

# Best Practices of Technology Integration

**Title:** *Timeline of the “Road to Independence”*

**Subject Area:** World Studies

**Intended Grade Levels:** 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

## **Description:**

Currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, students are learning for the first time about how the United States came to be a country. We begin by studying the colonization of America by different countries and learning about the wars between these different countries over the land in North America. Then we get into events that lead to the discontent of the English Colonists and their quest for independence. Students will collect the data needed for their timeline from Internet sites. They will create a chronological timeline on the computer using the *Inspiration* software program. The timeline will include all the important events leading up to the independence of the United States of America, beginning with the French and Indian War and ending with the Treaty of Paris. They will be given all of the events, in mixed up order, on a worksheet.

## **Narrative:**

Students love to “create” things on the computer, which makes this assignment very motivating for them. The opportunity to use the Internet motivates them even more. As they create their timelines using the software program, *Inspiration*, they get to choose graphics, fonts and font sizes. Going to Internet sites to find the dates of events for their timelines reinforces researching for information skills. Organization of data is practiced as they get the events into chronological order. Because they will not be able to find all the information they need at one particular site, they will practice problem-solving skills. This lesson will deepen their knowledge of what led to our country’s independence.

## **Curriculum Benchmarks:**

### [MI.SOC.I.1.LE.3](#)

Places major events in the early history of the United States in chronological order.

### [MI.SOC.V.1.LE.1](#)

Locates information about local, state, and national communities using a variety of traditional sources, electronic technologies, and direct observation.

### [MI.SOC.V.1.LE.2](#)

Organizes social science information to make maps, graphs, tables.

## **Timeline:**

Create a timeline to show as a model to students: 30-45 minutes.

Prepare student handout sheets and make copies: 30-45 minutes.

Sign up for computer lab, use of Proxima® machine: 5 minutes.

Make sure Proxima® is hooked up to computer teacher will be using and is working correctly: 10 minutes.

Teaching this lesson takes approximately two class periods of 60 minutes each.

**Materials/Hardware/Software :**

Computer Lab with enough computers for each student

Printer

Internet Access

*Inspiration* software program (Inspiration Software, Inc.)

Assignment Handout Sheet

Pencils

Proxima® (for teacher demonstration) and area for projection

Teacher prepared timeline done on *Inspiration* to use for demonstration

**Teacher Preparation:**

- ◆ Create a timeline on the computer, using *Inspiration*. I created a timeline of my education, from birth to college graduation.
- ◆ Prepare the assignment handout sheet for students.
- ◆ Sign up for computer lab use.
- ◆ Make sure Proxima® machine is hooked up to a computer in the lab.
- ◆ Log in on computer that is hooked up to Proxima®, and pull up *Inspiration* demonstration.
- ◆ Pencils (one for each student) will be needed.

**Prerequisite Student Skills:**

Students need to have prior experience working with the *Inspiration* program. (If not, you may need two to three additional class periods to introduce and teach this.) Students will need to be familiar with moving around on the Internet.

**Activities/Procedures:**

History of the United States from the Settlement of Roanoke to the Establishment of the United States of America as an Independent Country

Lesson: Timeline of the “Road to Independence”

Objectives: Using *Inspiration*, students will create a chronological timeline of the events that led to the independence of the United States of America. Student timelines must include:

- F & I War
- Stamp Act
- Townshend Act
- Boston Massacre
- Boston Tea Party
- Intolerable Acts
- Battles of Lexington & Concord
- Battle of Bunker Hill
- Olive Branch Petition
- Declaration of Independence
- Battle of Trenton
- Battle of Saratoga

France enters the War  
Surrender at Yorktown  
Treaty of Paris

Materials: Handout sheet with above list on it in mixed up order.  
Computers with *Inspiration* loaded on them.

#### Anticipatory

Set: Share a timeline of my school life, from birth through college graduation.

Purpose: Students need to be able to place major events in early United States history in chronological order.

Input: Give students the handout sheet and go over the instructions with them. Have them follow the steps to create their timeline. (Student handout is attached at end of this document.)

Model: Demonstrate by creating a timeline of places I have lived during my life, using the Proxima®. To do this, open a new project file in *Inspiration*, choose graphic shape, insert text, use rapid fire, insert arrows pointing in correct direction.

#### Guided

Practice: Guide students through picking their graphic, choosing font and font size, creating connecting arrows.

#### Independent

Practice: Students will create a timeline of the events that led to independence for the United States.

Sites: <http://chaos1.hypermart.net/hist/tush.html>  
<http://pbs.org.ktcd/liberty/chronicle/timeline>  
<http://historyplace.com/unitedstates/revolution/rev-early.htm>

#### **Assessment/Evaluation:**

See Attachments below

#### **Submitted By:**

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**Attachment:**

**TIMELINE OF THE ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE SCORING RUBRIC**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b>SCORED ITEM</b>	<b>POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>POINTS EARNED</b>
Title	5	
Student's Name	5	
Includes 15 Events	30	
Correct Dates by Each Event	30	
Arrows Go in Correct Direction	20	
Layout of Timeline Is Neatly Done	10	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	100	

**Attachment:**

Timeline of the “Road to Independence”

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Using *Inspiration*, you will create a chronological timeline of the events that led to the independence of the United States of America. Your timeline must include:

French & Indian War  
Treaty of Paris  
Townshend Act  
Battle of Saratoga  
Boston Tea Party  
Intolerable Acts  
Battles of Lexington & Concord  
Battle of Bunker Hill  
Declaration of Independence  
Battle of Trenton  
France enters the War (helping the Patriots)  
Stamp Act  
Surrender at Yorktown  
Boston Massacre  
Olive Branch Petition

**Step 1:** Log onto computer, go onto internet.

**Step 2:** Go to one of the following sites for timeline information:

<http://chaos1.hypermart.net/hist/tush.html>

<http://pbs.org/ktcd/liberty/chronicle/timeline>

<http://historyplace.com/unitedstates/revolution/rev-early.htm>

**Step 3:** Write correct year by each event given above on this worksheet.

**Step 4:** Log out of Internet, go into *Inspiration* Program (on your bookshelf).

**Step 5:** Create a timeline, putting the events above in correct, chronological order.