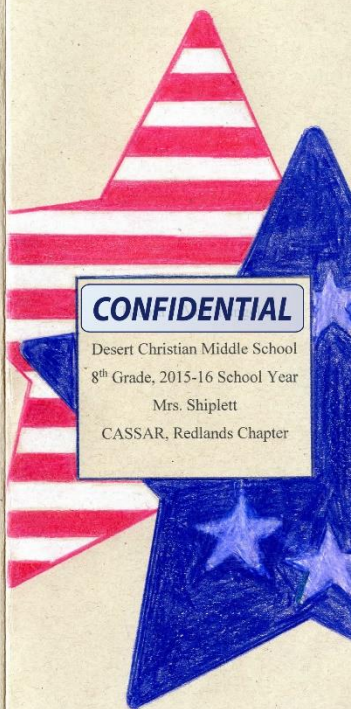




The Bill of Rights not only guaranteed essential rights and protections for individuals, but it was also the key to uniting thirteen colonies into one nation.



CONFIDENTIAL

Desert Christian Middle School
8th Grade, 2015-16 School Year
Mrs. Shiplett
CASSAR, Redlands Chapter

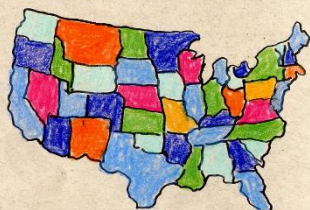
*Bill of Rights
Congress of the
United States*

*What Would
America Look Like
Without the
Bill of Rights?*

*I Religion; Speech; Press; Assembly; Petition
Seizures or Warrants Without Cause*

A Different Nation

Without the Bill of Rights, America would look more like Europe. It would consist of separate country states, with individual governments and customs.



Free from Britain, the skirmishes in the newly formed United States of America were not quite finished. Many obstacles lay in the path of the states ability to coexist harmoniously with one another. In effect, each state viewed themselves as an independent and sovereign nation. The challenge was to create a federal government that could balance the welfare and protection of the whole, while steadfastly protecting the autonomy of each state and, most importantly, the rights of individual citizens.

*II Militia; Keep and Bear Arms III No Quartering of Soldiers IV No Unreasonable Searches or
Due Process of Law; No Double Jeopardy; No Self Incrimination; No Public Seizure of Property*

At the heart of the matter was the centralized government. All agreed that one was needed, however there was no consensus on the degree of dominion it would have over the states. James Madison, a representative from Massachusetts, proposed modifying the Constitution with a series amendments which would specify rights that would be guaranteed to individual citizens. Rights that could not be altered by either the central government or the state governments. Since these same ideas had been proposed earlier, by George Mason of Virginia, large and small states alike agreed to develop the ideas into firm resolutions.



The First Amendment was written as a solemn guarantee for the freedom of religion, press, speech, assembly, and the right of petition for individual citizens. With the assurance that free men would be able to pray as they wished, to speak candidly, and to assemble in protest of the government, states like Rhode Island became convinced that the individual and collective voice of the citizens would never be silenced. Nine states ratified the constitution with the addition of the First Amendment.

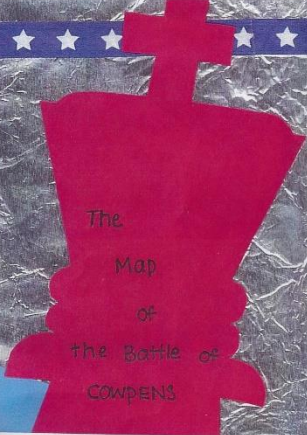
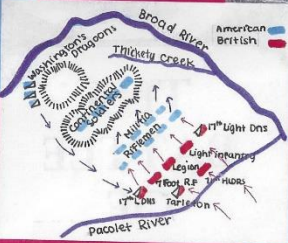
Fears remained over a central government imposing a tyrannical hand on citizens. The Fourth through Eighth Amendments set forth, in clear language, the terms under which the government could pursue legal action against an individual. With assurances of fair trials, punishments, and security for life and property, more states were ready to ratify the Constitution. The states wanted to keep this new government fair and honest.

