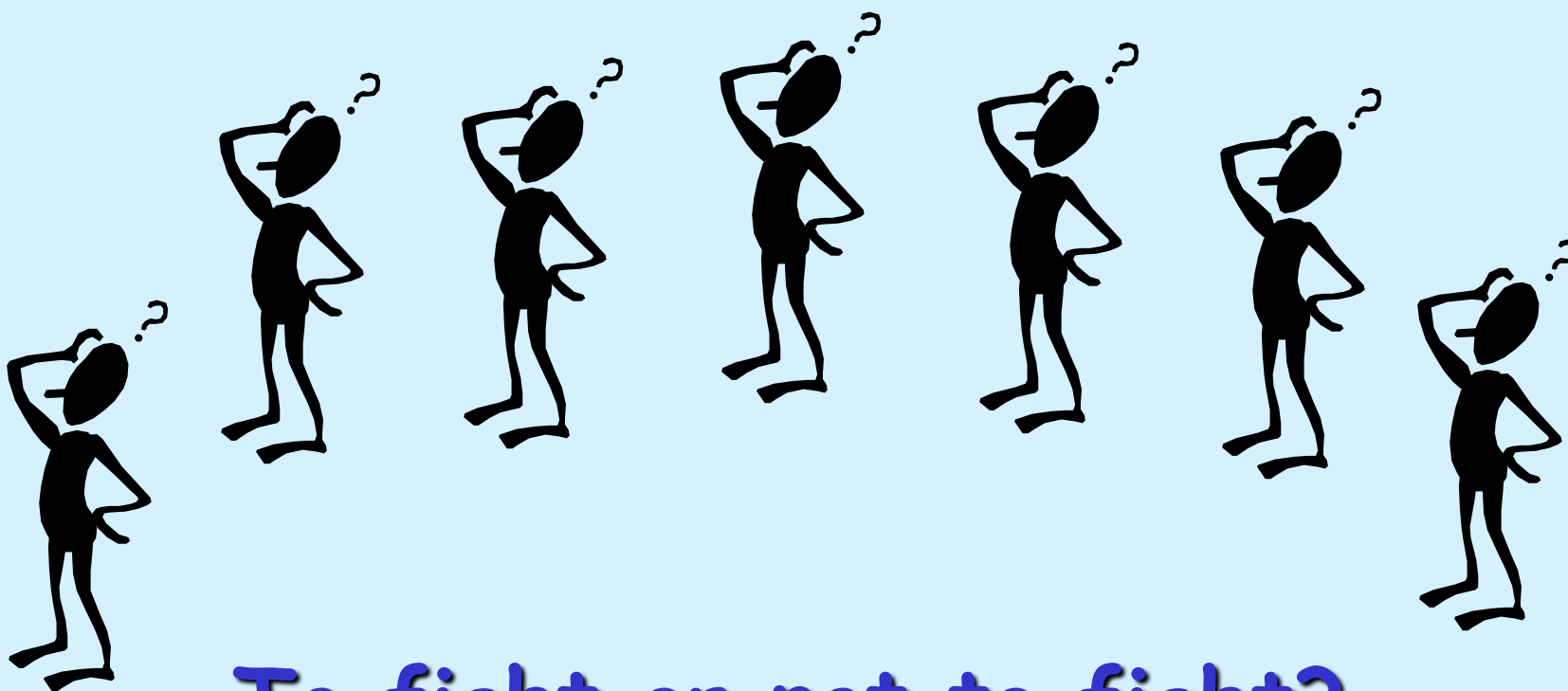


The Colonies Unite!



To fight or not to fight?

That was the question.



Loyalist or Patriot?

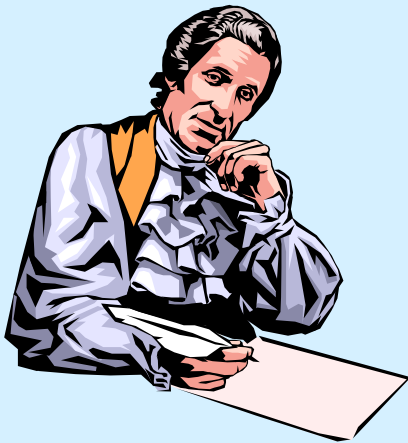


Many of the colonists weren't sure how to react to the taxation policies. Some were **self-determined** and wanted more voice in the government.

