

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE VOCABULARY BUILDING

Background

To support a deeper understanding of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and the men who developed each, there are key vocabulary terms that students have to understand. Use this activity to support student learning as they dive deeper into these key terms and ideas.

Instructions

1. Students can work independently, or in small groups, depending on how many words you want to use. Assign words to the students or groups.
2. Students should create a slide that includes a definition of their assigned term and a picture to represent the term. This can take anywhere from 4-8 minutes.
3. After the entire class is done with their work, each student or student group shares their term, the definition, the picture they chose, and their rationale. This should take no more than 1 minute per student or group.
4. After all students have presented, share the completed deck with students or post it on a platform that allows students to refer to the vocabulary throughout the unit
5. You may also choose to assign the same term to more than one student or group. This provides the opportunity to compare and discuss differences between groups, and build consensus across opinions.

Vocabulary Terms

- Declaration
- Independence
- Liberty
- Pursuit of Happiness
- Unalienable Rights
- Despotism
- Patriot
- Loyalist
- Grievances
- Quartering of Soldiers
- Legislative Bodies
- Tyrant
- Domestic Insurrection
- Mercenaries
- Oppressive
- Constitution
- Founding Father
- Merchant
- Planter/Plantation
- Politician
- Federalist