Some states withheld ratification until the Tenth Amendment had been added. Larger states, like New York, wanted to keep the majority of their power with the states, while the smaller states, like Massachusetts, wanted to unite and give all of their power to the central government. An affirmative amendment, the Tenth Amendment assured all states, large and small, that the federal government could not take any power or rights from any states unless expressly given those privileges in the Constitution.

With ten amendments agreed upon, the Constitution was ratified unanimously and the nation truly became the United States of America.



*VI Speedy and Public Trial; Face Accusers; Legal Counsel VII Jury Decisions Shall Stand VIII Reasonable Bail; No Cruel and Unusual Punishment
IX Rights Not Given to the United States Shall be Retained by the People X Powers Not Given to the United States are Reserved to the States, or to the People*

A New Way of Fighting

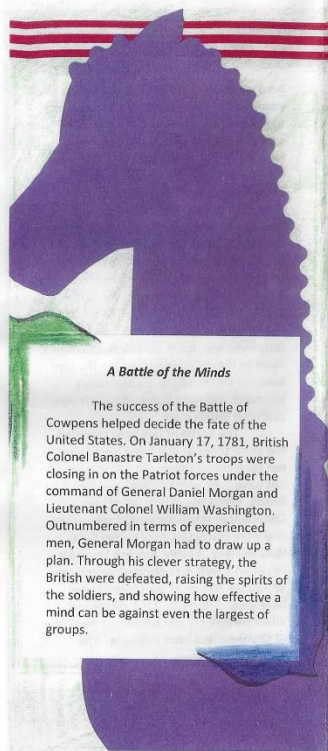
After marching for two days without food and barely any sleep, Colonel Tarleton's force of one thousand one hundred and fifty soldiers came to the Broad river where Morgan's troops awaited them. Little did they know that Morgan had a new and original idea for this battle.

Morgan placed his men in three lines. In the first line, he placed his sharpshooters. Behind them, the militiamen; they were to only fire two rounds before retreating and reforming. Finally, his well-trained Continental soldiers, intended to defeat the British troops once and for all. Simultaneously, the reformed militia and the American cavalry, under Lieutenant Colonel Washington would attack the British from their left and right flanks.

Upon sighting of the American militia – the first line of men – Tarleton ordered his cavalry and infantry to charge. The sharpshooters simply targeted the officers, shot and withdrew. As the British march on, the militia shoots their two volleys and also retreated. Tarleton, sensing victory, sent British dragoons after them, but the Patriot cavalry successfully steered them away from the militia, and the battlefield. Finally, the British came face to face with the Patriot Continentals.

An order from Tarleton sent the British cavalry and the Royal Fusilier Highlanders against the American's right flank. The Continentals were ordered to turn and face the attack, but in the commotion of the battle, word was twisted and they begin to retreat. The misunderstanding dawning over Morgan, he quickly instructed them to halt and fire. Surprised, the British broke formation, for they thought the Continentals were retreating, only to have turn and fight once more. After a final bayonet charge, the British begin to flee and surrender. The results of the battle clearly favored the Patriots. Only sixty Americans were wounded and a mere twelve killed, compared to the one hundred and ten dead, two hundred wounded and eight hundred twenty nine captured British men.


The Battle of Cowpens revealed the importance of quick and alert minds. If not for Morgan's plan, the Patriots would not have been able to overcome the British. When the right flank of the Continentals misunderstood their orders and were corrected, they hastily fixed their mistake. Finally, Morgan knew his opponents well, and planned accordingly. Would the course of the United States have gone differently if the clever and attentive officers and soldiers in the Battle of Cowpens had been different? The answer: yes.




