

Colonial Newspaper Web Project

You are to create a colonial newspaper.

Your first step is to **go to the listed website and click on each of the 3 colonial newspapers at the bottom of the page** to see what actual colonial newspapers looked like.

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/past/>

Then **take the “quiz” below**.

A. In Ben Franklin’s Pennsylvania Gazette, look for the name Joseph Sims. What did Mr. Sim’s sell at his store? What do you notice about the use of the letter “f” in this advertisement?

B. In the Boston Gazette, on what date was this newspaper published? How is Boston spelled on the front page?

C. In the Massachusetts Centinel, what is the article by William Bell about? Richard Cranch has submitted an article, what is his profession? Why did he stop working and why is he now returning to work?

Now that you are a bit more familiar with the look of a colonial newspaper, it is time to **create your own front page!**

Using the sources below, research information to include in your colonial newspaper. Base all of your information on facts from colonial times. You may, however, create fictional names for shop owners or in advertisements.

You must include EACH of the following:

1) Opening a new shop – Write an article announcing your colonial occupation.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0215447/>

http://www.kidinfo.com/American_History/Colonization_Colonial_Life.html

2) Advertisements – Write **2** using the colonial newspapers from the “quiz” as samples.

3) Historic Figures – Write an article about **1** of the suggestions below. Be sure to include all important information about the event. Check out this website for how to write a news story. Click on “News Story”:

<http://www.timeforkids.com/homework-helper/a-plus-papers>

Use the provided graphic organizer and checklist as you write your story.

- **George Washington:** Write an article of his appointment as commander-in-chief and what he did after his appointment.

http://www.georgewashington.si.edu/life/chrono_war.html

<http://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/george-washington-facts.html>

- **Paul Revere:** Write an account of his midnight ride.

<http://www.paulreverehouse.org/bio/>

- **Deborah Sampson:** What unusual thing did she do during the Revolutionary War?

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/historyofus/web02/features/bio/B01.html>

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/review/fall96/biography.html>

- **Nathan Hale:** What did he volunteer to do? What happened to him?

<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/hale.htm>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/TQ0312848/nhale.htm>

- **John Paul Jones:** What was he doing in 1779? Tell about his ship, "Poor Richard's Almanac", and where it came from.

<http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq58-1.htm>

- **General Anthony Wayne:** What did Washington ask him to do at Stony Point? Who were the American Light Corps.

<http://www.ushistory.org/paoli/history/wayne.htm>

4) Historic Events - Write an article about **1** of the suggestions below. Be sure to include all important information about the event. Use the provided graphic organizer and checklist as you write your story.

- **Boston Tea Party:** How many people were involved? How many ships did they board? How much money was the tea worth?

http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/popup_teparty.html

<http://www.bostontepartyship.com/boston-tea-party-facts>

- **Stamp Act:** Why were there no stamp commissioners left? What was being taxed? Why were the colonists so mad about it?

http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/popup_stampact.html

<http://www.history.org/History/teaching/tchrsta.cfm>

- **Battle of Bunker Hill:** How many American soldiers were waiting for the British before the battle began? What was the name of the hill? How many British fought? Who won?

<http://www.britishbattles.com/bunker-hill.htm>

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/maps/bunkerhill/>

- **Boston Massacre:** How did this fight happen? Who was involved? How many people died? Who were they?

<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/massacre.htm>

<http://www.bostonmassacre.net/>

- **Battle of Trenton:** What did George Washington cross the night before the battle? How many soldiers were with him? How long was the battle? Who won? Who was mortally wounded?

<http://www.britishbattles.com/battle-trenton.htm>

<http://www.doublegv.com/ggv/battles/Trenton.html>

http://www.theamericanrevolution.org/battles/bat_tren.asp

- **The Declaration of Independence:** Write an account of when it was presented, to whom, the authors, and what happened after it was presented to the public.

http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/popup_declaration.html

<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/timeline.htm>

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/freedom/doi/text.html>

5) Picture – Include at least one picture. Make sure the colonial graphic ties into the article below or beside it. If space is available, you may include other graphics.

[http://classroomclipart.com/cgi-](http://classroomclipart.com/cgi-bin/kids/imageFolio.cgi?direct=History/United_States/Colonial_America)

[bin/kids/imageFolio.cgi?direct=History/United_States/Colonial_America](http://classroomclipart.com/cgi-bin/kids/imageFolio.cgi?direct=History/United_States/Colonial_America)

<http://dsc.discovery.com/guides/history/unsolvedhistory/bostonmassacre/photogallery/photogallery.html>

<http://www.freeclipartnow.com/history/american-history/revolution/>

<http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/sitemap/sitemap.php>

<http://colonial.phillipmartin.info/index.htm>

Summary:

To summarize the above, these are all the items you need in your colonial newspaper:

1. An article about opening a shop and announcing your occupation
2. 1st advertisement
3. 2nd advertisement
4. An article on 1 historic figure
5. An article about 1 historic event
6. A picture related to the article or item below or beside it
7. (optional) Other pictures, if there is room

Directions for Creating Your Newspaper

You've chosen your topics, you've done your research, and now you're ready to put your articles into the newspaper. Please use the supplied newspaper template.