01

A Chronological Guide for Public & Private School Educators

AMERICAN HISTORY & CIVICS CALENDAR

A complete guide to the Little Patriots American History & Civics curriculum — 47 courses that walk students through the story of America, one lesson at a time.

FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS



AMERICAN HISTORY & CIVICS CALENDAR

A Chronological Guide for Public & Private School Educators

Early America
1492–1774

Revolution
1765–1806

Expansion
1807–1900

Modern Age
1901–Now

Using Little Patriots in Public and Private Schools

The Little Patriots curriculum is designed to complement—not replace—your existing social studies or history instruction. Organized chronologically, this learning path helps students understand the progression of American history by building one event upon another. Rather than presenting isolated historical facts, students develop an understanding of how people, ideas, and events shaped our nation over time.

Why a Chronological Approach Works

History is a story, and every story has a beginning, middle, and end. Teaching American history in chronological order helps students recognize cause-and-effect relationships between events, making history easier to understand and remember.

As students move through the curriculum, they naturally discover how:

- Early exploration led to Early America.
- Colonial life and growing tensions resulted in the colonists declaring independence and the American Revolution.
- The Revolution led to the creation of the Constitution and the American government.
- Westward expansion, innovation, and reform shaped the 19th century.
- America's role in the world expanded throughout the 20th century.
- The ideals of freedom, opportunity, and citizenship continue to influence modern America.

This sequence allows students to build historical knowledge step by step, creating a strong foundation for future learning.

Flexible for Every Classroom

Each Little Patriots course is designed to stand alone while also fitting into the larger historical timeline. Whether used as a weekly enrichment lesson, a supplemental social studies resource, or part of a schoolwide civics initiative, educators can easily incorporate the curriculum into their existing schedules.

Because each lesson is self-contained, teachers can:

- **Reinforce topics** already being taught in their state standards.
- **Introduce historical figures and events** before students encounter them in their core curriculum.
- **Provide additional context** and engaging activities that deepen student understanding.
- **Celebrate important patriotic holidays** and historical anniversaries throughout the school year.

A Great Fit for Friday Afternoons

Friday afternoons provide an excellent opportunity to incorporate these important history and civics lessons. After a full week of core academic instruction, students are often ready for engaging, discussion-based learning that allows them to explore the stories, leaders, and events that shaped our nation.

Designating time each Friday for Little Patriots creates a consistent classroom tradition where students can:

- **Discover a new chapter** of American history each week.
- **Engage with meaningful stories** of courage, leadership, perseverance, and innovation.
- **Build civic knowledge** through age-appropriate lessons and discussions.
- **Reflect on the principles and values** that have influenced our nation's history.

47

individual courses

With 47 individual courses, educators can create a predictable weekly rhythm while maintaining flexibility for holidays, testing schedules, school events, and classroom needs. Whether implemented every Friday, integrated into social studies blocks, or used as a supplemental enrichment resource, Little Patriots provides a structured pathway for students to explore America's history throughout the school year.

A weekly "Little Patriots Friday" gives students something to look forward to—a dedicated time each week to step into the story of America and better understand the people and events that helped shape our nation.

Supporting Existing Curriculum

Little Patriots is intended to enhance the excellent work already taking place in classrooms. The curriculum can be used alongside district-adopted instructional materials, providing additional historical context, primary source discussions, enrichment activities, and opportunities for students to explore important moments in American history in greater depth.

Teachers may also choose to align lessons with nationally recognized observances such as:

- **Constitution Day**
- **Veterans Day**
- **Thanksgiving**
- **Presidents' Day**
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- **Flag Day**
- **Memorial Day**
- **Independence Day** (through summer learning opportunities)

These natural connections help students recognize how the events they study continue to shape our nation today.

Bringing History to Life

The goal of Little Patriots is not simply for students to memorize dates and names, but to understand the people, ideas, and events that have shaped the United States. By following this chronological scope and sequence, educators can help students develop a deeper appreciation for American history while strengthening historical thinking, civic knowledge, and an understanding of the enduring principles upon which our nation was founded.

Whether implemented weekly, monthly, or as part of a broader social studies program, the Little Patriots curriculum provides a flexible, engaging, and developmentally appropriate resource for helping students discover America's story—one lesson at a time.

The Learning Path

The courses below are organized chronologically as part of Liberty's Learning Path, providing public and private school educators with a clear roadmap for guiding students through the story of America. Beginning with early exploration and continuing through the modern era, this sequence helps students build historical understanding by connecting important people, events, and ideas across time.