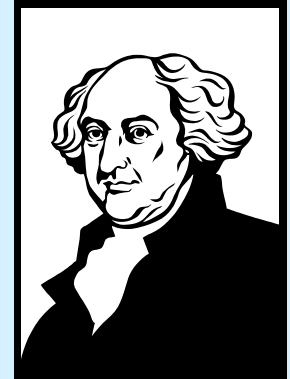
Should they be loyal to the king (Loyalist), or should they support an independence movement (Patriot)?

The Patriots Unite

In 1775 delegates from the colonies met in Philadelphia to discuss the situation.



Thomas Jefferson



John Adams



George Washington

Their meeting was called The First Continental Congress.

First Continental Congress

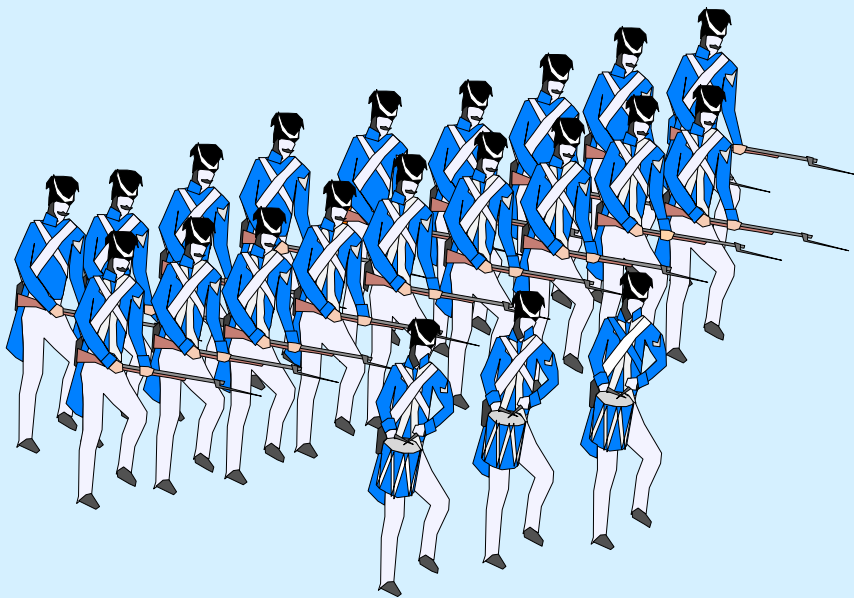
Many of the delegates wanted to remain loyal, but they still hated tyranny.



They voted to:

- ban all trade with Britain until the Intolerable Acts were repealed
- create colonial militias
- to meet again in seven months.

