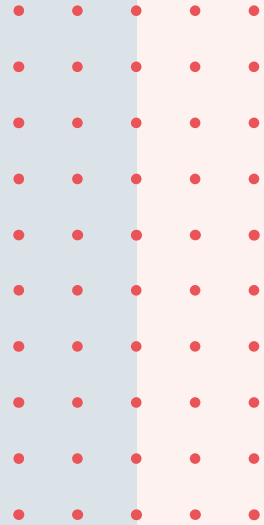


# Was it a “massacre”?

Unit 6, Lesson 11

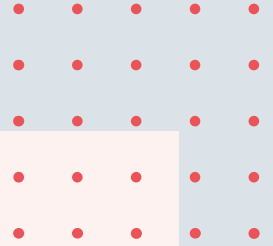


Resource 1: Evidence Analysis Tool

Questions Below <input type="checkbox"/>	Answers Based on What Witnesses Said	Answers Based on a Document from 1770
How many soldiers were there when the shooting took place?		
How many people were in the crowd on King Street?		
What emotions would be showing on the faces of the English soldiers on the night of the shootings?		
Were the people in the crowd threatening the soldiers in any ways? If yes, how?		
Describe or draw how the soldiers were standing when the shots were fired (their formation).		
What was the name of the building that the soldiers were standing in front of?		
Were shots fired by anyone other than the soldiers standing on King Street?		
Was it a dark or well-lit night?		
Where was Captain Preston Standing?		
Did Captain Preston give his men an order to fire?		



Fill out Column 2 based on what you learned from the mock trial of Captain Preston



## **Small Group Discussion**

Share your responses with your partners. Discuss similarities and differences.

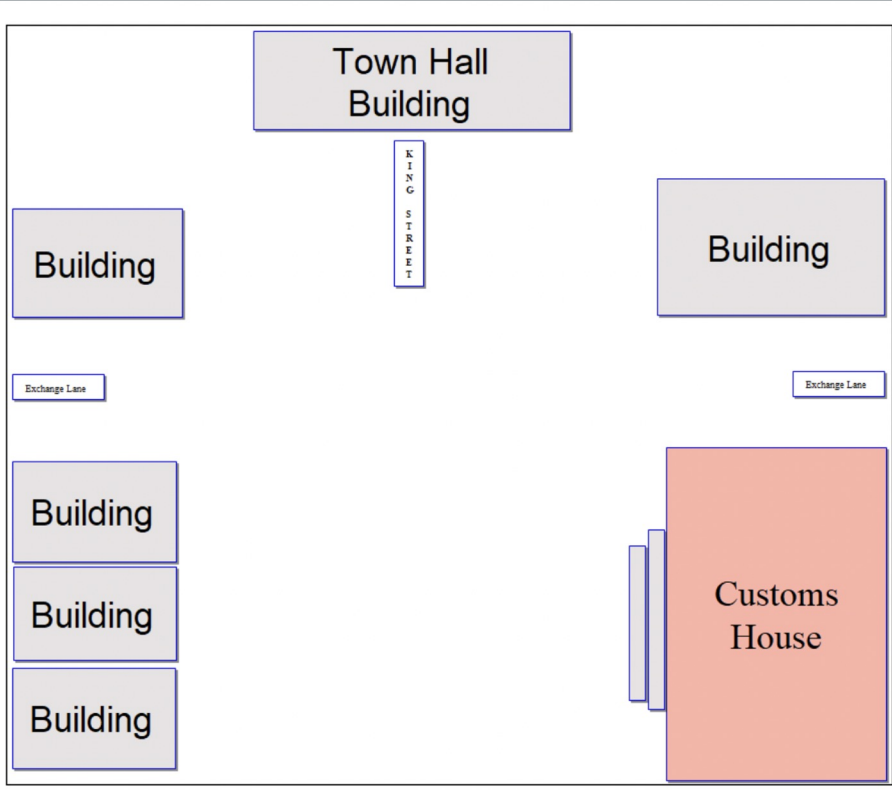
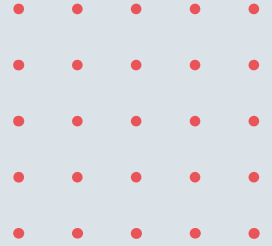


# Whole Group Discussion

Did all of the witnesses who testified at the trial give similar answers?

Why do you think different people give different answers?

# Mapping the Scene



Use the map to draw the scene of the Boston Massacre.

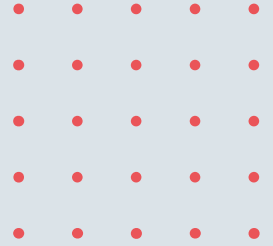
Your map should:

- Show how the soldiers were lined up and where
- Include the correct number of soldiers
- Show where Captain Preston was standing at the moment that shots were fired
- Include the approximate number of colonists and where they stood in relation to the soldiers

You can use letter symbols:

- S = soldier
- P = Captain Preston
- C = Colonist

# Was it a Massacre?



What information in your map supports your conclusion?

