

8th Grade Unit 1: Early America

Essential Question: How do I understand the history of Early America?

Key Questions:

- *What are poetic devices and how can we use them to create our own works of poetry?*
- *What was Colonial America like?*
- *Who were the indigenous people of America and how were they affected by colonization?*
- *What were the causes of the American Revolution?*
- *Why are the Bill of Rights and the U. S. Constitution important documents?*
- *What were the results of the North and South entering the Civil War?*
- *What was the African American experience in early America?*

Performance Tasks:

- JFA (one)
- Weekly Quizzes with Vocabulary
- Summer Reading Projects
- “I am” Poem
- Mapping Colonial America
- Political Cartoon – American Revolution
- Compare/Contrast Poster – Women, African American, Native Americans
- Final Essay – The African American Experience

Topics:

- Colonial America
- Indigenous people of America
- American Revolution
- Boston Massacre
- American Documents
- North v. South – Civil War
- African American experience in the U.S.
- 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments

Key People/Events:

- Dred Scott
- Homer Plessy
- Boston Tea Party
- Stamp Act
- Civil War

Key Terms:

- Figurative language
- Indigenous
- Reconstruction
- Middle Passage
- Slave Narratives