**Core Knowledge**

**From Colonies to Independence**

**Facts to know**

Most of the people in the 13 colonies came from England.

At the Boston Tea Party, colonists threw tea into the Boston Harbor to protest unfair taxes.

The Colonists wrote letters to tell the King of England that they did not like the way they were being treated.

American patriots (fighters) were called Minutemen.

Paul Revere warned the people that the British Soldiers were coming.

The Declaration of Independence told King George of England that the colonists were starting their own country.

Benjamin Franklin invented many things. Some of his inventions were: eyeglasses, the stove, and lightning rods. He also organized the first police department and fire station.

Thomas Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration of Independence; however, others helped him, including Benjamin Franklin.

Benjamin Franklin persuaded France to join the fight against Britain.

George Washington was the leader of America’s first army. He later became the first President of the United States.

Betsy Ross sewed a flag for George Washington.

Today the nation’s capital is in the District of Columbia in Washington DC.