Why might there be different conclusions?

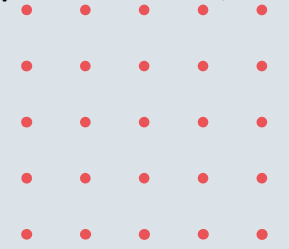
The BLOODY MASSACRE performed in King-Street BOSTON on March 5<sup>th</sup> 1770 by a party of the 29<sup>th</sup> REG



Unhappy Boston! see thy Sons deplore,  
 Thy Lallow'd Walks befiar'd with guiltleſs Gore,  
 While faithleſs P—n and his ſavage Bands  
 With murders Rancour ſtretch their bloody Hands  
 Like fierce Barbarians grinning o'er their Prey  
 Approve the Carnage and enjoy the Day  
 If ſtalking ſlips from Rage from Anger Wring  
 Speecheleſs SATYRS lab'ring for a Tongue  
 In a weeping World can ought appeaſe  
 The plaintive Ghaſts of Victims ſuch as theſe:  
 The Patriot's copious Tears for each are ſhed,  
 A glorious Tribute which embalm the Dead  
 But know Exeſtations to that awful God,  
 Where Juſtice ſtrips the Mind'er of his Soul,  
 Should venal C—ts the ſandal of the Land,  
 Snatch the relentleſ Villain from her Hand,  
 Keen Execrations on this Plate infer'd,  
 Shall reach a JUDGE who never can be brib'd.

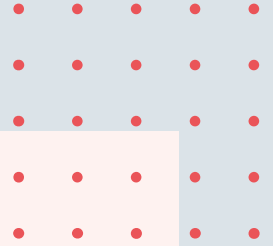
The unhappy ſufferers were, Meſſrs SAM<sup>l</sup> GILAY SAM<sup>l</sup> MAWERICK, JAM<sup>l</sup> CALDWELL, CRISPUS ATTUCKS & PAT<sup>l</sup> CARE  
 killed & wounded, two of them (CHRIST<sup>l</sup> MONK & JOHN CLARK). Mortally

### Resource 3: Paul Revere's Drawing of What Happened on March 5, 1770



Work with a partner to complete Column 3 of the Evidence Analysis Tool.

Use Paul Revere's engraving to answer the questions.



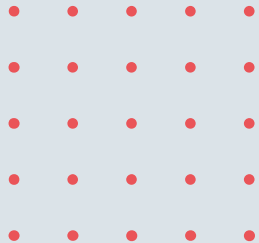
## **Was it a Massacre?**

Compare your answers in Columns 2 and 3. Are they the same or different?



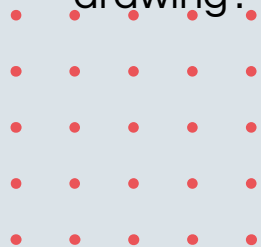
## Deeper Dive Discussion:

- Does the drawing seem to be accurate?
- Who created this? Does anyone know anything about the person who distributed this drawing? Why might this matter?
- Does the drawing appear to be biased? Explain.



## Deeper Dive Discussion:

- Why did the artist show Captain Preston raising his sword?
- Why does the artist include a dog in the crowd?
- Does the drawing appear to be biased? Explain.
- Notice the woman in the crowd wearing a black shawl and clasping her hands. Why might the artist have included her in this drawing?



## Resource 3: Paul Revere's Drawing of What Happened on March 5, 1770

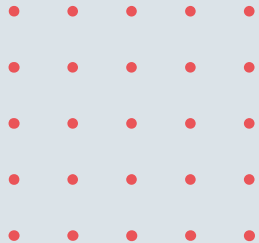


Unhappy Boston! see thy Sons deplore,  
Thy lallow'd Walks bein' cur'd with guiltle's Gore,  
While faithle's P—n and his savage Bands  
With murderous Rancour stretch their bloody Hands,  
Like fierce Barbarians ginning o'er their Prey,  
Approve the Carnage, and enjoy the Day,  
Wh' folding Arms from Anger & Wrath,  
In Speechle's Sorrows lab'ring for a Tongue,  
In a weeping World can ought appease,  
The plaintive Ch'ofits of Victims such as these,  
But know, Pater. Simmons to that awful God,  
Where Justice trips the Murderer of his Soul,  
Should ventur' C— to the Foundal of the Land,  
Snatch the relentle's Villain from her Hand,  
Keen Excoriations on this Plate infer'd,  
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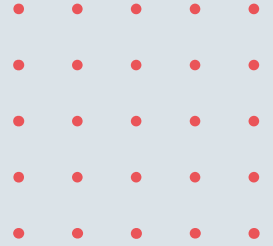
*The unhappy sufferers were M<sup>r</sup> SAM<sup>l</sup> GRAY SAM<sup>l</sup> MAVERICK, JAM<sup>s</sup> CALDWELL, CRISPUS ATTUCKS & PAT<sup>r</sup> CARR  
killed & wounded, two of them (CHRIST<sup>m</sup> MONK & JOHN CLARK) Mortally*