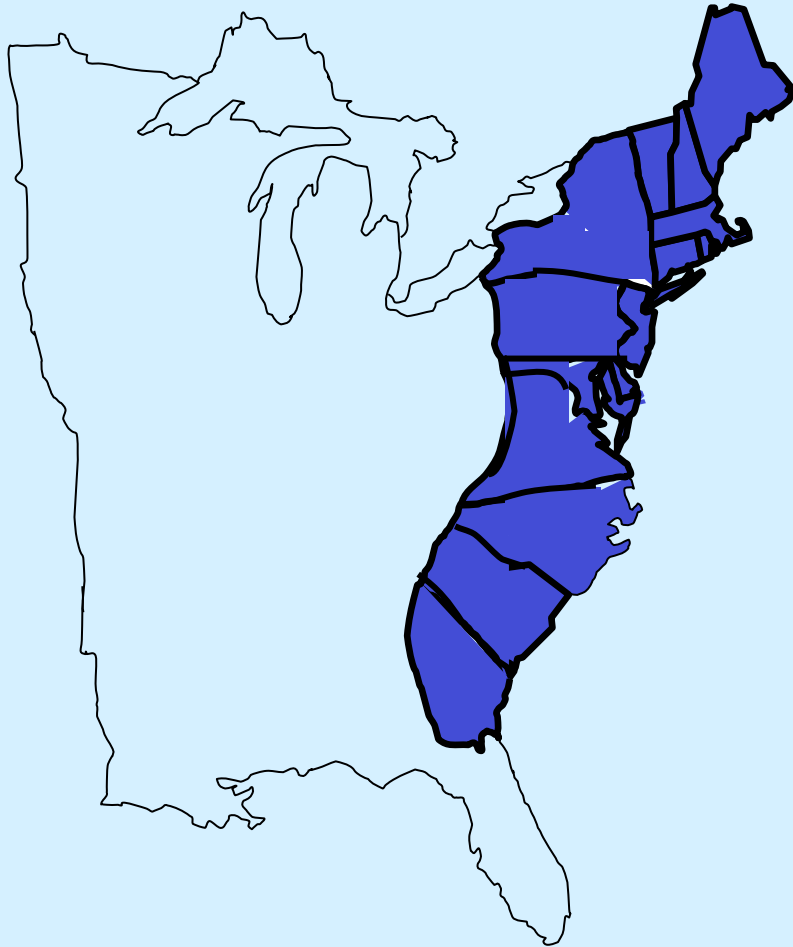
Colonial Militias



The Patriots were prepared and ready to fight at a moment's notice.

They were called the **Minutemen**.

The Voice of a Patriot



Patrick Henry urged the colonists to unite.

“I know not what course others may take. But as for me, give me liberty or give me death!”

Arguments of Loyalists and Patriots

Loyalist: “Britain is our mother country. She protects us and our trade.”

Patriot: “The colonies have flourished (grown), and we don’t need a mother any more. We would be better off if we made our own decisions.”

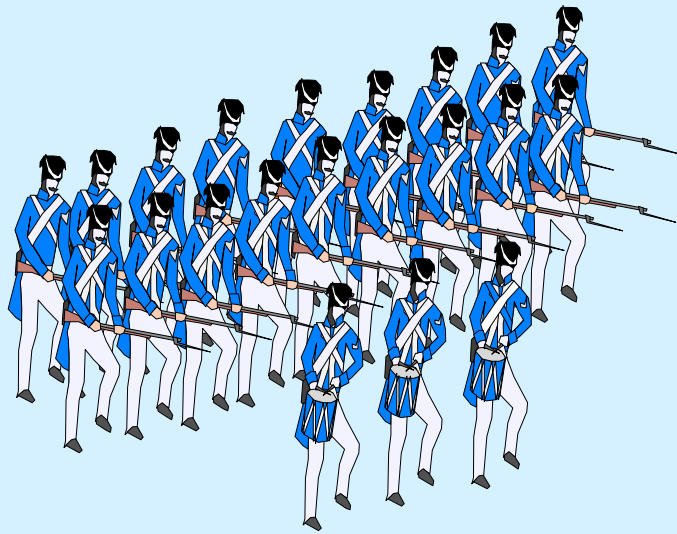
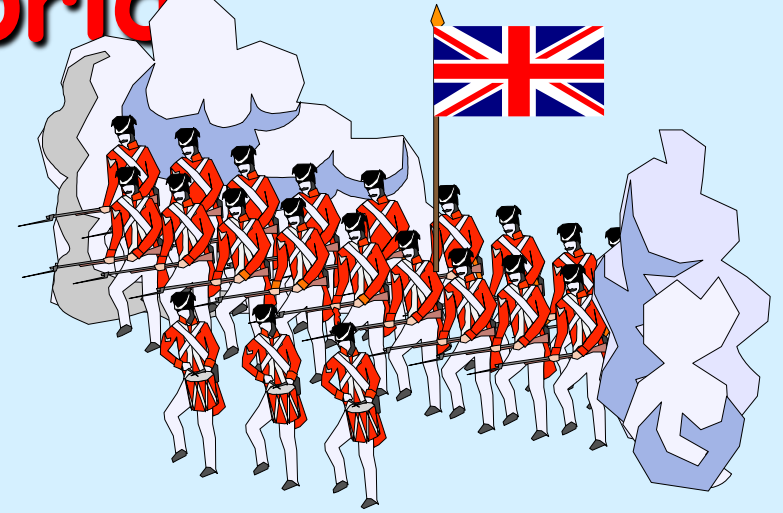
Arguments of Loyalists and Patriots

Loyalist: “The colonists would lose a possible war and are greatly outnumbered.”

Patriot: “We are determined to fight for our rights. It’s only common sense that we should form a new country.”

The Shot Heard 'Round the World

In April 1775, British
troops marched on
Lexington and Concord
near Boston.



