

Music of the American Revolution 5th Grade

Adapted from the lesson plans for the Liberty! series found at http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/tguide_5.html

Materials needed:

One copy for each group of their song and related questions.

Schedule a computer lab to do the research on the songs and create the prezi. If the students have never used prezi, you can have them create a poster or powerpoint. Prezi is very easy to learn. You would need 15-20 minutes to demonstrate how to use the site and another 15-20 for students to practice. Here is a sample Prezi showing how to create a Prezi: <http://prezi.com/9hxfb6b2omhy/creating-a-prezi/>

Introduction: Show youtube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNqUORIFV4I>, God Bless the USA, or a similar video that you think your students would relate to.

Ask the students what they think about when they hear this video? What does it mean to them?

Tell the students that we are going to examine songs from the Revolutionary War period. (There are 7 songs in this packet. The World Turned Upside Down is the most difficult. You can choose to do as many songs as fit your class.)

Divide the group into how many teams you have chosen and assign one song to each team. Give each team the instruction page with their assigned song. Students should first research the song and answer the questions. There is a link on each page to the music for the song. However, the students will need to do additional research to learn more about the song. (30-45 minutes)

Students then create either a poster, powerpoint or Prezi about their song. (30-45 minutes) This could be done at home if students have access to a computer and can work in a group after school.

Students then present the information about their assigned song.

God Save the Thirteen States

God save the Thirteen States!
Long rule the United States!
God save our States!
Make us victorious,
Happy and glorious;
No tyrants over us;
God save our States!

2. To our famed Washington,
Brave Stark at Bennington,
Glory is due.
Peace to Montgomery's shade,
Who as he fought and bled,
Drew honors round his head,
Num'rous as true.

5. O Lord! Thy gifts in store,
We pray on Congress pour,
To guide our States.
May union bless our land,
While we, with heart and hand,
Our mutual rights defend;
God save our States!

3. Oft did America
Foresee with sad dismay
Her slav'ry near.
Oft did her grievance state,
But Britain, falsely great,
Urging her desp'rate fate,
Turned a deaf ear.

4. We'll fear no tyrant's nod
Nor stern oppression's rod,
Till time's no more.
Thus Liberty, when driv'n
From Europe's states, is giv'n
A safe retreat and hav'n
On our free shore.

Words and music found at: <http://www.musicanet.org/robokopp/usa/godsavet.htm>

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

- When was this song written and what is it about?
- In the 2nd verse who is Washington, Bennington and Montgomery? Describe each person's role in the Revolutionary War and why they would be mentioned in this song.
- Explain the meaning of verses 3, 4, and 5.

The World Turned Upside Down

Listen to me and you shall hear, news hath not been this thousand year:
Since Herod, Caesar, and many more, you never heard the like before.
Holy-dayes are despis'd, new fashions are devis'd.
Old Christmas is kicked out of Town
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down.
The wise men did rejoyce to see our Savior Christs Nativity:
The Angels did good tidings bring, the Shepherds did rejoyce and sing.
Let all honest men, take example by them.
Why should we from good Laws be bound?
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down.
Command is given, we must obey, and quite forget old Christmas day:
Kill a thousand men, or a Town regain, we will give thanks and praise amain.
The wine pot shall clinke, we will feast and drinke.
And then strange motions will abound.
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down.
Our Lords and Knights, and Gentry too, doe mean old fashions to forgoe:
They set a porter at the gate, that none must enter in thereat.
They count it a sin, when poor people come in.
Hospitality it selfe is drown'd.
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down.
The serving men doe sit and whine, and thinke it long ere dinner time:
The Butler's still out of the way, or else my Lady keeps the key,
The poor old cook, in the larder doth look,
Where is no goodnesse to be found,
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down.
To conclude, I'll tell you news that's right, Christmas was kil'd at [Naseby fight](#):
Charity was slain at that same time, Jack Tell troth too, a friend of mine,
Likewise then did die, rost beef and shred pie,
Pig, Goose and Capon no quarter found.
Yet let's be content, and the times lament, you see the world turn'd upside down

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCXnol8NGbg>

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

When was this song written?

Why was it originally written?

How does this song relate to the Revolutionary War?

Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier

<http://americanstrings.blogspot.com/2011/07/johnny-has-gone-for-soldier.html>

Here I sit on Buttermilk Hill
Who could blame me cry my fill,
Every tear would turn a mill,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.
Oh my baby, oh my love,
Gone the rainbow, gone the dove,
Your father was my only love,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.

Me, oh my, I loved him so,
It broke my heart to see him go,
And only time will heal my woe,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.
Oh my baby, oh my love,
Gone the rainbow, gone the dove,
Your father was my only love,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.

I sold my flax, I sold my my wheel,
To buy my love a sword of steel,
So it in battle, he may wield,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.
Oh my baby, oh my love,
Gone the rainbow, gone the dove,
Your father was my only love,
Johnny's gone for a soldier.

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

Who wrote the music and the lyrics?

Who is singing the song?

Who is being sung to?

In the third stanza, what is flax and wheel?

The Liberty Song

Come, join hand in hand, brave Americans all,
And rouse your bold hearts at fair Liberty's call;
No tyrannous acts shall suppress your just claim,
Or stain with dishonor America's name.
In Freedom we're born and in Freedom we'll live.
Our purses are ready. Steady, friends, steady;
Not as slaves, but as Freemen our money we'll give.