Educators can use this learning path as a supplemental history resource, a weekly civics enrichment program, or a framework to support existing social studies instruction. Each course is designed to help students understand not only what happened, but also why it mattered and how these moments continue to shape our nation today.

THEMATIC LABELS

Thematic labels highlight the key ideas and areas of focus within each course.

- WE THE PEOPLE
- CREATED EQUAL
- INNOVATORS
- NEW FRONTIERS
- WORLD STAGE

ERA 01

EARLY AMERICA & THE COLONIAL PERIOD

(1492–1774)

CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 01 · 1492

EARLY AMERICA (CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS)

Christopher Columbus arrives in the Americas (1492).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 1

COURSE 02 · 1620

PILGRIM LIFE AND THANKSGIVING (THE FIRST THANKSGIVING)

Pilgrims settle Plymouth and celebrate the First Thanksgiving.

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 2

COURSE 03 · 1607

THE ORIGINAL COLONIES AND THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

Founding of the Thirteen Colonies (1607–1732).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 3

COURSE 37 · 1730s

THE FIRST GREAT AWAKENING

Religious revival throughout the American colonies (1730s–1740s).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 37

COURSE 24 · 1750s

THE LEGACY OF BEN FRANKLIN

Benjamin Franklin's contributions during the colonial and Revolutionary periods (1750s–1790).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 24

ERA 02

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR & A NEW NATION

PART 1 OF 2

(1765–1806)
CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 38
1765

THE STAMP ACT

Parliament passes the Stamp Act, sparking early colonial resistance (1765).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 38

COURSE 39
1776

FOUNDATIONS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (THOMAS PAINE'S *COMMON SENSE*)

Publication of *Common Sense,* mobilizing public support for independence (January 1776).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 39

COURSE 04
1776

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Signing and adoption of the Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 4

COURSE 05
1775

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (CROSSING THE DELAWARE)

Revolutionary War breaks out; Washington crosses the Delaware (1775–1783; event: December 25–26, 1776).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 5

COURSE 23
1777

AMERICA'S FIRST FLAG

Adoption of the Stars and Stripes by the Continental Congress (June 14, 1777).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 23

COURSE 31
1777

WINTER TRIALS AT VALLEY FORGE

Continental Army winters at Valley Forge under harsh conditions (1777–1778).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 31

COURSE 30
1775

THE ADVENTURES OF DANIEL BOONE

Early American frontier and westward expansion (1775–1813, primarily the late 1700s).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 30

ERA 02

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR & A NEW NATION

PART 2 OF 2

(1765–1806)

CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 06 · 1787

CREATING THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION)

Constitutional Convention meets to draft the U.S. Constitution (1787).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 6

COURSE 25 · 1787

ALEXANDER HAMILTON (*FEDERALIST PAPERS*)

Writing of the *Federalist Papers* to urge ratification of the Constitution (1787–1788).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 25

COURSE 07 · 1789

AMERICA'S FIRST PRESIDENT (WASHINGTON'S INAUGURATION)

George Washington's inauguration as the first U.S. President (1789).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 7

COURSE 27 · 1796

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

George Washington publishes his Farewell Address to the nation (1796).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 27

COURSE 26 · 1774

JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS (LETTERS BETWEEN JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS)

Adams' Presidency and lifelong correspondence (1774–1801, with presidency 1797–1801).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 26

COURSE 40 · 1802

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (THOMAS JEFFERSON'S LETTER TO THE DANBURY BAPTISTS)

Jefferson's letter using the phrase "wall of separation" (1802).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 40

COURSE 09 · 1804

LEWIS, CLARK & SACAGAWEA

The Lewis and Clark Expedition explores the newly acquired western territory (1804–1806).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 9

ERA 03

19TH CENTURY EXPANSION, CONFLICT & INNOVATION

PART 1 OF 2

(1807–1900)
CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 18
1807

FULTON'S STEAMBOAT

Robert Fulton's successful commercial steamboat operation begins (1807).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 18

COURSE 08
1812

THE WAR OF 1812 AND THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

War of 1812 fought; "The Star-Spangled Banner" is written during the Battle of Fort McHenry (1812–1815; anthem: 1814).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 8

COURSE 41
1831

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE

COMING SOON

Frenchman visits America and publishes *Democracy in America* (1831–1840).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 41

COURSE 13
1830s

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

COMING SOON

Secret escape network reaches peak operations (1830s–1865).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 13

