

Thomas Hutchison

Benjamin Franklin

Patrick Henry

Jonathan Boucher

Mercy Otis Warren

independence

Lord Dunmore

Samuel Adams

Patriots

He lived in Virginia. He was a Patriot. He is famous for the words "Give me liberty, or give me death." He said King George's actions made him a tyrant.

Occupation: writer, printer, inventor, scientist, statesman, diplomat, colonial representative to British government  
Action taken: tried to persuade Great Britain to stop making laws that the colonists thought were unfair  
Argument for independence: The colonists have the ability to

Occupation: governor of Massachusetts  
Action taken: enforced British laws like the Stamp Act  
Argument against independence: The British king knows what is best for colonists because he has experience and wisdom. Colonists living overseas should not expect to have the same freedoms th

freedom from someone else's control

Occupation: writer and poet  
Action taken: wrote plays and poems supporting independence  
Argument for independence: Great Britain's laws and taxes are unfair. Colonial families have a hard time earning money and British goods are expensive. The colonies would be better off with their own

Occupation: priest in the Church of England  
Action taken: preached that disobeying the king was like disobeying God  
Argument against independence: A war for independence would hurt people much more than living with a few bad laws would. The common people are not capable of ruling. Br

A person in American colonies who wanted the colonies to become independent from Great Britain

Occupation: politician  
Action taken: made speeches and wrote newspaper articles; helped organize the Sons of Liberty and led the Boston Tea Party to protest unfair British laws  
Argument for independence: The colonists should be able to elect their own governors and to have the power

Occupation: governor of Virginia  
Action taken: attacked Patriots' homes and plantations along the Elizabeth River in Virginia  
Argument against independence: Colonists have a duty to obey British laws and not become traitors. Fighting for independence would hurt the economy and make c

Loyalists

treason

neutral

tyrant

The crime of acting to overthrow your ruler or betray your country.

A person in the American colonies who opposed independence and wanted the colonies to remain under the control of the king and Great Britain

Not taking sides. In the American colonies, many people remained neutral and did not support either side in the fight for independence from Great Britain

A ruler who uses his or her power harshly