**Road to the American Revolution Living Timeline**

Proclamation of 1763

1763: Passed after French and Indian War, halted colonial expansion west of the Appalachian Mountains. This was done to appease the Native Americans. It angered colonists who were eager to search for new opportunities in territories gained from victory over the French.

• Sugar Act

1764: Passed to pay off war debt. Imposed taxes on sugar and other goods colonists imported from England. Colonists upset by “taxation without representation.”

• Stamp Act

1765: Placed taxes on various paper goods (legal documents, etc). Eventually repealed due to protests.

• Townshend Act

1767: Taxed a number of items the colonies import. Colonists respond by boycotting British goods.

• Boston Massacre

1770: British troops fire on and kill five colonists. John Adams defends soldiers in court and they are found not guilty. Colonists’ resentment towards the British increases. The Townshend Acts, except for a tax on tea, are repealed due to boycotts.

• Tea Act

1773: Tea from the East India Company could be shipped directly to the American Colonies without going through London first, but when they arrived in America the Townshend Tax would be applied. Colonists actually would pay less for tea through the Tea Act, but they felt it was still unfair to apply the Townshend Act. Colonists respond by staging the Boston Tea Party, dumping crates of British tea into the Boston Harbor.

• Intolerable (Coercive) Acts

1774: A result of the Boston Tea Party. England tried to reassert control over the Colonies by passing a series of harsh laws which included: closing Boston’s port; installing a military governor in Massachusetts and revoking their colony charter; British officials charged with capital offenses could go to England for trial; and arrangement for housing British troops in American houses was revived.

• First Continental Congress Meets

1774: Convened as a response to the Intolerable Acts. Delegates from the Colonies meet to create a list of grievances and petition the King to fix those grievances. They did not advocate independence.

• Lexington and Concord

1775: British forces attempting to destroy munitions at Concord are met by a group of Colonist Minutemen in Lexington. Shots were exchanged and the Minutemen fell back to Concord. The British marched on to Concord and later were met by more Minutemen who forced their retreat back to Boston. Provided a morale boost for the Colonists who defeated the vaunted British military in battle. These were the opening battles of the American Revolution.