## Deeper Dive Discussion:

- Why do you think the artist labeled the Customs House "Butcher's Hall"?
- Why do you think the artist included someone firing a gun out of "Butcher's Hall"?
- What title did the artist give to the drawing? Why do you think he chose this title?



# “The Bloody Massacre”



**Massacre:** An instance of killing a number of usually helpless or unresisting human beings under circumstances of atrocity or cruelty.

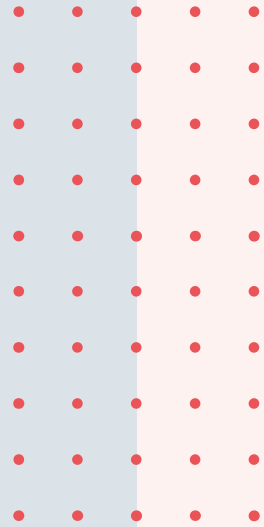
Were the events of March 5, 1770 a massacre?

# Propaganda:

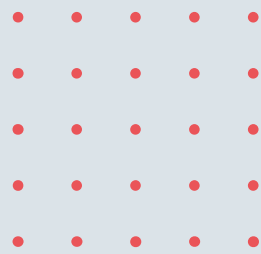
Inaccurate or partially inaccurate and misleading information that is used to try to make people believe what someone wants them to believe.

Propaganda is used to make people believe something that is false or inaccurate so that someone or something is made to look better or worse than they are.

**What are some examples of propaganda?**



- Do you think Paul Revere's drawing of the events of March 5, 1770 is an example of propaganda? Why or why not?
- What, if anything, seems to be misleading in the "Bloody Massacre" drawing?
- What does Paul Revere want the people who look at his drawing to believe?
- What can we assume about Paul Revere based on this drawing? Was he for the English or against the English in the Revolution?



[Gilder Lehrman slideshow](#)

Resource 3: Paul Revere's Drawing of What Happened on March 5, 1770



# Boston Massacre by William L. Champney

Resource 4: Boston Massacre by William L. Champney



Boston Massacre, March 5th, 1770<sup>n</sup> by John H. Bufford based on a drawing by William L. Champney, ca.1856 Boston Athenaeum