A Battle of the Minds

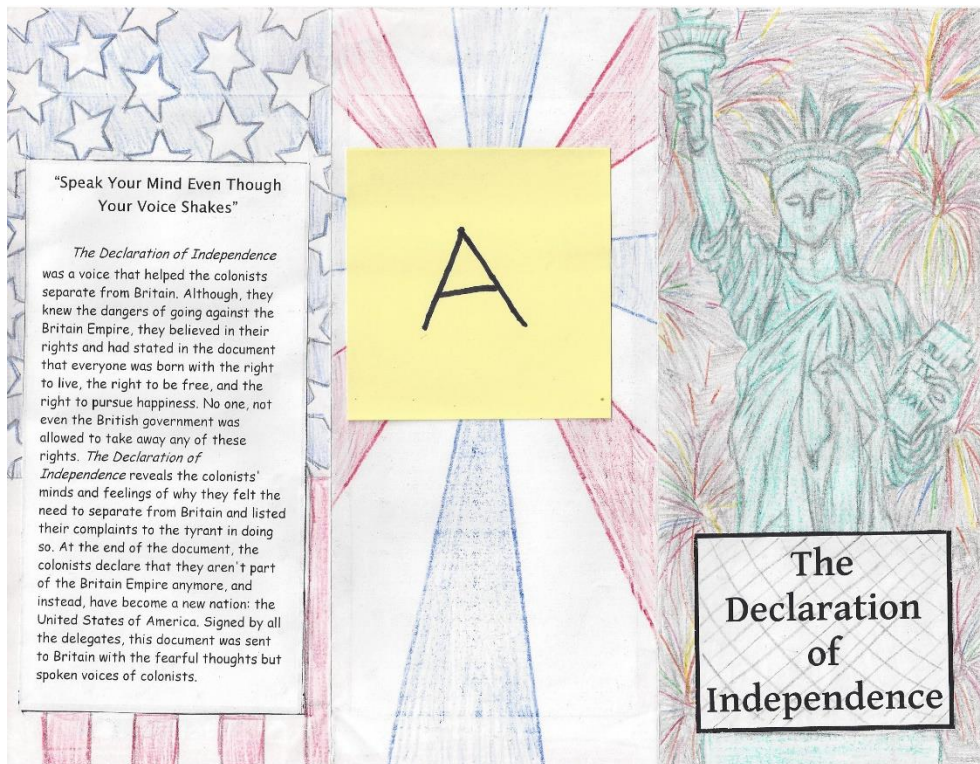
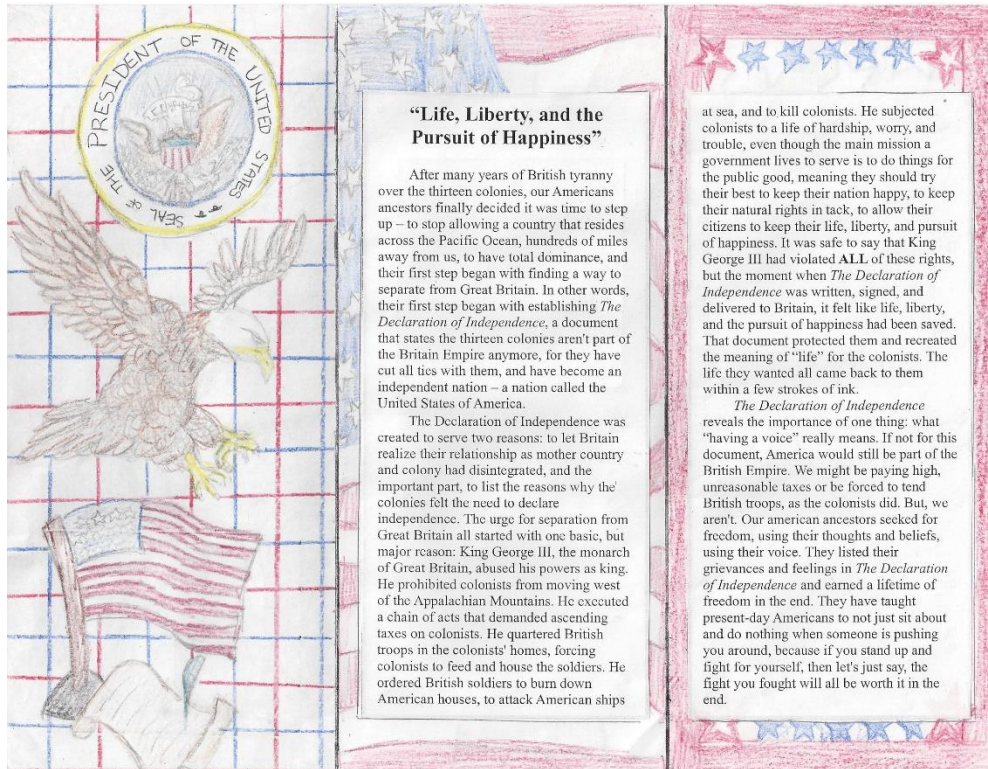
The success of the Battle of Cowpens helped decide the fate of the United States. On January 17, 1781, British Colonel Banastre Tarleton's troops were closing in on the Patriot forces under the command of General Daniel Morgan and Lieutenant Colonel William Washington. Outnumbered in terms of experienced men, General Morgan had to draw up a plan. Through his clever strategy, the British were defeated, raising the spirits of the soldiers, and showing how effective a mind can be against even the largest of groups.