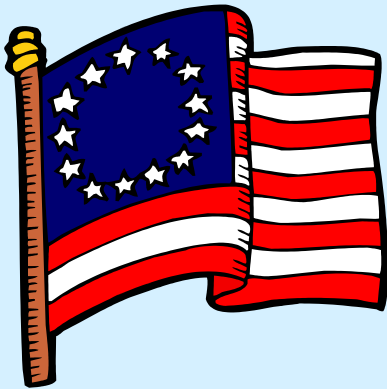
The Minutemen
were waiting in
Lexington, and
shots were fired.

The Shot Heard 'Round the World



In Concord the British
were forced to
retreat, and the
Revolution had begun!

Second Continental Congress



Quickly, the delegates met again in Philadelphia.

They created a Colonial Army and made George Washington the commanding general.



George Washington

Second Continental Congress

At first, they still hoped for peace, wrote the Olive Branch Petition, and sent it to King George III.



He rejected it and decided to blockade American ports.

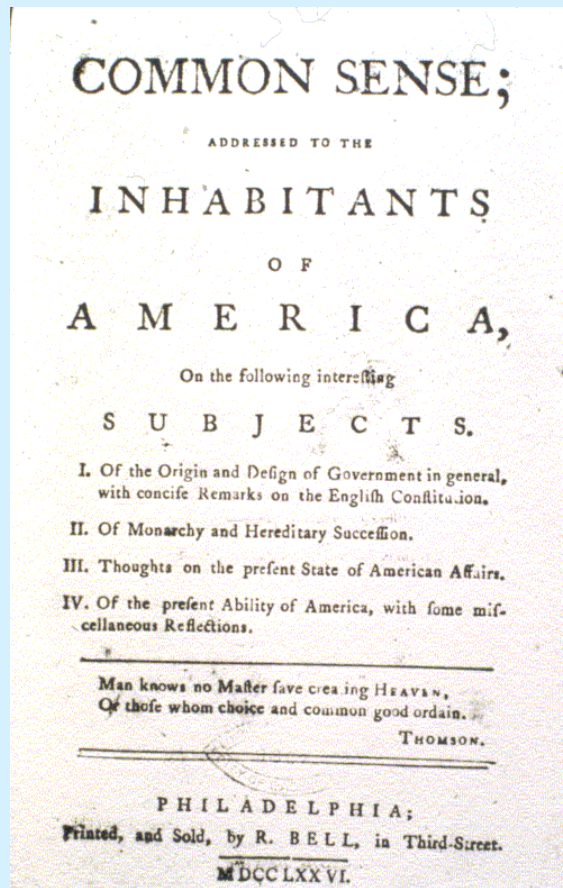
A Royal “Paine”

As the delegates continued to meet, Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet that questioned royal authority and called for independence.



It was called Common Sense and sold more than 120,000 copies.

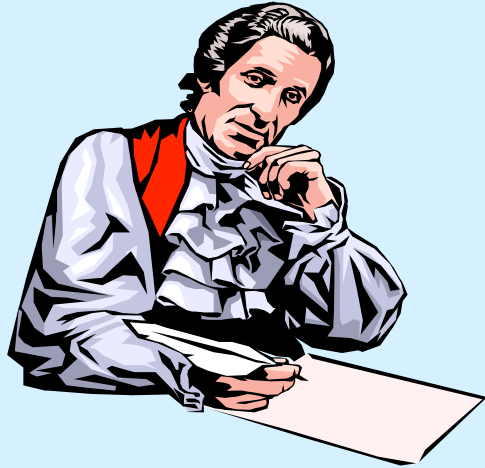
Common Sense



“O ye that love mankind! Ye that dare oppose not only the tyranny but the tyrant, stand forth...”

“Nothing but independence... can keep the peace of the continent... A government of our own is our natural right...”

Second Continental Congress



By June of 1776,
Thomas Jefferson
was writing a
Declaration of
Independence.

After much debate,
it was finally
approved and signed
on July 4, 1776.



