**THE WAR OF 1812**

Directions: As you read about the causes, major events, and results of the War of 1812, underline or highlight key words, names, terms, and ideas.

1. Causes of the War of 1812
	1. Trouble with Great Britain
		1. Great Britain did not want American ships to trade with France, because the British and French were at war with each other in Europe.
		2. The British stopped American ships and removed their cargoes.
		3. The British captured American sailors and forced them to serve in the British Navy, a policy called “impressment of seamen.”
		4. The United States accused the British of encouraging Chief Tecumseh and the Indians to attack settlers in the Northwest Territory.
	2. Trouble with France
		1. The French stopped American ships and removed cargoes, although not as often as the British did.
		2. France did not impress American seamen.
	3. Reaction of the United States
		1. President Thomas Jefferson and Congress passed the Embargo Act in 1807. U.S. ships were not allowed to sail across the Atlantic Ocean and trade with Great Britain, France, and other European countries. The Embargo Act was later repealed because it hurt New England merchants and shippers more than it affected the British and French.
		2. In 1811, General William Henry Harrison defeated the Indians at the Battle of Tippecanoe. Harrison later became the 9th President of the United States.
		3. A group of Congressmen, called War Hawks, wanted to declare war on Great Britain.
			1. These Congressmen hoped to add Canada and Spanish Florida to the United States.
			2. The War Hawks were led by John C. Calhoun of South Carolina and Henry Clay of Kentucky.
			3. In 1812, President James Madison asked Congress to declare war on Great Britain. Congress passed the war declaration despite opposition from Federalist politicians in the New England states.
2. Major Events of the War of 1812
	1. Americans were divided over the issue of war
		1. People in the South and West favored the war.
		2. People in New England states were against the war.
			1. The New England states did most of their trading with Great Britain, and all trade and business stopped when the war began. Many people lost their jobs. Shipbuilding companies were also affected.
			2. At the Hartford Convention, held near the end of the war, some states threatened to secede from the Union if the war did not end soon.
	2. Important events
		1. The U.S. army suffered many defeats at the beginning of the war.
			1. American soldiers were outnumbers, poorly equipped, and lacked training.
			2. An invasion of Canada failed after defeats at Detroit and Niagara.
			3. Attempts to capture Montreal and Toronto were also unsuccessful/
		2. Captain Oliver H. Perry defeated the British on Lake Erie.
			1. This naval victory gave the United States control of the Great Lakes.
			2. Perry reported his success in a famous message to Congress. “We have met the enemy and they are ours.”
		3. Great Britain’s sea power was superior to that of the United States.
			1. British warships blockaded coastal cities.
			2. The most famous American warship was the *Constitution* – nicknamed “Old Ironsides.”
		4. British forces attacked Washington, D.C.
			1. President James Madison and members of Congress escaped from the city.
			2. Many buildings, including the Capitol and White House, were burned.
		5. The British attacked Fort McHenry, which protected Baltimore.
			1. American troops successfully defended the fort.
			2. Francis Scott Key, who witnessed the attack, wrote a poem which later became the *Star-Spangled Banner*, the national anthem.
		6. British soldiers attacked New Orleans.
			1. American troops under the command of General Andrew Jackson defeated the British in a one-sided battle.
			2. The Battle of New Orleans, as it was called, took place two weeks after the Treaty of Ghent was signed in Europe. The treaty officially ended the war in 1814. But a copy of the treaty, being carried from Europe to America by ship, did not reach the United States until after the battle had been fought.
3. Results of the War of 1812
	1. Neither side won the “Second War for Independence.” But by not losing the war, the United States preserved the freedom it had won from Great Britain in the Revolutionary War.
	2. Andrew Jackson became a national hero, which later helped him win the presidency.
	3. Manufacturing developed in the United States because America could not get European goods during wartime.
	4. Americans saw the need for a strong national government, which could provide firm leadership in times of crisis.
	5. Countries in Europe began to show more respect for the young United States.
	6. A spirit of nationalism swept the country. People who had fought and worked together during the War of 1812 took pride in their nation. They began thinking of themselves more as being “Americans” rather than as citizens of individual states.
	7. The Federalist Party, which had opposed the war, declined in importance and soon disappeared.

Game Rules

* + 1. Put the number 1 through 9 inside of the nine small corner spaces on the Game 1 form on the next page. SCRAMBLE THE NUMBERS INSTEAD OF ARRANGING THEM IN ORDER.
		2. Play begins when the teacher announces a number between 1 and 9, then reads a True/False statement about the War of 1812. You will have 30 seconds to look for the answer on the outline provided. Find the announced number on your game form and write True or False in the large space next to it. Play continues in this war until five numbers have been announced and five questions have been asked.
		3. Papers will then be exchanged and correct answers read. Points will be scored as follows:
			1. 10 points for each correct answer.
			2. 10-point bonus for three correct answers in a row (either across, down, or diagonally) – Note: It is possible to earn two 10-point bonuses have having three right answers in a row in two different directions.
		4. When checking a person’s paper, put their total points in the space below the game form. The highest possible score per game is 70 points. Games 2 through 4 will be played in the same way.