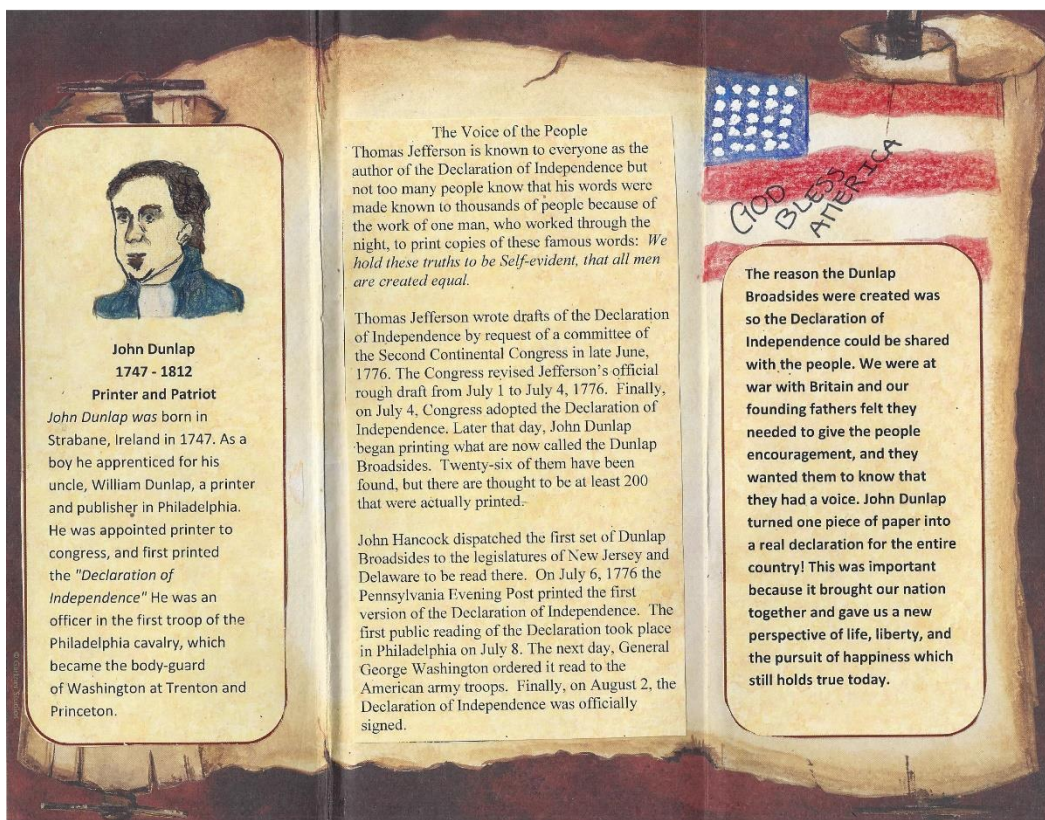
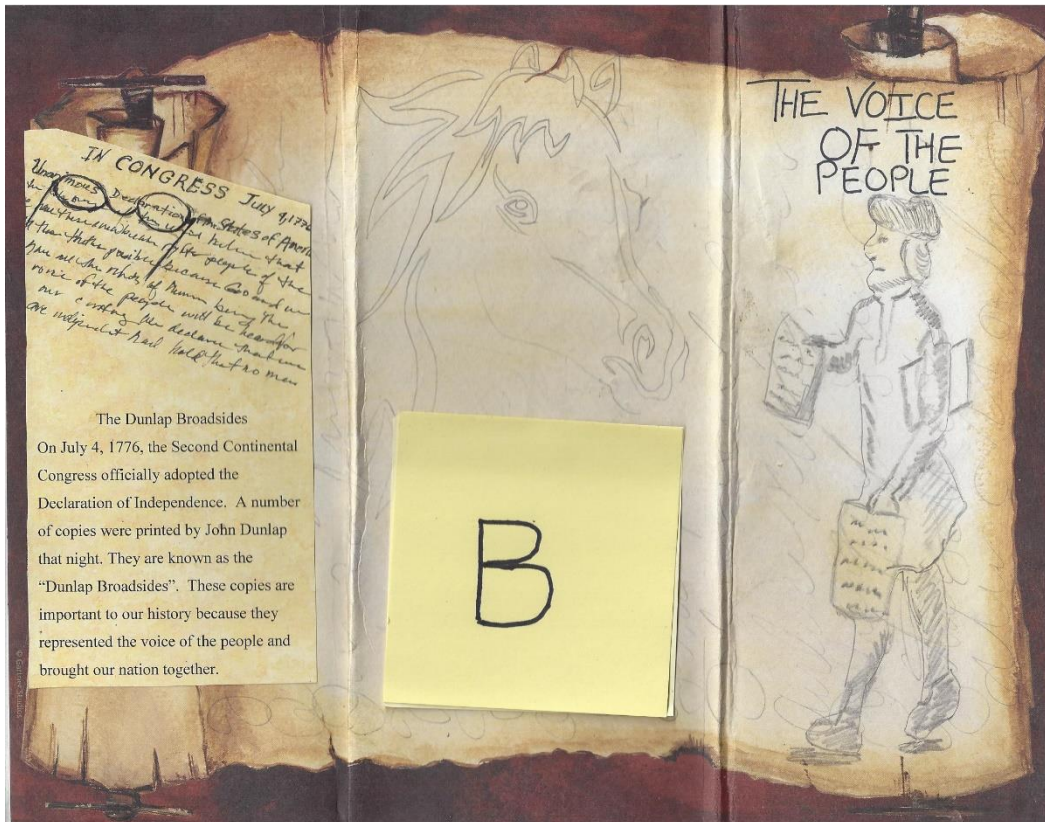
Student's Name _____
 School District _____
 School Name _____
 2012-13 8th Grade _____
 Teacher's Name _____
 SAR Chapter _____





