

It's Time for History!



By Cyril - 7th Grade

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Hillcat History Corner!



Lexington and Concord!

The shot heard round the world. The local militias near Lexington and Concord face off against the most professional army in the world at the rude bridge. A firefight ensues, the colonists punch the lines back to Concord, then Lexington, then Boston. The war of American Independence has begun.

A few years earlier the British had shot citizens of Boston in the Boston Massacre. A few months ago the sons of liberty threw tea into the Boston Harbor, and now General Tomas Gage of the British suspects the colonists to be arming themselves. He rallies his troops in Boston and sends out a convoy of troops to raid the nearby towns of Lexington and Concord to search for arms. At 10pm the 700 men sent out of Boston led by Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith, seconded by Major John Pitcairn start ferrying across the Charles River. At 2 am the next day they started marching to the two towns.



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Paul Revere raced down the trails in the night, warning the colonists of what to come. The Lexington Militia rallied in Buckman Tavern, right across the Lexington Common. 33 men assembled where they would march out led by John Parker. They formed on the Green outside of the town where they met the British. They faced off until someone, from one of the sides, made a shot. This was the first fight of the two battles. The Militia would scatter after taking the brunt of the British Volley. The British continued on to Concord.

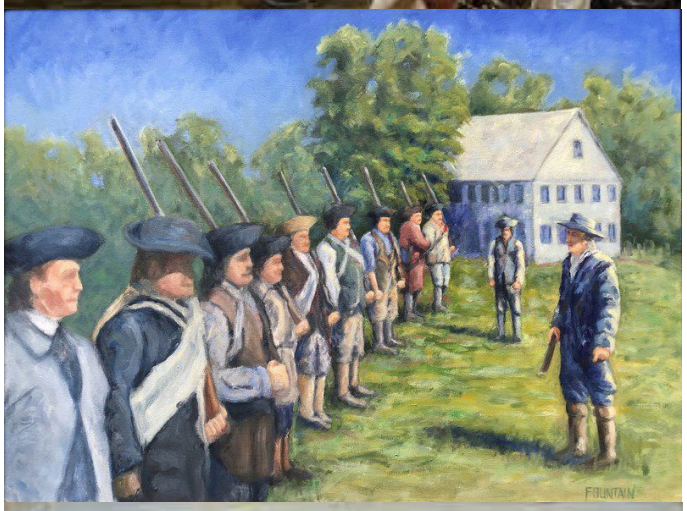
The militias of Concord and Acton rallied in Concord to try and stop the British force. The British entered Concord securing the town. They started looking for supplies, but they were buried and destroyed. Towns and militiamen on nearby hills saw this and thought Concord was being burned to ashes. Francis Smith sent a few companies to secure the Old Rude Bridge at the north of Concord. When they got there they were met by a force of 400 who started to exchange fire. Their leader Isaac Davis was shot and killed in the first rounds of fire. Major John Buttrick of the Concord Militia gave the order to fire back. This was the shot heard round the world.





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The local towns of Bedford, Waterford, and Lincon sent over their militias. With a combined force of over 500 they started to push the British regulars back. The few companies were beaten back to Concord where they regrouped with the rest of the British forces. The British forces started to retreat back to Boston. The militia's followed them back through the brush and wilderness. They used guerilla warfare, shooting from the trees and bushes and houses. The British kept on their retreat to Boston. Over 70 British soldiers were killed compared to about 50 colonists. A bloody start to the war of the American Revolution.

The British went under siege by the colonists at Boston. They tried to break out at Bunker Hill, but failed. The British parliament declared open rebellion in the colonies, where they sent more troops to Boston. A new up and coming commander named George Washington would force them out of Boston soon.

The battles of Lexington and Concord kicked off the Revolutionary war, showing the resolve of the American Colonists to earn their freedom from Great Britain and anyone that opposed them. This would directly lead to other battles such as Bunker Hill, Germantown, and Yorktown.



Historical Analysis At Its Best!

