



kids INK

The Newspapers in Education (NIE) program strives to promote literacy and responsible citizenship in children and young adults through the inclusion of newspapers with regular classroom curricula.

NIE Contact Information

Dayton Daily News
nie.daytondailynews.com

Springfield News-Sun
nie.springfieldnewssun.com

The Middletown Journal
nie.middletownjournal.com

JournalNews
nie.journal-news.com

937-225-7364
email: nie@coxohio.com

ACTIVITIES

What does it mean?

Using context clues from the information about the Boston Tea Party, write down what each word means or why it was important.

Monopoly

Tea Act

Sons of Liberty

Intolerable Acts

Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below to make a word important to the Boston Tea Party information. Explain why each word is important.

stooniBsan

risBiht tEsa aldni nCmyopa

eat

xetas

tsMasecuahsts

ANSWERS TO WORD SCRAMBLE

Bostonians; British East India Company; tea; taxes; Massachusetts

Text sources

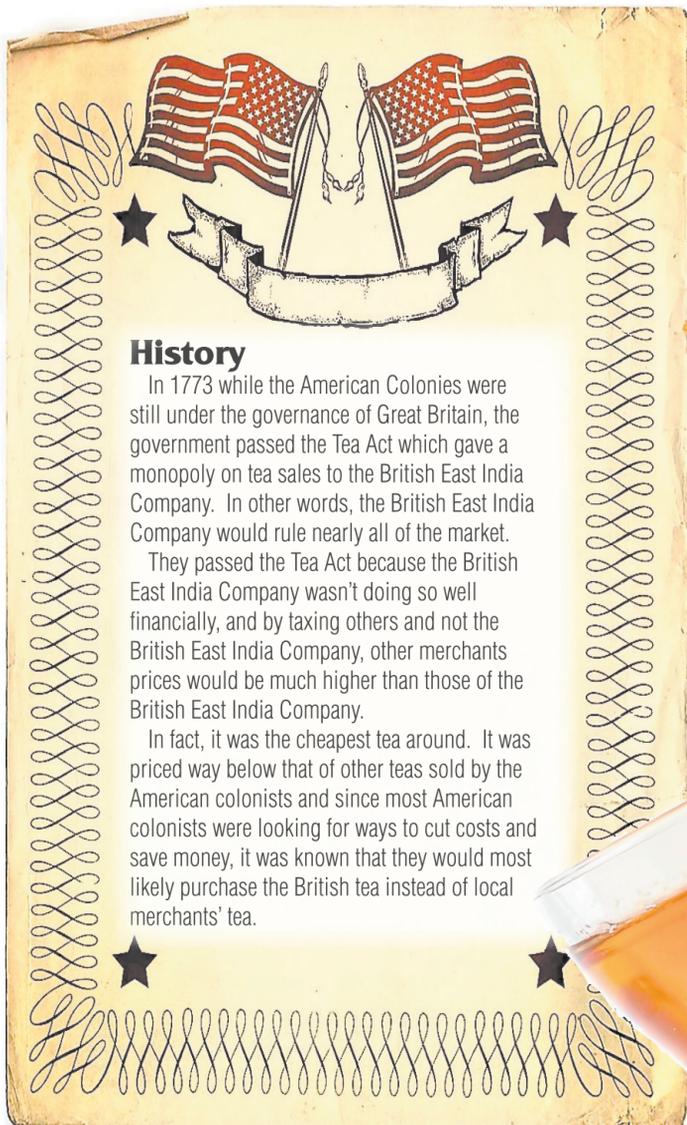
<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/www/us/bostonteatpartydef.htm>
http://www.surfnetkids.com/boston_tea_party.htm
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<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/teaparty.htm>
<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-was-the-boston-tea-party.htm>
<http://www.entourages.com/barbs/bostonteatparty.htm>
<http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h646.html>

GREAT GIFT IDEA!

The Dayton Dragons are selling backpacks to support NIE. All proceeds from the backpack go directly towards putting the newspapers into your classrooms. For information on how to order, go to <http://www.daytondragons.com> and click on promotions.

The Biggest Tea Party Ever!

When we think of tea parties, we usually think of tiny cups and tiny tea pots but in 1773 in Boston, Massachusetts, the biggest tea party of all was held with no cups or tea pots at all!



History

In 1773 while the American Colonies were still under the governance of Great Britain, the government passed the Tea Act which gave a monopoly on tea sales to the British East India Company. In other words, the British East India Company would rule nearly all of the market.

They passed the Tea Act because the British East India Company wasn't doing so well financially, and by taxing others and not the British East India Company, other merchants prices would be much higher than those of the British East India Company.

In fact, it was the cheapest tea around. It was priced way below that of other teas sold by the American colonists and since most American colonists were looking for ways to cut costs and save money, it was known that they would most likely purchase the British tea instead of local merchants' tea.

What did the American colonists do?

Angry and frustrated at the new tax on tea, a group of colonists who called themselves the Sons of Liberty were determined to make things change. The group, led by patriots such as Samuel Adams and John Hancock, had secret meetings at which they discussed how best to get their message across to Great Britain. Their message was that the American people wanted more of a role in governing themselves.

At one of these gatherings, a resolution was adopted that asked the consignees (the colonists who allowed the tea to be brought to the ports) to return the tea. Those tea agents, some of them relatives of the governor, refused to do so.

One ship owner agreed to sail his tea back to England but British officials denied permission for the ship to clear the port.

The Sons of Liberty decided to take action.



The Tea Party begins!

On December 16, a group of nearly 150 members of the Sons of Liberty wore disguises that made them look like Native Americans and stormed aboard the three British ships carrying tea. The men dumped 342 crates full of tea overboard (about 10,000 pounds of tea!). It took nearly three hours to dump the crates and on the following day, Bostonians boarded their row boats and oared their way through the tea forcing all tea to dissolve in the water so that none of it could be saved. This event was known as the Boston Tea Party.

What happened after the tea party?

Because the Sons of Liberty were disguised as Native Americans, they could claim that they were not guilty of dumping the tea. The British government knew better, of course, and grew angrier than ever at what it saw as Americans' ingratitude (being unthankful).



What did the British Government do?

The British government was enraged. In response to the destruction of the tea shipment they passed a series of laws known as the Intolerable Acts, which took most of the governing power from the people of Massachusetts, laying all of the power into the British Government's hands, as well as closing Boston's port. The people of Boston continued in their belief that taxation without representation was unfair. Other port towns throughout the colonies were outraged, and many staged tea parties of their own, which sparked even more legislation from Britain. This was the beginning of what would eventually lead to the Revolutionary War.

CHARITY NIGHT SKATES

Newspapers In Education will be recipients of funds at Five Rivers MetroParks "Charity Night Skates" on January 10, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at RiverScape MetroParks Ice Rink. For every \$5.00 admission received, NIE will receive \$2.50. This money helps to put newspapers into your classrooms! Come out and join the fun! For more information, contact the NIE coordinator at 937-225-7364.

STANDARDS SPOTLIGHT

Social Studies

Explain how competition affects producers and consumers in a market economy and why specialization facilitates trade.

English Language Arts

Determine the meanings and pronunciations of unknown words by using dictionaries, glossaries, technology and textual feature, such as definitional footnotes or sidebars.