### Research Topic: The Fourth of July

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Research Topic</th>
<th>The 4th of July (The Fourth of July Independence Day)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td>Grades 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio’s Learning Standards History Strand</td>
<td>Grade 1 Time can be divided into categories (e.g., months of the year, past, present, future). Grade 2 Time can be shown graphically on calendars and timelines. Grade 3 Events in local history can be shown on timelines organized by years, decades and centuries.</td>
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<td>Common Core Standards</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2 Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3 Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events</td>
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<td>Objective</td>
<td>Students will be able to understand the importance of dates on a calendar and how people commemorate significant moments in history.</td>
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<td>Research Statement</td>
<td>July 4th is a day that the country unites to celebrate our freedom and independence from British rule. This lesson explains the events that led up to the desire for independence, the key individuals involved in the Continental Congress and the changes that took place after events leading up to July 4, 1776.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>The early American colonies wanted to be free from Great Britain and were against the enforcement of British taxes and against British control of westward expansion. The citizens of the colonies wanted to make their own decisions and live as they wanted.</td>
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<td>Supporting Idea I</td>
<td>The colonists started to resist by boycotting, or not buying, British goods. In 1773 some colonists in Boston, Massachusetts demonstrated their frustration by dressing up like Native Americans, sneaking onto ships in the harbor, and dumping imported British tea into the harbor. This was called the Boston Tea Party. The British were very upset and took action by closing the Boston port.</td>
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<td>Supporting Idea II</td>
<td>The First Continental Congress met in 1774 to make a list of complaints about the way the British were treating the colonies. Many people in America felt their concerns were not being heard, and this caused more unhappiness in the colonies. In April of 1775, a group of colonists fought against the British army in the Battles of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts. In 1775, the Second Continental Congress decided to form a Continental Army, which consisted of citizens from 13 colonies. George Washington was selected to be the Commander-in-Chief of the Army. The colonies were ready to fight for their rights and freedom.</td>
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<td>Supporting Idea III</td>
<td>On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson.</td>
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<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence and freedom, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings, picnics and barbecues.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Resources | [https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th](https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th)  
[https://www.military.com/independence-day/history-of-independence-day.html](https://www.military.com/independence-day/history-of-independence-day.html)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNIsokT5sQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNIsokT5sQ) |
| Visual Thinking Strategies | Visual Thinking Strategies transforms the way students think and learn by providing training and curriculum for people to facilitate discussions of visual art that significantly increase student engagement, performance and enjoyment of learning.  
[https://vtshome.org/about/](https://vtshome.org/about/) |
| Assignment | Have students take 3-5 minutes to look at the images.  
Ask students to describe what they see in the images.  
Ask students what more can they tell you about the images.  
Ask why? |
| Assessment | Using visual cues, student should observe and discuss people, the way individuals are dressed, the activity of individuals, if individuals look familiar, landscapes, backgrounds, etc. Students should be able to articulate what they see in each image using visual thinking strategies. |
| Critical Thinking Questions | What year did the country celebrate the first 4th of July?  
Why is the fourth of July a special day for America?  
What fun activities do you do with your family on July 4th? |
Title
Declaration of Independence: July 4th 1776

Summary
Print shows the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Contributor Names
N. Currier (Firm)

Created / Published
[New York] : N. Currier, [between 1835 and 1856]

Subject Headings
- United States.--Declaration of Independence--People
- United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Political aspects

Format Headings
Lithographs--Hand colored--1830-1860.

https://www.loc.gov/resource/pga.08583/
Title
July 4th

Summary
Photograph shows a Fourth of July parade on Fifth Avenue, New York City in 1918. (Source: Flicker Commons project, 2016)

Contributor Names
Bain News Service, publisher

Created / Published
[1918 July 4]

Format Headings
Glass negatives.

Genre
Glass negatives

Notes
- Title from data provided by the Bain News Service on the negative.
- Forms part of: George Grantham Bain Collection (Library of Congress).
- General information about the George Grantham Bain Collection is available at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.ggbain

https://www.loc.gov/item/2014707553/
We celebrate Independence day every July Fourth.

On July 4, 1776, Americans signed the Declaration of Independence which made us a new country, separate from English rule. We consider this our nation’s birthday.

Why is it important to celebrate July 4th??

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