Votaries of Independence



**Strong supporters;
advocates**

**Theme of painting=
freedom, unity**

Artist: John Trumbull

The Committee of Writers



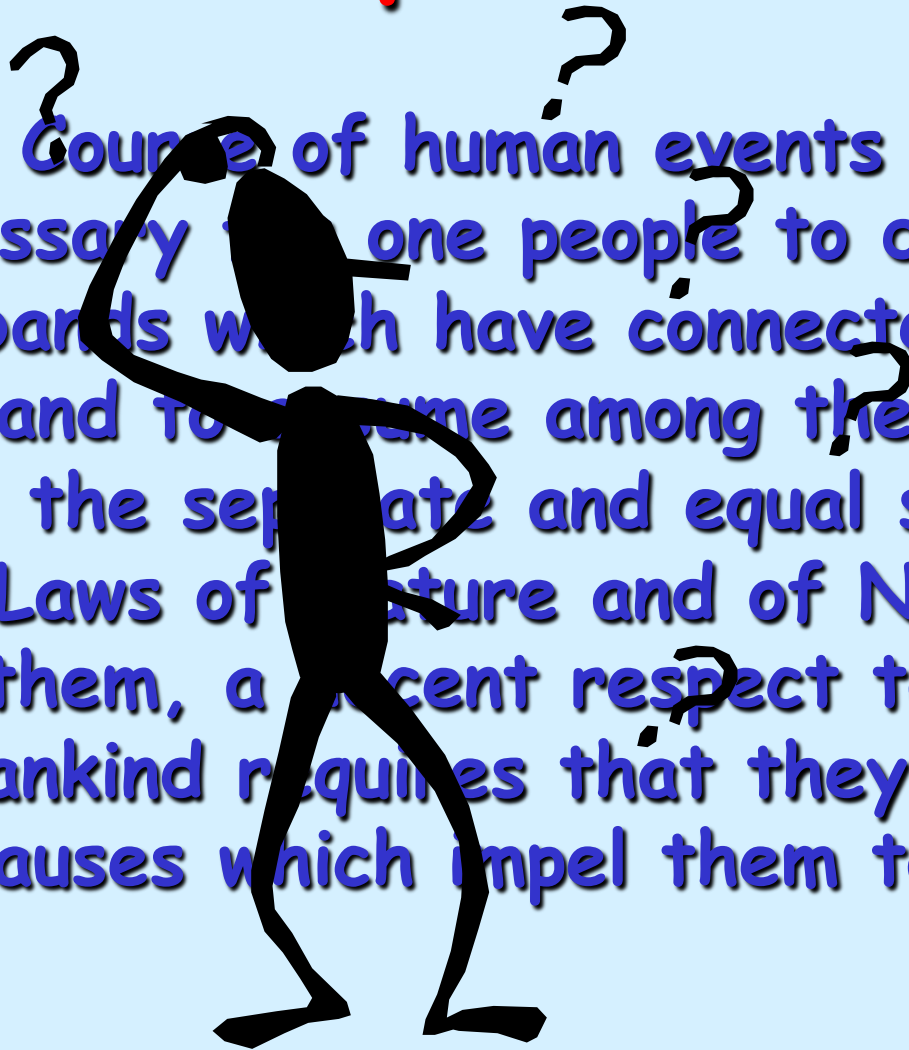
Left to right: John Adams, Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin

Jefferson and Franklin



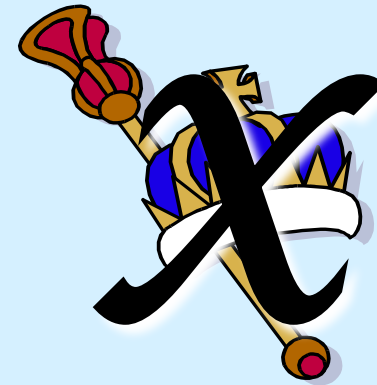
Excerpt

“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 entitled them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.”

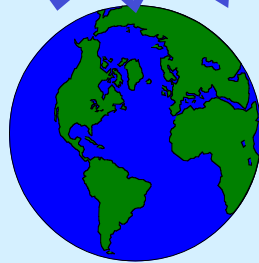


Rephrased Excerpt

There are times
when people
should break away
from their
government.



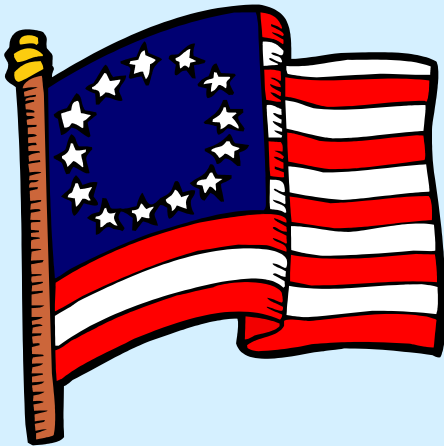
Here's why



It's important to
tell all people of
the world the
reasons for the
break-up.

