

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Essential Questions

MISSION 1: "For Crown or Colony?"

MISSION 1: "*For Crown or Colony?*" is designed to help students think like a historian by considering multiple-perspectives, turnings points, cause & effect, change and continuity over time, and ways of using the past to understand the present. Keep the following historical thinking questions in mind as you play the game.

1) What are the different ways that Americans have defined freedom? How do these definitions sometimes conflict with one another?

- What kind of freedoms (political, social, economic) mattered to the different groups of colonists in Boston?
- In what ways did Patriots, Loyalists, and "fence-sitters" disagree about the meaning of freedom?

2) Why did protests against the British colonial government break out in Boston in the early 1770s? How did each side understand and respond to this conflict?

- Why did some colonists object to a British military presence in the colonies?
- What issues did the British government have with colonists?
- How did the Loyalists and Patriots perceive each other?
- Why do you think some colonists continued to support the British government throughout worsening tensions?
- Who was involved in the Boston Massacre and in what way did they participate and/or instigate the course of events?

3) How does the response to certain beliefs and events affect change? What role do persuasion and propaganda play in a revolution?

- How did Christopher Seider's murder and the Boston Massacre impact public attitudes in Boston?
- Why do you think events in Boston had a broader effect throughout the colonies and empire?
- How did propaganda and protest actions such as boycotts contribute to public opinion and mobilize colonists both before and after the Boston Massacre?