THE BATTLE OF COWPENS





Introduction:

This was known as the original document that started it all. What was the founding declaration that opened the gate for the legendary United States of America also became a guideline and reference point for many other countries being born afterwards. Some may consider it a piece of poetry or a song that ignited the colonies into revolution and breakaway from England. It was also the first time a collection of colonies ever declared independence and liberty through a document. One of the most famous lines written in this document, "we hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal.", is known among many and is thought of as a rule to follow in society. This document, being known as one of the most important historical items in Western civilization, has been and always will be the airport for many new countries to come.

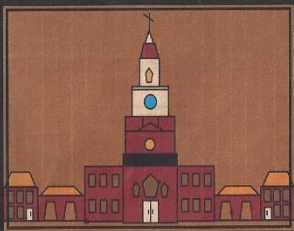
C

The Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation...

Independence Hall



What is it?

Independence Hall is the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence. The United States Constitution was also debated and adopted here. The building was finished being built in 1753. It was also the meeting place of the Second Continental Congress in 1775 to 1783. Independence Hall has been an key founding place in the making of America.

What is it?

The Declaration of Independence is the beginning of the United States of America. Approved of by Congress on July 4th (signed on August 2nd), it was the first document of its time to be used in such a manner for such a purpose. We still look upon right now for the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. To add on, the declaration was not meant to be split into parts but to be read easy the parts are split like this: the Introduction, the Preamble, the Indictment of King George III, the Denunciation of the British people, and the Conclusion.

Significance

This document is important because of the reactions and results it had caused. Not only that but also a new beginning. Many important people had helped pave the way for this Declaration of Independence to take its toll. It shall always be referred to or looked back on in time of trouble and turmoil. Its contents carry a whole lot of information and carefully written laws for change. All of the following reasons support why this Declaration of Independence is so important to modern and future life. It will always be that way too until a time for great change and new origin.