



Computer Scientist: The Stamp and Tea Act

Adventure Description:

In this adventure, you will think like a computer scientist and develop a new VR headset to teach students about the Stamp and Tea Acts.

Activity

Teacher Preparation

- Note: This lesson can be completed across multiple days. Complete Steps 1-3 on one day and steps 4-6 on another day.

Step 1: Background Information (5 minutes)

- Show [Video: Stamp and Tea Acts](#).
- As a class, discuss how computer scientists design new types of technology, like VR headsets or apps.
- Explain to students that they will make a VR headset that will teach kids about the Stamp and Tea Acts.
- Provide students with [Handout: Steps to Create a VR Headset](#). As a class, review the steps.

Step 2: Writing a Main Idea and Details (20 minutes)

- Divide students into pairs or small groups.
- Explain to students that in Step 1, they will look at pictures and read about the Stamp and Tea Acts. Then, they will write down a main idea and 4 details about what kids will learn when they use the headset.
- Teacher note: if students need to review main idea and details, show [Handout: Main Idea and Details](#). As a class, discuss differences between the main idea and details.
- Have groups spend 10 minutes completing Step 1.

Step 3: Sketching Images (15+ minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now complete Step 2, sketching images that kids will see when they click the buttons on the VR headset.
- As students are working, ask the following questions:
 - How will your images show that colonists were upset that the British were trying to control them?
 - How did the colonists protest the British?

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Step 4: Drawing a Picture of the Headset (10 minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now complete Step 3, drawing a picture of their headset. Students should make sure to include all requirements in their picture.

Step 5: Building the Headset (20+ minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now build a prototype of their VR headset.
- Provide groups with art supplies and building materials (ex: recycled boxes, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, construction paper).

Step 6: Class Discussion and Presentation (5 minutes)

- Have groups present their VR headsets to the rest of the class. They should also show the images that that will be seen when a person puts on the VR headset.

Materials List

Provided online:

- Video: Stamp and Tea Acts
- Handout: Steps to Create a VR Headset
- Handout: Main Idea and Details

Not provided:

- Building Materials (ex: recycled boxes, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, construction paper)

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