American Revolution Timeline

This assessment could be used for virtually any time period in US History, but I like using it while studying causes of the American Revolution. Instead of a traditional timeline, students will take on the perspective of an individual and create a timeline from that person’s point of view. For instance, students can take on the role of a Boston merchant, or a British loyalist.

Once students pick a role, they will create a timeline with events that their person would support going above the timeline, and events they would oppose going below the timeline. Below is the assignment I give my students.

Directions: You are to take on the role of a Boston merchant in Colonial America that is a patriot, a farmer in western Pennsylvania looking for more land, or a member of King George III’s inner circle. Below is a list of terms that are relevant to the time period of 1750 – 1776. If the term is favorable to your person, please put that ABOVE the timeline, with a brief description why. If the term is unfavorable to your person, please put that BELOW the timeline, with a brief description why. Circle the two events were the biggest turning points for your person and explain why.

List of Events:

* Proclamation Line of 1763
* End of the 7 Years War
* Boston Tea Party
* Sugar Act
* Stamp Act Congress
* Intolerable Acts
* Townshend Acts
* T-Paine’s *Common Sense*
* Battle of Bunker Hill
* Writs of Assistance
* Admirality Courts
* Boston Massacre
* First Continental Congress

Example with two of the above events for Boston Patriot

1765 – Stamp Act Congress. Colonists met to resist the implementation of the Stamp Act by the British. The Congress helped encourage boycotts and ultimately helped lead to the repeal of the Stamp Act – victory for colonists!

1765 – Stamp Act. Tax on 50 commonly used goods on the colonists to raise revenue. This affected virtually everyone in Colonial America. The colonists felt it was a violation of their rights since they had no say in the tax – defeat for colonists!

1776

1750