5 minutes

Boston Tea Party

* Planed by sons of liberty in a hidden room while also controlling some of the press - 9 of them
* 3 hours of dumping tea into the Boston harbor
* 90,000 lbs of tea
* Disguised themselves as Indians using masks
* $1,000,000 of tea
* John Hankcock helped plan it on his boat (insurance fraud)
* Ben Franklin tried to pay it back and wasn’t allowed to because the British wanted leverage over the colonists
* Francis Akeley - teenage boy involved - got drunk, passed out, was left on the boat, got caught and arrested in the morning by British soldiers who found him lying their realizing he was left
* Only known person involved (arrest record)
* Led to intolerable acts - King’s response to tea party
* Got rid of most of the colonial government’s power
* Put all acts from 1760s back
* Only local government loyal to the king kept their power
* One of the most contributing factors to the American Revolution starting.

Loz: John Adams, Francis Akeley, King George

Delphine: John Hancock, Soldier #1, Ben Franklin

Lexi: Paul Revere, SOLDIER #2, Samuel Adams

Scenes:

1. Sons of liberty meeting - JH says to do it on his boat with the tea
2. Tea dumping
3. Ben Franklin trying to pay it back
4. Intolerable acts in action

**Sons of Liberty Meeting**

*John Hancock, John Adams, Paul Revere and Samuel Adams are sitting at a table together.*

John Hancock: Thank you for joining us at this sons of liberty meeting.

Samuel: We are meeting to find a way to make the British angry.

John Adams: We must rebel in some way.

Paul Revere: HmmMMMMMMMMMMmMMMMMmmMMMMMMMMM….. What to do? What to do?

John Hancock: I know! Let’s dump tea in the Boston Harbor!

*Paul Revere jumps up.*

Paul Revere: YOU LUNATIC!!! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT??

*John Adams is thinking hard.*

John Adams: I think that could actually work

Paul Revere: Are you guys off your rockers? That makes no sense!

John Hancock: There are 90,000 pounds of tea on my boat and we could throw that into the water.

Samuel: That will work very well! The British drink so much tea this would upset them very much and put them at a great loss.

John Adams: 90,000 pounds is almost 2 million dollars worth of tea!

Paul Revere: We would get in so much trouble if they found out it was us. I don’t think this is a good idea.

John Hanckock: It’s simple, we’ll just wear disguises.

John Adams: We need to amass a large quantity of men to dump this tea.

Samuel Adams: Right.

John Hancock: Let’s do it tomorrow night, December 16th, 1773. Sounds good?

Paul Revere: Fine.

John Adams: Very well then, see you tomorrow.

**Boston Tea Party Commenced:**

*(John Hancock, John Adams, Paul Revere, and Samuel Adams are standing together at the dock with a large group of men. They put on their Indian costumes. They are hiding from the soldier guarding John Hancock’s boat.)*

John Hancock: Here’s my boat. It has 90,000 pounds of tea on it.

*\*The soldier notices them.\**

Soldier #1: Who are you folks?

Paul Revere: Ummmmm… I told you this wasn’t a good idea!

*\*Francis Akeley hits the Soldier over the head.\**

John Hancock: Who are you?

Francis Akeley: I’m Francis Akeley I want to be free from these bad British people.

Samuel: Oh, would you like to join us?

*\*Francis nods\**

John Hancock: C’mon here’s the boat

*\*They quietly enter the boat.\**

*\*Francis Akeley stumbles and makes a noise.\**

Paul Revere: What? are ya drunk! Quit making noise, you tryna get us killed??

John Adams: Where's the tea?

John Hancock: There.

\*points\*

*\*All the men head to where the tea is and quietly start grabbing crates.\**

Samuel: Alright gentlemen, dump as much as you can.

John Adams: Well this ought to be good.

*\*Everyone dumps the tea in the Harbor.\**

*\*Francis Akeley pulls out flask and starts drinking\**

Paul Revere: Is everyone done? I think that’s all of it.

John Hancock: Yup I think that's all, Francis you done?

Francis: Ye…yeah *\*says unsteadily\**

John Adams: Okay guys let's make a run for it.

*\*Everyone hurries off the boat but francis struggles to run and falls down passing out\**

***Next day***

Soldier #1: C'mon we have to go get all the tea from Hancock’s boat

Soldier #2: Okay

*\*They see all the tea is gone and Francis Akeley passed out on the floor.\**

Soldier #1: BLOODY HELL WHAT HAS HAPPENED!

Soldier #2: *\*grabs francis akeley\** You imbecile what have you done! He’s drunk! Throw him into jail.

*\*Francis akeley goes to jail.\**

**Ben and King**

*\*Benjamin Franklin is writing a letter with his voice reading it out loud.\**

Benjamin Franklin: I need to find a way to fix this. I should write a letter to the king and offer to pay him back for the tea! He will forgive us for sure!

*\*Ben uses a quill and begins writing a letter.\**

Benjamin Franklin (voiceover): Dearest King George. You might have heard that there were some crates of tea dumped into the Boston Harbor in December, but it wasn’t that bad. John Hancock’s boat was attacked by disguised men that poured all of his tea overboard. The total cost of this tea was approximately 1.7 million dollars.

*\*Screen fades to King George reading the letter. He looks shocked when he hears the price.\**

Ben (voiceover): I am very apologetic for this tragedy that happened to your precious tea, and I would like to pay it back. I will give you all the money for the entire cost of all of the tea that was spoiled. I hope you will consider my offer.

*\*King George looks very angry. He begins writing a letter.\**

King George (voiceover): Mr. Franklin, I am appalled to hear of this tragedy. I love tea so much and now it’s all gone and that makes me very sad and upset.

*\*Screen fades to Ben Franklin reading the King’s letter.\**

King George (voiceover): You will not need to pay the tea back.

*Ben looks confused and then happy and then confused again.*

Ben: Why not? Do the British just want leverage over us, the colonists? Or is he just being nice? There’s no way…

King George (voiceover): You don’t need to pay us anything, but I will be putting the Intolerable Acts into place.

Ben: What are the intolerable acts?

King (voiceover): You are probably wondering what the Intolerable acts are. They are basically all of the acts from the 60s being put back into place. That’s right. The Stamp act, the Quartering act, and the Townshend acts. This is your punishment. You brought this upon yourself by spoiling my tea.

*Ben Franklin gasps and then looks depressed.*

*King George: Benjamin Franklin don't think about ever starting a rebellion I am worried it might lead to a contract called the Declaration of Independence. Bleh don't like the sound of that. Only slavery, child labor and British rule forever.*

*Soldier 2: Sir. Oh I mean sire there’s a rebellion happening in the colonies.*

*King George: Oh shoot well, at least I will win!*

*Soldier 2: Actually sir, if you didn't start the Intolerable Acts we might not have been at war.*

*(As the Boston Tea Party ended quickly but not without victory and a rebellion soon in the midst of overthrowing tyranny from King George III)*