The Newspapers in Education (NIE) program strives to make the news relevant and accessible to children and young adults through the inclusion of newspapers with regular classroom curricula.

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 is important.

Word Scramble

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

- Monopoly
- Tea Act
- Sons of Liberty
- Intolerable Acts

ANSWERS TO WORD SCRAMBLE

- stonelBano (Monopoly)
- riidhlita adaen kCmpyppa (Tea Act)
- eat (Sons of Liberty)
- uls (Intolerable Acts)

What happened after the tea party?

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

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 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 congresses (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 met at the old Faneuil Hall and prepared for a tea party. The year 1773 was fast approaching and the time was right! It took nearly three hours during the cruze 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.

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 people of the American Colonies felt that they were being treated unfairly. They saw themselves as a monarchy (tea was given monoply on tea sales to the British East India Company). In other words, the British East India Company would control nearly all of the market. They passed the Tea Act because the British East India Company wanted things to go well (tea sales), 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 sales by the American colonists and some melt American colonists were willing to buy the tea to out compete and save money. It was known that they would most likely purchase the British tea instead of local merchants' tea.

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 hands, as well as closing Boston's port. The people of Boston 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 Kettering Family Skating Rink. For every $5 admission received, NIE will receive $2.50. This money helps to support NIE activities statewide. For more information, contact the NIE coordinator at 937-225-7364.

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