What Was All the Fuss About Representation?

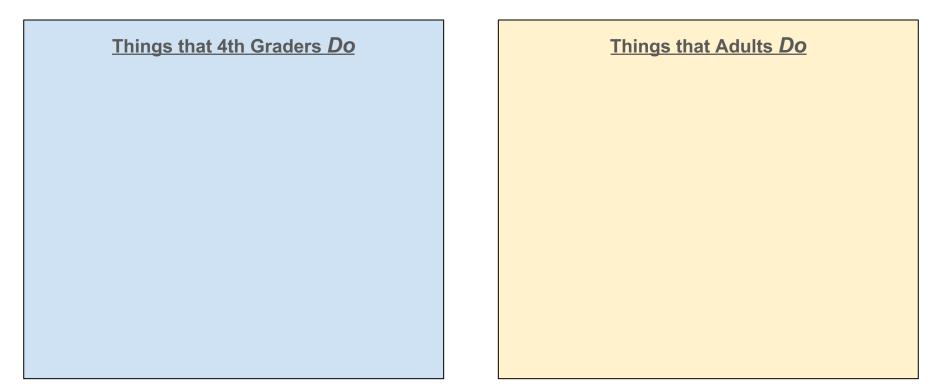
Unit 6, Lesson 6

Essential Questions

Why did the topic of representation help create conflict between the colonists and their "mother country"?

What did the colonists mean when they said, "taxation without representation is tyranny"?

Warm Up... what's the difference?



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Things that 4th Graders Like Things that Adults Like

Warm Up... what's your conclusion?

Adults and 4th graders are mostly

Adults and 4th graders are mostly different

Discussion

Suppose that a decision had to be made. The decision involved what you would do during your free time.

Given your responses to the warm-up brainstorming, do you think that an adult would be a good person to make the decision for you?

Explain why or why not.

Introduction

In this lesson, we are going to explore the concept of representation -

- thinking mostly about what it means to represent someone, and
- what is required to be considered represented

Good Representatives

- Follow along with me as I read
- When I'm finished, complete Task 1 and Task 2 on your paper
- Be prepared to share your ideas about each response in Task 1

Resource 2: Good Representatives

A **representative** is someone who is chosen or appointed to speak and make decisions for other people. Representatives should understand the problems facing the people they represent and what those people want.

Task 1: Circle Agree or Disagree after reading the following six statements. Be prepared to share and explain your conclusion i.e., why you agreed or disagreed.

- 1. Agree or Disagree: An adult could represent you and other 4th grade students well.
- Agree or Disagree: Any 4th grade student in your school could represent any other 4th graders in your school well.
- Agree or Disagree: Any 4th grade student in Delaware could represent any other 4th grader in Delaware well.
- Agree or Disagree: Any 4th grade student in our country could represent any other 4th grader in our country well.
- Agree or Disagree: Any 4th grade student in England could represent any other 4th grader in our country well.
- Agree or Disagree: A person could represent you well even though you never voted for that person to represent you.

isk 2. Diaw a	conclusion. v	viiat would iiia	ke someone a	good represent	ative:	

"Taxation Without Representation"?

Follow along with me as I read the text aloud

Resource 3: Understanding the "Taxation Without Representation" Argument

Governments make lots of decisions that affect our lives. They decide who has to go to school and for how long. They decide who has to wear bike helmets. They decide how the mattresses that

you sleep on have to be n electrical outlets in buildi place in which you live. T who is allowed to get man and the water you drink. amusement parks. They decide how much a perso how many hours each day aspect of our lives.

In fact, if you created a lis people who can tell you h government.

Wouldn't it be nice if you

How Do Governments Ma

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One way to do this is sim problem is that if we did play. Why, because there had to vote on every deci to be made.

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kinds of decisions that the representatives would be representatives should, t they wanted before making well, the people could vot

This structure of government just described is called representative government. In a representative government, the people vote for who they want to represent their interests and make the laws that they have to obey.



How Did Our Country Get This

The idea for representative go about right now, Great Britain moved from England to the o government in the United Stat they borrowed the idea.

