



**VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

**Research Topic – The Fourth of July**

<b>Research Topic</b>	The 4 <sup>th</sup> of July (The Fourth of July Independence Day)
<b>Grade Level</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
<b>Ohio’s Learning Standards History Strand</b>	American History – Heritage: The importance of the Fourth of July celebration and the symbolism. This will teach students why Americans still celebrate the Fourth of July.
<b>Common Core Standards</b>	<p><u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2</u> Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.</p> <p><u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3</u> Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.</p> <p><u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3</u> Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.</p>
<b>Objective</b>	Students will understand the importance of the Fourth of July and how people commemorate moments in history. Students will learn the date of the original Fourth of July celebration.
<b>Research Statement</b>	July 4 <sup>th</sup> is a day that American citizens unite 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.
<b>Introduction</b>	The early American colonies wanted to be free from Great Britain. They 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.
<b>Supporting Idea I</b>	The colonists started to resist by boycotting, or not buying, British goods. In 1773, some colonists in Boston, Massachusetts demonstrated their frustration by dressing 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 angry and took action by closing the Boston port.
<b>Supporting Idea II</b>	The First Continental Congress met in 1774 to compile 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 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 prepared to fight for their rights and freedom.
<b>Supporting Idea III</b>	On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later, on July 4th, delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted primarily by Thomas Jefferson.
<b>Conclusion</b>	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.
<b>Resources</b>	<p>Fourth of July – Independence Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author: History.com Editors</li> <li>• Published: Dec 16, 2009</li> <li>• Link: <a href="https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th">https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th</a></li> </ul> <p>The History of the Fourth of July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author: Military.com</li> <li>• Published: 2019</li> <li>• Link: <a href="https://www.military.com/independence-day/history-of-independence-day.html">https://www.military.com/independence-day/history-of-independence-day.html</a></li> </ul> <p>July 4th - Independence Day - Story for Kids   Interesting Facts   Kids Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author: Kids Academy</li> <li>• Published: Jun 27, 2019</li> <li>• Link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNIsoqT5s0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoNIsoqT5s0</a></li> <li>• Time: 3:45</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Thinking Strategies</b>	Visual Thinking Strategies transform 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. <a href="https://vtshome.org/about/">https://vtshome.org/about/</a>
<b>Assignment</b>	Have students take 3-5 minutes to look at the images. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask students to describe what they see in the images.</li> <li>2. Ask students what more they can tell you about the images.</li> <li>3. Ask why?</li> </ol>
<b>Assessment</b>	Using visual cues, students 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.
<b>Critical Thinking Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What year did the country celebrate the first 4<sup>th</sup> of July?</li> <li>2. Why is the fourth of July a special day for America?</li> <li>3. What fun activities do you do with your family on July 4<sup>th</sup>?</li> </ol>

## Images



**Title:** Declaration of Independence: July 4<sup>th</sup>, 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/pictures/item/91795009/>



**Title:** July 4th

**Summary:** Photograph shows a Fourth of July parade on Fifth Avenue, New York City in 1918. (Source: Flickr 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/pictures/item/2014707553/>



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fourth\\_of\\_July\\_Magic\\_Kingdom\\_fireworks\\_\(35717042036\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fourth_of_July_Magic_Kingdom_fireworks_(35717042036).jpg)