

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Boston Tea Party: A Revolutionary Tea Party!



The Boston Tea Party was one of the most famous events in American history. It was a protest that took place in the late 18th century, in the city of Boston, and it played a significant role in the lead-up to the American Revolution.

The Boston Tea Party occurred on the night of December 16, 1773. This event was a direct response to the Tea Act imposed by the British government, which had angered the American colonists.

### Where did the Boston Tea Party occur?

The Boston Tea Party took place in the Boston Harbor, specifically at a place known as Griffin's Wharf. At that time, Boston Harbor was a bustling port where ships from around the world would come to trade goods, including tea.

In the years leading up to the Boston Tea Party, tensions were rising between the American colonies and British authorities. One of the main sources of frustration was taxation without representation. The British government was imposing taxes on the American colonists without allowing them to have a say in the decisions being made. The Tea Act of 1773 was one such tax that had a direct impact on the colonists.

The Tea Act gave the British East India Company a monopoly on tea sales in the American colonies. This meant that the colonists could only buy tea from this company, and they were required to pay taxes on it. The colonists saw this as an unfair way for the British government to maintain control and generate revenue.

In protest, a group of colonists, dressed as Mohawk Indians to conceal their identities, boarded three British ships: the Dartmouth, the Eleanor, and the Beaver, all of which were carrying a shipment of British tea. These colonists, who became known as the "Sons of Liberty," proceeded to dump all the tea from the ships into the Boston Harbor. It was estimated that they destroyed over 340 chests of tea, which was a substantial amount.

This act of protest was not just about the tea itself; it symbolized the colonists' resistance to British oppression. The colonists believed they needed to make a strong statement to show that they would not accept unjust taxation and were willing to take a stand for their rights.

The British government responded to the Boston Tea Party with harsh measures. They passed the Coercive Acts, which were punitive laws aimed at punishing the people of Boston. These acts only further fueled the flames of discontent in the American colonies and pushed them closer to the brink of revolution.

In summary, the Boston Tea Party was a pivotal event in American history that took place on December 16, 1773, in the Boston Harbor at Griffin's Wharf. It was a protest against the Tea Act and British taxation without representation, where colonists dressed as Mohawk Indians boarded British ships and dumped a large shipment of tea into the harbor. This act of defiance played a significant role in the lead-up to the American Revolution.