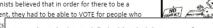


So. What is this "Taxation wit

You may remember that peop Parliament made laws that all colonies were not allowed to Englishmen were guaranteed making the colonists pay taxe "can we be represented if we

Were there Different Points of View About Representation?

Yes there were. The colonists believed that in order for there to be a representative government, they had to be able to VOTE for people who



shared the same interests "real representation." In a England's 13 colonies shou be their lawmakers in Par

And remember the "right a representative form of their property would be p without the consent of th So, when Parliament pass take away their property

According to the colonists TYRANNY or the abuse of



and discuss: what

What was the Point of Vi

The King and members of different way. Their reason

- Colonists in Ame
- 2. Englishmen anvv
- 3. Therefore, the Er

People in England called t virtue of the fact that mer colonists interests as fello



Were the Colonists Satisfied with Britain's Response?

Not even a little bit! Many colonists argued that there was no way that someone who lived or worked 3,000 miles away from colonies such as Delaware could possibly understand what the people of the colonies wanted. Nor could they understand the problems that the people in the colonies faced.

Colonists insisted that Parliament should not be allowed to tax the colonists unless the colonies were able to vote for members of Parliament. They argued that "virtual representation" was not "real representation." Real representation only existed if people actually voted for the people who they wanted to be their representatives.



Taxation without representation is tyranny.

~ lames Otis

From the colonists' points of view - they were NOT represented in Parliament, Therefore, Parliament's "taxation without representation" involved taking their property (money) and was nothing less than TYRANNY!



- 1. How did colonists explain their argument that members of Britain's Parliament could never represent them?
- 2. What did colonists mean when they shouted, "taxation without representation is tvrannv?"

"Taxation Without Representation"?

With your partner or in your small group, please read the text.

At each "pause" button, stop to discuss your thoughts.

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and discuss:

- How did colonists explain their argument that members of Britain's Parliament could never represent them?
- What did colonists mean when they shouted, "taxation without representation is tyranny?"

Debrief

Why did the topic of representation help create conflict between the colonists and their "mother country"?

What did the colonists mean when they said, "taxation without representation is tyranny"?

Check for Understanding

Take this time to check your understanding of What Was All the Fuss About Representation?

Resource 4: Checks for Understanding Two accounts of the causes of the conflict between England and the colonists appear below. Account 1 The English were to blame for the conflict between England and the colonists. Parliament took away the colonists property when they taxed them. This angered the colonists because they were not represented in Parliament by people for whom they voted. Written by a Colonist (1783) Account 2 The Colonists should be blamed for starting the conflict. They claimed that they were not represented in Parliament, but they were. Their representatives were Englishmen who looked out for the interests of the colonists because they were also Englishmen. They were really complaining because they just did not want to be taxed. Written by member of Parliament (1783) The Colonists of the interests of the colonists because they were also Englishmen. They were represented in Parliament, but they were. Their representatives were Englishmen who looked out for the interests of the colonists because they were also Englishmen who were represented by member of Parliament (1783). Written by a Colonist (1783) The Colonists the Evidence of the E	Which of the following BEST explains what the colonists meant when they shouted, "taxation vithout representation is tyranny"? a. if people who are not English tax us, it is an unacceptable abuse of power if people who we did not vote for tax us, it is an unacceptable abuse of power power. If people who do not work in the same place as us tax us, it is an unacceptable abuse of power if people who did not fight in the French and Indian war tax us, it is an unacceptable abuse of power of the following BEST explains how "real" representative government is supposed to see who make the laws try to do what voters want them to do see who make the laws try to do what the laws say they should do so who make the laws try to do what people their age want them to do who make the laws try to do what people their age want them to do in the box below then answer Question 5. argued that there was no way that someone who lived 3,000 miles away from younderstand what the people of the colonies wanted. Younderstand the problems that the people in the colonies faced. do - Parliament should not be allowed to tax the colonists unless the on only existed if people actually voted for the people who they wanted assage BEST supports the conclusion that the colonists simply did not not be represented in Parliament?