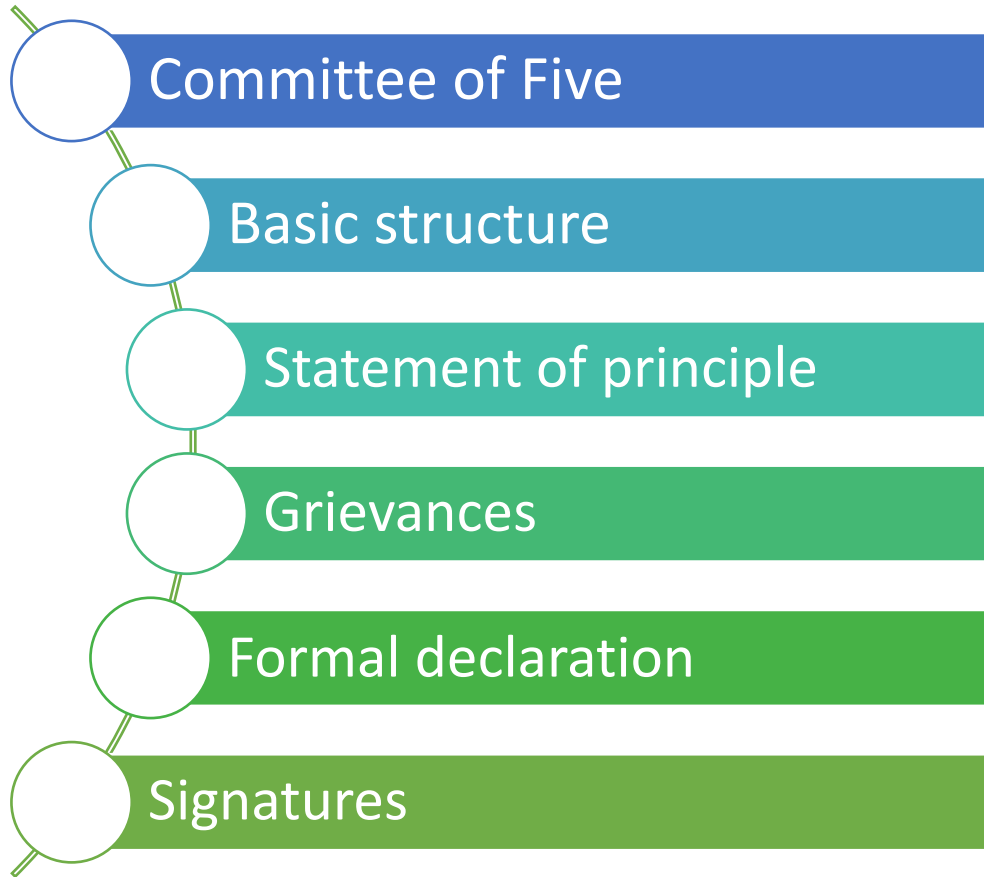


Image from Architect of the Capital



Declaration of Independence



Image from National Archive

We must all indeed hang together, or
most assuredly, we shall all hang
separately.
-Benjamin Franklin



Applicable Standards

Standards:

- SS.K.CG.1.1 Identify the purpose of rules and laws in the home and school.
- SS.K.CG.1.2 Identify people who have the authority and power to make and enforce rules and laws.
- SS.K.CG.2.2 Describe ways for groups to make decisions.
- SS.1.CG.1.1 Explain the purpose of rules and laws in the home, school and community.
- SS.1.CG.1.2 Describe how the absence of rules and laws impacts individuals and the community.
- SS.1.CG.3.2 Explain responsible ways for individuals and groups to make decisions.
- SS.2.CG.1.1 Explain why people form governments.
- SS.2.CG.1.2 Explain how the U.S. government protects the liberty and rights of American citizens.
- SS.3.CG.1.2 Describe how the U.S. government gains its power from the people.
- SS.4.CG.2.1 Identify and describe how citizens work with local and state governments to solve problems.
- SS.5.CG.1.1 Recognize that the Declaration of Independence affirms that every U.S. citizen has certain unalienable rights.
- SS.5.CG.1.3 Discuss arguments for adopting a representative form of government.
- SS.5.CG.2.1 Discuss the political ideas of Patriots, Loyalists and other colonists about the American Revolution.
- SS.5.CG.2.2 Compare forms of political participation in the colonial period to today.
- SS.5.CG.3.2 Analyze how the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights limit the power of the national government and protect citizens from an oppressive government.



Applicable Standards

- SS.6.CG.1.1 Analyze how democratic concepts developed in ancient Greece served as a foundation for the United States' constitutional republic.
- SS.6.CG.1.3 Examine rule of law in the ancient world and its influence on the United States' constitutional republic.
- SS.7.CG.1.1 Analyze the influences of ancient Greece, ancient Rome and the Judeo-Christian tradition on America's constitutional republic.
- SS.7.CG.1.2 Trace the principles underlying America's founding ideas on law and government.
- SS.7.CG.1.3 Trace the impact that the Magna Carta, Mayflower Compact, English Bill of Rights and Thomas Paine's Common Sense had on colonists' views of government.
- SS.7.CG.1.4 Analyze how Enlightenment ideas, including Montesquieu's view of separation of powers and John Locke's theories related to natural law and Locke's social contract, influenced the Founding.
- SS.7.CG.1.5 Describe how British policies and responses to colonial concerns led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.
- SS.7.CG.1.6 Analyze the ideas and grievances set forth in the Declaration of Independence.
- SS.7.CG.1.11 Define the rule of law and recognize its influence on the development of legal, political and governmental systems in the United States.
- SS.8.CG.1.1 Compare the views of Patriots, Loyalists and other colonists on limits of government authority, inalienable rights and resistance to tyranny.
- SS.8.CG.1.3 Explain the importance of the rule of law in the United States' constitutional republic.
- SS.8.CG.2.3 Analyze the role of civic virtue in the lives of citizens and leaders from the Colonial period through Reconstruction.
- SS.8.CG.2.4 Explain how forms of civic and political participation changed from the Colonial period through Reconstruction.
- SS.8.CG.3.1 Trace the foundational ideals and principles related to the U.S. government expressed in primary sources from the colonial period to Reconstruction.
- SS.912.CG.1.1 Examine how intellectual influences in primary documents contributed to the ideas in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.
- SS.912.CG.1.2 Explain the influence of Enlightenment ideas on the Declaration of Independence.
- SS.912.CG.1.4 Analyze how the ideals and principles expressed in the founding documents shape America as a constitutional republic.
- SS.912.CG.2.6 Explain how the principles contained in foundational documents contributed to the expansion of civil rights and liberties over time.



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Student Success is our STANDARD
Florida Department of Education Presenter's