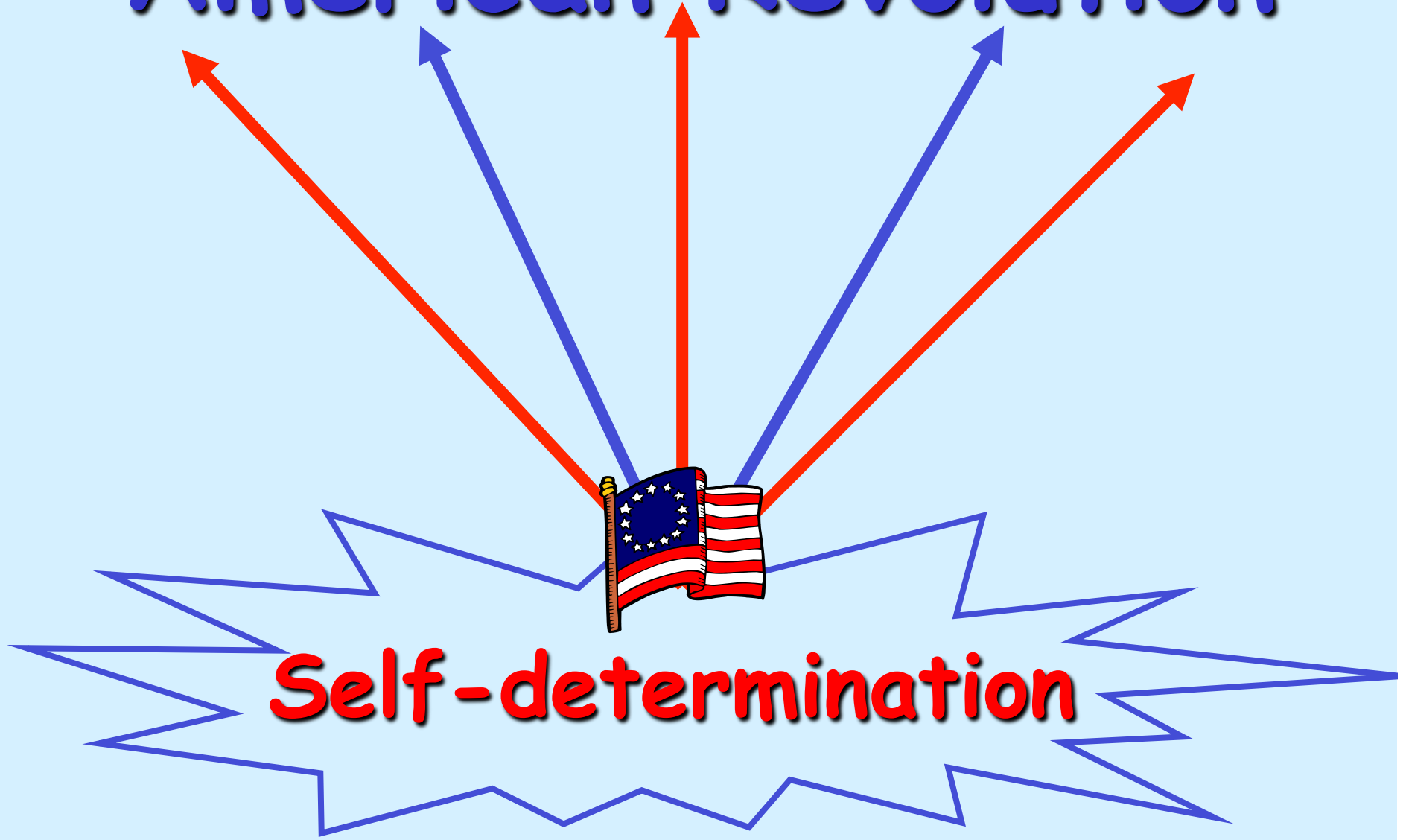
Self-Determination

These Patriots wanted political and economic change.



They were dedicated to their cause, firm in their belief, self-sacrificing, and refused to give up!

American Revolution



The Colonies Unite!