## Whole Group Discussion

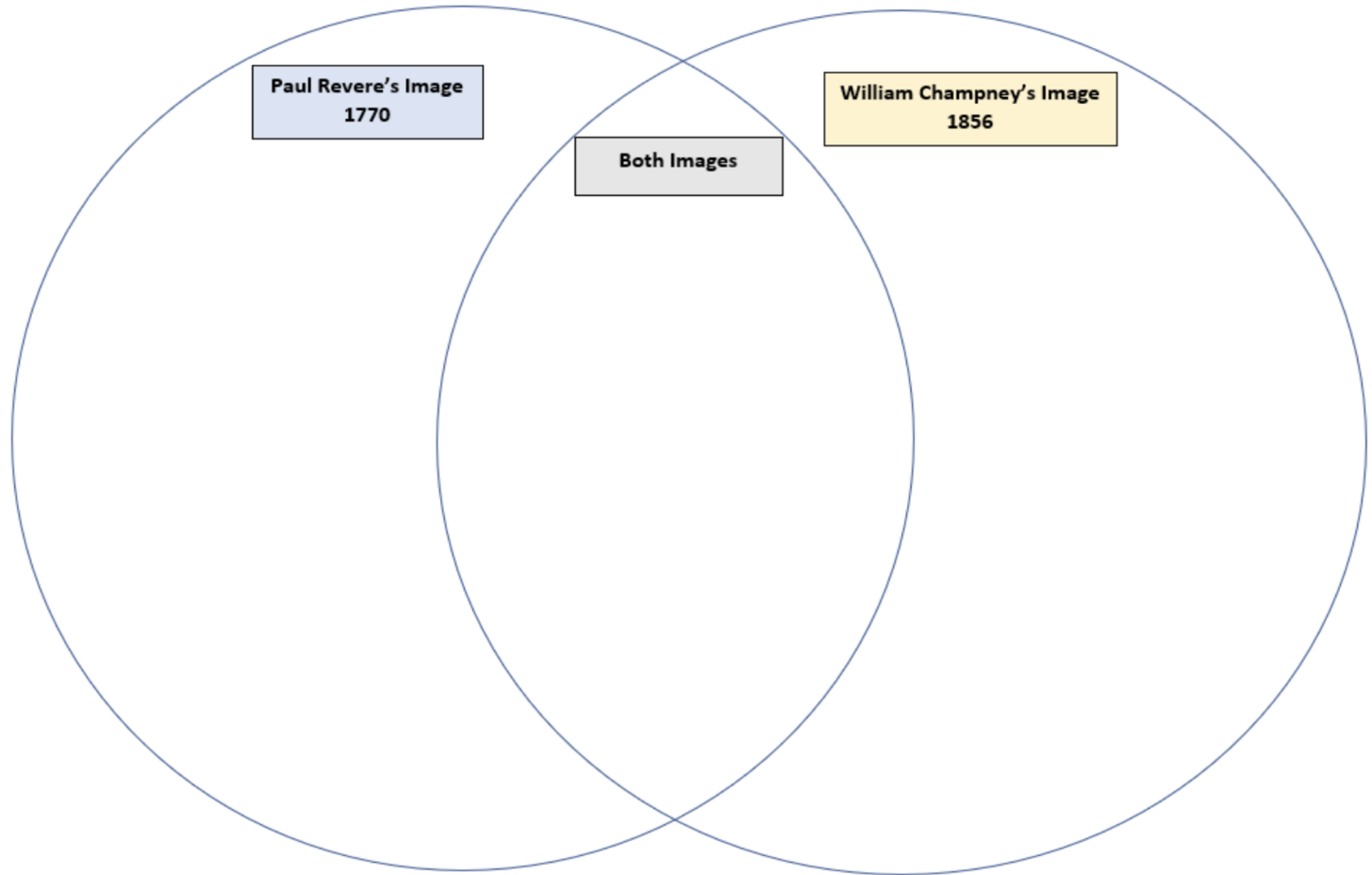
Which drawing of the events of March 5, 1770 seem more accurate given the evidence that you heard during the mock trial?

When were each of the images drawn? Why might this matter? Is one of them more or less credible because of when it was drawn?

Why might William Champney's 1856 drawing focus on Crispus Attucks?



Resource 5: Venn Diagram



# Crispus Attucks

## Resource 6: About Crispus Attucks

Not very much is known about the hero Crispus Attucks. We do know that he was born in Framingham, Massachusetts in 1723. His father was an African American and his mother was Native American. Attucks was enslaved for part of his life, but he escaped from his enslaver in 1750. After that, Attucks worked as a sailor in Boston.

On March 5, 1770 - the day best known in American history for the Boston "Massacre", Crispus Attucks was with approximately 50 men who gathered that night to confront the British soldiers after they heard that one of the soldiers hit a young man with the butt of his gun. Some sources say that Attucks led a group of sailors with sticks against the British while yelling, "Don't be afraid!"



During the yelling and confusion, the British soldiers fired into the crowd of protesters. Crispus Attucks was the first of the five men to be killed. Attucks was the only person of African descent to be killed at the Boston Massacre. A large funeral was held for him and the other victims three days after the Boston Massacre. The entire city shut down to attend.



After that day, Attucks was seen as a hero for all Americans, but most especially, African Americans. He showed the importance of fighting for liberty, and he is a reminder that African Americans played a role in helping America win its freedom from Great Britain and gain its independence.



# Did Paul Plagiarize?

The following letter was written by Henry Pelham and sent to Paul Revere on Thursday, March 29, 1770.

Sir

When I heard that you were creating an image of the recent murder, I thought it was not possible because I knew you were not able to do it unless you had copied it from mine. I thought I could trust you when I showed it to you, thinking that you were a man of honor who would not take advantage of the trust I placed in you.

But I was mistaken. After going through the trouble and cost involved in paying for the paper, printing etc., I now know that I will no longer enjoy the benefits of my work. It is almost as if you had robbed me on a highway.

If you do not understand the dishonor that you have brought on to yourself as a result of taking my idea and work, you should know that the world will. I leave you to reflect on and consider one of the most dishonorable actions you could possibly be guilty of.

H. Pelham

1. Why is Henry Pelham writing to Paul Revere?
1. What evidence does Henry Pelham offer to support his claim?
1. What does Henry Pelham suggest is “one of the most dishonorable actions you could possibly be guilty of?”

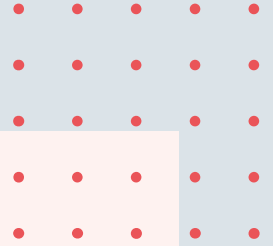
# Did Paul Plagiarize?



Henry Pelham Print



Paul Revere Print



## Debrief:

Was it a “massacre”? If not, why is it called that?