

"The Road to Revolution: The Boston Massacre Board Game"

Step 1: Research Phase

Structured Research Sheet:

- Cause of the Boston Massacre: "It happened because _____ (Example: British soldiers were stationed in Boston, which made the colonists unhappy.)"
- Key Figures:
 1. _____ (Example: Crispus Attucks)
 2. _____ (Example: Captain Thomas Preston)
- Date of the Boston Massacre: "March 5, 1770"
- Outcome/Effect: "This event led to _____ (Example: increased anger among colonists towards British rule.)"
- Interesting Fact: "Did you know _____? (Example: that the Boston Massacre was called the 'Incident on King Street' by the British.)"

Step 2: Game Concept Development

Game Type and Mechanics:

- "Our game is a _____ (Race) game where players move by _____ (rolling a dice) and aim to _____ (reach the end first)."

Step 3: Designing the Game Board

Fill-in Template for Spaces:

- Start Space: "All players start at _____ (Boston Harbor)."
- Trivia Space Example: "Land here and answer a question about _____ (why colonists were angry). Correct answers move you 2 spaces forward."
- Challenge Space Example: "This space is _____ (King Street), where you face a challenge to act out a scene from the Boston Massacre. Success moves you 3 spaces ahead."

Ideas for designing the different spaces on the board:

Trivia Spaces:

1. King Street Confrontation
 - Drawing: A cobblestone street with figures standing off in the distance, tension visible in their postures.
2. Attucks in Action
 - Drawing: A shadowy figure representing Crispus Attucks, leading a charge or speaking to a crowd.
3. Preston's Command
 - Drawing: Captain Thomas Preston with his hand raised, attempting to calm both his soldiers and the crowd.
4. Revere's Engraving
 - Drawing: A depiction of Paul Revere's famous engraving of the Boston Massacre, perhaps with Revere himself holding it.
5. The Propaganda War

- Drawing: Colonial newspapers scattered, with exaggerated headlines about the event.

6. Trial of the Century

- Drawing: A colonial courtroom with John Adams standing before a judge.

7. Eyewitness Accounts

- Drawing: Colonial citizens whispering to one another, sharing stories.

8. The First to Fall

- Drawing: An outline of five fallen figures, with emphasis on the first, representing the victims.

9. The Snowball Spark

- Drawing: A snowball flying through the air towards a line of British soldiers.

10. Aftermath of Anger

- Drawing: A colonial family discussing the event, with a copy of the Gazette on the table.

Challenge Spaces:

11. The Midnight Meeting

- Drawing: A secretive gathering of colonists, perhaps in the shadows, plotting their next move.

12. Voice of the People

- Drawing: A colonist standing on a crate, addressing a crowd in a town square.

13. Patriot or Loyalist?

- Drawing: Two figures facing each other, one draped in a Union Jack, the other holding a liberty cap.

14. Quill of Liberty

- Drawing: A quill pen over a blank parchment, ready to write a passionate argument or letter.

15. The Silent Witness

- Drawing: An empty street at night, lit only by the moon, with the Custom House in the background.

Step 4: Creating Game Components

Trivia and Challenge Cards:

- Trivia Card Example:

- "Question: Who was the first person killed in the Boston Massacre? Answer: _____ (Crispus Attucks)"

- Challenge Card Example:

- "Task: Draw a quick sketch of the Boston Massacre. Complete it in 1 minute to move ahead 1 space."

Step 5: Writing the Rules

Simplified Rules Sheet:

1. "To start, everyone _____ (rolls the dice). The highest number goes first."
2. "On your turn, _____ (roll the dice and move). If you land on a Trivia space, _____ (pick a card and answer the question)."

3. "Winning: You win by _____ (reaching 'The Trial of Captain Preston' space first)."

Step 6: Prototype Testing

Feedback and Revision Sheet:

- "What part of the game was the most fun? _____ (Example: answering trivia questions.)"
- "What rule or part was hard to understand? _____"
- "How can we make our game better? _____"

Step 7: Final Touches

Checklist for Game Completion:

- [] "Is the game board colorful and easy to read? _____ (Check)"
- [] "Are all trivia and challenge cards written clearly? _____ (Check)"
- [] "Have we practiced explaining our game to others? _____ (Check)"

