



Patriots v. Loyalists Lesson Plan

Grade level: 4th Grade

Time required: 1 class period

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What are the differences between Patriots and Loyalists? What was each side fighting for? Why did American colonists choose to fight for a particular side?

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will learn about the difference between Patriots and Loyalists.
2. Students will learn reasons why colonists would choose either side.
3. Students will choose sides by writing their own list of reasons to support either the Patriots or the Loyalists

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. *Patriots v. Loyalists* Google Slides lesson.
2. Printed out copies of the blank Declaration slide for students to fill out. This may also be done digitally using the template in the Google Slides.

ACTIVITY

1. Discuss the *Patriots v. Loyalists* Google slides as a class. There are a number of prompt questions on the slides; try to give students the time to think about and answer these questions.
2. As you go through the slides, remember that the students will be choosing a side and writing their own declaration of their reasons. We find that many students gravitate to the Patriot side. Teacher emphasis on the reasoning of an average Loyalist colonist can create a more even divide between Patriots and Loyalists when the students choose.
3. At the end of the slides, hand out the blank Declaration sheets. Give the students time to fill out their Declaration with their chosen side and their three most important reasons for choosing that side. Depending on the size of your class and

the time you have available, you can have the students gather in groups to discuss their choice or you can discuss as a class.

EDUCATION STANDARDS

1. New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards
 - 4SL1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners, expressing ideas clearly, and building on those of others.
2. New York Social Studies Framework:
 - Gathering, Interpreting, and Using Evidence
3. New York State Social Studies Standards:
 - 1.4.3- Students view historic events through the eyes of those who were there, as shown in their art, writings, music, and artifacts.