

Lesson 1
K - W - L
Chart

Name:
Date:

Topic:

John Adams

K What do you already know?	W What do you want to know?	L What did you learn?

Lesson 1

Name:

The Life of John Adams

1735 – 1826

John Adams was born in Quincy, Massachusetts, a town known as “Braintree” at the time of his birth. His parents were not rich, but he was able to go to college. He graduated from Harvard in 1755. John Adams began studying law in Worcester, then opened his own law practice in Braintree. In 1764, Adams married Abigail Smith. They had five children.

Here are some of the things John Adams did as a Boston Patriot:

- Publicly argued against the Stamp Act. (1765)
 - Served on the Massachusetts General Court (June 1770)
 - Defended the British soldiers in the Boston Massacre Trials (October 1770)
 - Represented Massachusetts at the First Continental Congress (1774)

Using the website listed below, answer the questions about John Adams and his career.

- Go to www.masshist.org
- Click on Adams Family papers
- Click on TimeLine
- Answer each question in a complete sentence and in your own words.

1. What does John Adams do at the Second Continental Congress in 1775?

1a. What does it mean to be ‘Commander and Chief’? (use your own judgment)

2. What else does John Adams do at the Second Continental Congress in June/July of 1776?

3. In 1779, what does John Adams write that is adopted in 1780?

4. What is John Adams asked to do in September of 1779?

5. What does John Adams sign in 1782 and who else signs it with him?

6. On what date does John Adams sign the final peace treaty between America and Britain?

7. What position is John Adams elected to in 1789?

8. What happens to John Adams again in 1793?

9. In 1796, what does John Adams become?

10. Make a list of three things you think are important that John Adams does while in office from 1797 to 1801

1.

2.

3.

11. What does Thomas Jefferson become in 1801?

12. What does John Adams do when he is not re-elected? How old is he now? What do you think he will do with his life now?

The Life of John Adams

1735 – 1826

Directions: Using your textbook, write a description or a definition for the following terms. Then complete the rest of the assignment.

1. The General Court –

2. “Taxation without Representation”—

3. The Stamp Act –

4. writ of assistance –

5. The First Continental Congress –

An Eye Witness Account

Read the section in your textbook about The Boston Massacre.

Once you have finished reading the section, pretend you were on King Street the night five people were killed and you are writing in your journal or diary about what happened.

Describe what the atmosphere was like, what you think caused the problem or who is to blame. Try to write your best account of what you think happened on the night of March 5th, 1770.

Write your response on a separate sheet of paper. It may be typewritten as well. Your journal or diary must have the date at the top of the page.