

The Big Idea

Tensions developed as the British government placed tax after tax on the colonies.

Main Ideas

British efforts to raise taxes on colonists sparked protest.

The Boston Massacre caused colonial resentment toward Great Britain.

Colonists protested the British tax on tea with the Boston Tea Party.

Great Britain responded to colonial actions by passing the Intolerable Acts.

Main Idea 1:

British efforts to raise taxes on colonists sparked protest.

- Great Britain had to pay for the French and Indian War and for keeping troops in North America to protect the colonists.
- Parliament passed the Sugar Act in 1764 to tax colonists to make them help pay costs.
- Parliament's actions upset many colonists.
- Colonists believed there should be no taxes without representation in Parliament.
- **Samuel Adams**, a colonial leader, set up the Committees of Correspondence to protest.

Taxing the Colonies

Stamp Act of 1765

- Colonists had to pay for official stamp, or seal, on purchase of paper items.
- Immediate protests
- Sons of Liberty sometimes used violence.
- Stamp Act Congress of 1765 declared the tax a violation of colonial rights.
- Repealed in 1766

Townshend Acts of 1767

- Duties on glass, lead, paints, paper, and tea
- Writs of assistance used to enforce these acts.
- Colonists boycotted British goods.
- Sons of Liberty attacked houses of customs officials.
- British troops sent in 1768.

Main Idea 2:

The Boston Massacre caused colonial resentment toward Great Britain.

- A crowd gathered in Boston after a British soldier struck a colonist on March 5, 1770.
- Soldiers fired into the crowd, killing three, including Crispus Attucks.
- The shootings were called the **Boston Massacre** by colonists.
- This caused more resentment against the British.

Main Idea 3:

Colonists protested the British tax on tea with the Boston Tea Party.

- Colonial merchants smuggled tea to avoid paying the British tea tax.
- Parliament passed the **Tea Act** in 1773 to allow the British East India Company to sell cheap tea to the colonists.
- Colonial merchants and smugglers were opposed to this.

- On December 16, 1773, colonists disguised as Indians attacked British tea ships and threw the tea overboard.
- The incident was called the **Boston Tea Party**.

Main Idea 4:

Great Britain responded to colonial actions by passing the Intolerable Acts.

1. Boston Harbor was closed.
2. Massachusetts's charter was canceled
3. Royal officials accused of crimes would be sent back to England for trial
4. Gen Thomas Gage was made the new governor of Massachusetts.