Trivia Cards

1. The Boston Massacre happened in the year _____.
2. The event took place in front of the _____ building.
3. _____ was the first person killed in the Boston Massacre.
4. The British soldiers involved in the Boston Massacre were led by Captain _____.
5. The Boston Massacre was a result of tensions over the _____ Act(s).
6. _____, a patriot, made a famous engraving of the Boston Massacre.
7. The trial of the British soldiers was defended by future President _____.
8. The Boston Massacre occurred on _____ Street.
9. The number of colonists killed in the Boston Massacre was _____.
10. The Boston Massacre occurred in the month of _____.
11. The event was initially referred to as the "Incident on _____ Street" by the British.
12. _____ was one of the two African American victims of the Boston Massacre.
13. The soldiers fired into the crowd after being taunted and hit by _____ and _____ (two items).
14. The British soldiers were found _____ (guilty/not guilty) of murder.
15. _____ used the Boston Massacre as a propaganda tool to fuel anti-British sentiment.
16. The British soldiers claimed they acted in _____ defense.
17. The number of British soldiers tried for their roles in the Boston Massacre was _____.
18. _____ was a key eyewitness who testified during the trial of the British soldiers.
19. The legal defense argued that the crowd was threatening the soldiers with _____.
20. The Boston Massacre is considered a turning point leading up to the _____ War.
21. The outcome of the trial led to two soldiers being branded on the _____ as punishment.
22. The incident began when a young apprentice accused a British officer of failing to pay a _____.
23. Samuel Adams called the victims of the Boston Massacre the first _____ of the American Revolution.
24. After the incident, a yearly _____ was held to commemorate the Boston Massacre.
25. The colonial propaganda described the British soldiers as _____ (an animal) to dehumanize them.
26. The legal proceedings of the Boston Massacre trial were published in detail by _____.
27. The snowball fight that escalated into the Boston Massacre started outside the _____ shop.
28. _____ was a sailor who was killed during the Boston Massacre.

29. Many historians consider the Boston Massacre as the first act of _____ leading to the Revolutionary War.
30. The _____ Acts, imposed by Britain, heightened tensions that led to the Boston Massacre.
31. The British Parliament repealed all of the _____ Acts except for the tax on _____ following the Boston Massacre.
32. The Liberty Tree became a symbol of protest after the Boston Massacre, representing _____.
33. The term "massacre" was used by _____ to emphasize the brutality of the event.
34. Witnesses reported seeing British soldiers _____ (smiling/laughing) as they fired into the crowd.
35. The Boston Massacre trials lasted for nearly _____ weeks.
36. _____, a well-known silversmith, spread the image of the Boston Massacre throughout the colonies.
37. The day before the Boston Massacre, a fight broke out between Bostonians and British soldiers at _____.
38. After the Boston Massacre, Captain Preston and his men were immediately arrested and taken to _____ jail.
39. The jury for the Boston Massacre trials was made up of _____ (colonists/British soldiers).
40. The Boston Massacre helped unify the colonies against _____ rule.

Challenge Cards

1. Act out a conversation between a British soldier and a colonist before the Boston Massacre. Include why the soldier is in Boston and the colonist's reaction to _____.
2. Write a headline for a colonial newspaper about the Boston Massacre, focusing on the emotion it caused among the colonists, such as "Bostonians _____ After Tragic Event."
3. Mime the sequence of events that you think led to the first shot being fired in the Boston Massacre, emphasizing the moment of _____.
4. Create a quick sketch on the board of the Boston Massacre scene, ensuring to include _____ (an object or person central to the event).
5. Write a short diary entry from the perspective of a Bostonian who witnessed the Massacre, expressing their feelings about _____.
6. Act out the role of a British general explaining to Parliament why the soldiers were stationed in Boston, specifically mentioning _____.
7. Draw a map on the board showing where key locations related to the Boston Massacre were, including _____ (a significant place).
8. Perform a monologue as Paul Revere discussing his thoughts while creating his famous engraving, focusing on his intention to _____.
9. Write a persuasive argument that a lawyer might use defending the British soldiers, emphasizing the concept of _____.
10. Act out a scene of a colonial family's dinner conversation the night of the Massacre, discussing the event of _____.
11. Create a propaganda slogan that Samuel Adams might have used after the Boston Massacre, focusing on the theme of _____.
12. Write a brief poem or rhyme from the perspective of a child witnessing the aftermath of the Boston Massacre, including the line "And then I saw _____."
13. Act out the moment of confrontation between the British soldiers and the mob, with emphasis on the misunderstanding about _____.
14. Design a memorial plaque for the victims of the Boston Massacre, including a sentence about their sacrifice for _____.

15. Write a list of demands colonists might have made after the Boston Massacre, including one specific demand about _____.
16. Perform as a British soldier writing a letter home, trying to justify the actions taken during the Boston Massacre by mentioning _____.
17. Create a quick skit showing the reaction of the British Parliament upon hearing news of the Boston Massacre, focusing on their concern about _____.
18. Write the first sentence of a speech by John Adams defending the British soldiers, starting with "In the matter of _____, we must consider..."
19. Act out a colonial news reporter interviewing witnesses of the Boston Massacre, asking about the moment when _____ occurred.
20. Draw on the board a colonial's symbolic representation of freedom threatened by the Boston Massacre, incorporating _____ as a symbol.
21. Write a brief dialogue between two colonists with opposing views on the aftermath of the Boston Massacre, particularly on _____.
22. Perform a scene from the trial following the Boston Massacre, highlighting the testimony about _____.
23. Create a silent tableau (frozen picture) with your group depicting a key moment of the Boston Massacre, focusing on the theme of _____.
24. Write a short narrative from the perspective of an object present during the Boston Massacre (like a musket or cobblestone), witnessing _____.
25. Act out the moment of reflection by a colonist who was part of the crowd during the Boston Massacre, pondering the consequences of _____.