Our worthy forefathers, let's give them a cheer,
To climates unknown did courageously steer;
Thro' oceans to deserts for Freedom they came,
And dying, bequeath'd us their freedom and fame.
In Freedom we're born and in Freedom we'll live.
Our purses are ready. Steady, friends, steady;
Not as slaves, but as Freemen our money we'll give.

The tree their own hands had to Liberty rear'd,
They lived to behold growing strong and revered;
With transport they cried, Now our wishes we gain,
For our children shall gather the fruits of our pain.
In Freedom we're born and in Freedom we'll live.
Our purses are ready. Steady, friends, steady;
Not as slaves, but as Freemen our money we'll give.

Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all,
By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall;
In so righteous a cause let us hope to succeed,
For heaven approves of each generous deed.
In Freedom we're born and in Freedom we'll live.
Our purses are ready. Steady, friends, steady;
Not as slaves, but as Freemen our money we'll give.

In Freedom we're born and in Freedom we'll live.
Our purses are ready. Steady, friends, steady;
Not as slaves, but as Freemen our money we'll give.

<http://www.contemplator.com/america/liberty.html>

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

Who wrote this song?

Where did the music come from, what was it originally?

The last 3 lines of each stanza are the same. What do they mean?

“Our children shall gather the fruits of our plain” what does this line mean?

Yankee Doodle

Father and I went down to camp,
Along with Captain Gooding;
And there we saw the men and boys,
As thick as hasty pudding.

Yankee doodle, keep it up,
Yankee doodle dandy;
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

There was Captain Washington
Upon a slapping stallion,
A-giving orders to his men,
I guess there was a million.

And every time they shoot it off,
It takes a horn of powder;
It makes a noise like father's gun,
Only a nation louder.

I went as nigh to one myself,
As' Siah's underpinning;
And father went as nigh agin,
I thought the deuce was in him.

Uncle Sam came there to change
Some pancakes and some onions,
For' lasses cake to carry home
To give his wife and young ones.

But I can't tell half I see
They kept up such a smother;
So I took my hat off, made a bow,
And scampered home to mother.

Cousin Simon grew so bold,
I thought he would have cocked it;
It scared me so I streaked it off,
And hung by father's pocket.

And there I saw a pumpkin shell,
As big as mother's basin;
And every time they touched it off,
They scampered like the nation.

Yankee doodle, keep it up,
Yankee doodle dandy;
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

When was this song written?

Why was it written and what was the original intent?

What did the song become?

Choose one of the verses and explain it to the class.

**American Taxation by Peter St. John
To the tune of "The British Grenadiers"**

While I relate my story, Americans give ear;
Of Britain's fading glory, you presently shall hear.
I'll give a true relation, attend to what I say,
Concerning the taxation of North America.

The cruel lords of Britain, who glory in their shame,
The project they have hit on they joyfully proclaim;
Tis what they're striving after our rights to take away,
And rob us of our charter in North America.

There are two mighty speakers who rule in Parliament,
Who ever have been seeking some mischief to invent;
'Twas North, and Bute his father, the horrid plan did lay,
A mighty tax to gather in North America.

These subtle arch-combiners addressed the British court,
All three were undersigners of this obscure report--
There is a pleasant landscape that lieth far away,
Beyond the wide Atlantic in North America.

O King, you've heard the sequel of what we now subscribe,
Is it not just and equal to tax this wealthy tribe?
The question being asked, his majesty did say,
My subjects shall be taxed in North America.
Invested with a warrant, my publicans shall go,
The tenth of all their current they surely shall bestow;
If they indulge rebellion, or from my precepts stray,
I'll send my war battalion to North America.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4yj4sRu21I>

This youtube video has the music but not the lyrics. The lyrics above do fit quite easily into this music and students with a musical background should be able to put the lyrics to this music.

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

Who wrote the words to this song?

Where did the music come from?

Why do you think they chose that music?

Who is North and Bute in the third stanza?

What is the song about?

There Was an Old Lady, Lived Over the Sea

There was a rich lady lived over the sea,
And she was an island queen,
Her daughter lived off in the new country,
With an ocean of water between.
With an ocean of water between.

The old lady's pockets were filled with
gold,
Yet never contented was she,
So she ordered her daughter to pay her a
tax,
Of thruppence a pound on the tea.
Of thruppence a pound on the tea.

Oh mother, dear mother, the daughter
replied,
I'll not do the thing that you ask,
I'm willing to pay fair price on the tea,
But never the thruppenney tax.
But never the thruppenney tax.

You shall, cried the mother, and reddened
with rage,
For you're my own daughter, you see,
And it's only proper that daughter should
pay

Her mother's a tax on the tea.
Her mother's a tax on the tea.

She ordered her servant to come up to
her,
And to wrap up a package of tea.
And eager for thruppence a pound she put
in
Enough for a large family.
Enough for a large family.

The tea was conveyed to her daughter's
own door,
All down by the oceanside,
But the bouncing girl poured out ever
pound
On the dark and the boiling tide.
On the dark and the boiling tide.

And then she called out to the island
queen,
Oh mother, dear mother, called she,
Your tea you may have when 'tis steeped
enough,
But never a tax from me!
But never a tax from me!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPv3Kqvk_8s

Instructions: Create a Prezi that answers the following questions. Include the song lyrics and music in your presentation. Include any other information that may be helpful to understand the song or that the class may find interesting.

Who wrote this song?

What event is depicted in the song?

Who is the mother? Who is the daughter?