True/False

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The United States fought against both France and Great Britain in the War of 1812.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ One cause of the war was the impressment of American seamen by the British.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The War Hawks staged peace demonstrations in various parts of the United States.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun were Congressmen who wanted to capture Canada.
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Jefferson was President during the War of 1812.
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The President of the United States has the power to declare war on another country.
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ People in New England states opposed the war because it interfered with trade and business.
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Delegates to the Hartford Convention threatened to secede from the United States.
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The American army was well-prepared for the war.
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Great Britain had a stronger navy than the United States.
11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ General Andrew Jackson was nicknamed “Old Ironsides.”
12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The United States succeeded in capturing Canada and Spanish Florida.
13. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The British captured both Washington, D.C., and Baltimore during the War of 1812.
14. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner after witnessing the burning of Washington, D.C.
15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Great Britain won the Battle of New Orleans.
16. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The United States won the War of 1812.
17. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris.
18. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Great Britain’s blockade of American ports caused manufacturing to increase in the United States.
19. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The War of 1812 helped the United States gain the respect of foreign countries.
20. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nationalism grew as a result of the war.

**MAJOR BATTLES OF THE WAR OF 1812**

1. During the War of 1812, the small American navy, with the help of many privateers, attacked British shipping and seized or destroyed more than a thousand ships. The Americans won some key victories at sea in the first year of the war. In the most famous battle, the U.S. warship *Constitution* sank the British *Guerriere* in a two-hour duel off the coast of Nova Scotia. The *Constitution* earned the nickname “Old Ironsides,” when British cannonballs bounced off its thickly timbered hull. Eventually, however, the powerful British navy took control of the sea, set up a blockade along the Atlantic coast, and cut off American trade with other countries.

**On the map:**

1. Next to Nova Scotia, print **1812: The Constitution defeats the *Guerriere***. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory. (Note: Use this same color throughout the map exercise for all American victories, and a second color for British victories. Put these two colors in the map key.)
2. Next to the line of ships along the Atlantic coast, print **1813: British establish a blockade**.
3. One of the objectives of the United States was to capture British Canada. In 1812, three invasions of Canada were attempted, but each was successful. The first campaign ended with the surrender of Detroit, after Ohio and Michigan militias were slow to reinforce an American army. Great Britain’s Indian allies, led by Tecumseh, captured Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) soon after taking Detroit. The second and third invasions failed because the New York militia refused to cross into Canada and help the regular army.

**On the map:**

1. Next to Detroit, print **1812: British capture Detroit**. Color the battle symbol to show a British victory.
2. Next to Fort Dearborn, print **1812: Tecumseh takes Fort Dearborn**. Color the battle symbol to show a British victory.
3. American fortunes improved in 1813. York (now Toronto) was captured and held for a short time. A number of public building were burned. Captain Oliver H. Perry destroyed the British fleet on Lake Erie, which forced the British to leave Detroit. As the British and Indians retreated into Canada, General William Henry Harrison defeated them at the Battle of the Thames. Tecumseh was killed, causing the Indians to end their support for the British. But near the end of 1813, the British struck back. They seized Fort Niagara, and burned Buffalo and neighboring villages.

**On the map:**

* 1. Next to York, print **1813: Americans burn York**. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory.
	2. At the western end of Lake Erie, print **1813: Oliver H. Perry wins the Battle of Lake Erie**. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory.
	3. Next to the battle symbol above Lake Erie, print **1813: U.S. wins the Battle of the Thames**. Color the battle symbol.
	4. Next to Buffalo, print **1813: British burn Buffalo**. Color the battle symbol to represent a British victory.
1. After Napoleon’s defeat in Europe, Great Britain sent 18,000 veteran troops to Canada. U.S. forces were defeated at the Battle of Lundy’s Lane. A British army occupied Washington, D.C., and burned the Capitol and other public buildings. But their attack on Fort McHenry, which protected Baltimore, was unsuccessful. The British tried to invade northern New York State, but were turned back at the Battle of Lake Champlain. The final battle of the war was fought at New Orleans, before word of the signing of the Treaty of Ghent reached North America. General Andrew Jackson, with American artillery and sharpshooting riflemen, won a great victory.

**On the map:**

* 1. Next to the battle symbol across the Niagara River from Buffalo, print 1814: Battle of Lundy’s Lane. Color the battle symbol to show a British victory.
	2. Next to the battle symbol in northern New York, print 1814: Battle of Lake Champlain turns back British invasion. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory.
	3. Next to Washington, D.C., print 1814: British burn Washington. Color the battle symbol to show a British victory.
	4. Next to Baltimore, print 1814: British fail to capture Fort McHenry. Francis Scott Key write the Star-Spangled Banner. Color the battle symbol to show an American victory.
	5. Next to New Orleans, print 1815: General Andrew Jackson defeats the British. Color the battle symbol to represent an American victory.