COURSE 32
1836

DEFENDERS OF THE ALAMO

Battle of the Alamo during the Texas Revolution (1836).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 32

COURSE 33
1848

THE GOLD RUSH

California Gold Rush sparks mass westward migration (1848–1855).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 33

COURSE 17
1848

EQUALITY FOR WOMEN (THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT)

COMING SOON

The organized movement begins. (1848–1920).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 17

ERA 03

19TH CENTURY EXPANSION, CONFLICT & INNOVATION

PART 2 OF 2

(1807–1900)
CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 29
1855

WALT WHITMAN'S POETRY

First publication of the foundational American poetry collection *Leaves of Grass* (1855).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 29

COURSE 12
1863

LINCOLN'S LEGACY

COMING SOON

Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation during the Civil War (January 1, 1863).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 12

COURSE 14
1865

THE END OF SLAVERY (THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT)

COMING SOON

Ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment, officially abolishing slavery (1865).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 14

COURSE 19
1879

THOMAS EDISON

Period of major inventions, including the development of the practical incandescent light bulb (1879–1900).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 19

COURSE 20
1881

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Educational leadership and founding of Tuskegee Institute (1881–1915).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 20

COURSE 21
1892

ELLIS ISLAND

America's federal immigration station opens and operates as the main gateway to America (1892–1954).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 21

COURSE 10
1898

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

The Spanish-American War positions the United States as a global power (1898).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 10

ERA 04

THE 20TH CENTURY & THE MODERN DIGITAL AGE

PART 1 OF 2

(1901–Present)
CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 34
1901

SAFEGUARDING OUR PLANET (THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND NATIONAL PARKS)

Roosevelt's presidency and conservation efforts (1901–1909).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 34

COURSE 22
1903

THE WRIGHT BROTHERS

First controlled, powered, sustained airplane flight at Kitty Hawk (1903).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 22

COURSE 35
1927

AMERICAN MONUMENTS AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM (BUILDING MOUNT RUSHMORE)

Construction of the massive sculpture in South Dakota (1927–1941).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 35

COURSE 36
1928

THE LEGACY OF AMELIA EARHART

Record-breaking aviation achievements and final flight (1928–1937).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 36

COURSE 11
1939

OUR AMERICAN HEROES (WWII)

Outbreak of World War II and subsequent U.S. military involvement (1939–1945; U.S. involvement 1941–1945).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 11

COURSE 42
1941

THE IMPACT OF THE HOMEFRONT (WWII)

COMING SOON

The economic and social mobilization of the American Homefront during World War II (1941–1945).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 42

COURSE 43
1944

A MIGHTY ENDEAVOR (D-DAY)

COMING SOON

Allied invasion of Normandy marking the turning point in Europe (June 6, 1944).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 43

ERA 04

THE 20TH CENTURY & THE MODERN DIGITAL AGE

PART 2 OF 2

1901–Present
CHRONOLOGICAL ERA

COURSE 44
1946

THE IRON CURTAIN

COMING SOON

Beginning of the Cold War; Winston Churchill delivers his "Iron Curtain" speech in Missouri (1946–1991; speech: 1946).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 44

COURSE 15
1947

JACKIE ROBINSON AND THE INTEGRATION OF BASEBALL

COMING SOON

Jackie Robinson breaks Major League Baseball's color barrier with the Dodgers (1947).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 15

COURSE 28
1948

THE LEGACY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WHITE HOUSE (1949 RENOVATION)

Complete structural reconstruction and modernization of the White House (1948–1952).

WE THE PEOPLE

COURSE 28

COURSE 45
1957

THE RACE TO THE MOON

COMING SOON

Cold War Space Race between the United States and USSR, culminating in the Apollo 11 Moon landing (1957–1969).

NEW FRONTIERS

COURSE 45

COURSE 16
1960

RUBY BRIDGES AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

COMING SOON

Six-year-old Ruby Bridges attends formerly segregated William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans (1960).

CREATED EQUAL

COURSE 16

COURSE 47
1976

THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION (STEVE JOBS)

COMING SOON

Rise of personal computing, the innovation of Apple, and the birth of the digital age (1976–2011).

INNOVATORS

COURSE 47

COURSE 46
1987

RONALD REAGAN (TEAR DOWN THIS WALL)

COMING SOON

Reagan's Berlin Wall speech signaling the approaching end of the Cold War (1987).

WORLD STAGE

COURSE 46

ONE LESSON AT A TIME

Liberty's Learning Pathway gives parents and educators a clear roadmap through the story of America.



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