

Teacher guide:

On the following page, there are 8 different character profiles. Print out enough for each student in your class to receive one, and pass them out randomly. **Students will be using their character cards throughout the entire unit**, so make sure they don't lose them!

COLONIST

My family came to Virginia through help from the Virginia Company. We were poor in England, and we wanted to come to the New World to find a better life. We heard that we could get free land. When we arrived, we saw that there were many Native Americans already here, but we were assured that we could take their land for ourselves.

SLAVE

I am an African American slave working in South Carolina at a cotton plantation. My father was taken from his home when he was young. All I want is to be freed from slavery. There is talk on the streets about colonists wanting freedom from Britain, but will they give us that same freedom too?

COLONIST

I live in Boston, Massachusetts. My family came from England to Plymouth colony years before because they wanted the freedom to practice their religion the way they wanted to. I grew up learning about how important freedom is.

COLONIST

I live in New York, New York. I do a lot of trade with Britain. There are a lot of good partnerships with the British that are helping me and my friends to be successful. Trading with Britain brings a lot of good things to the colonies that it would be hard to get without them.

COLONIST

I am an African American living in Boston, Massachusetts. I used to be a slave, but now I am a free person. I know firsthand how important and valuable freedom is for everyone to have. I want everyone to be able to experience that freedom.

CHEROKEE

My family has lived on this land for generations and the land is very important to us. When European settlers arrived and brought the disease of smallpox, nearly half of the Cherokee died within a year. We have often worked with the British to fight against the French.

IROQUIS

I am part of the Seneca people, who are part of the Iroquis with five other nations. I trade fur to the Europeans in exchange for tools and weapons. We had thought that the colonists were British people, and now the colonists and British are two different groups. We need to think about which side to be on in this war.

PARLIAMENT MEMBER

I live in Britain, and am a member of the Parliament. We helped many colonists move to the New World, and we spend a lot of money to help keep the colonists safe. We have a trading relationship with the colonies that helps all of us.