Forging a New Nation
I. Types of British Colonies

A. The British Empire established three types of colonies.

1. **Proprietary Colony** – a colony that was given to an individual or a group by the British monarch.

2. **Corporate Colony** – a colony given to a company (corporation) by the British monarch.

3. **Royal Colony** – a colony ruled directly by the king or his appointed representative such as a royal governor.

4. Georgia was the only **trustee** colony created by Britain. In many ways it was similar to a proprietary colony although the trustees made no profit.
B. Examples of the British Colonies

1. Proprietary Colonies:
   a. Pennsylvania – originally owned by William Penn
   b. Maryland – originally owned by the Lord Baltimore
2. Although most colonies didn’t begin as Royal Colonies, their status became such by the birth of the American Revolution:
   a. Founded in 1732 as a trustee colony, Georgia became a royal colony in 1752
   b. South Carolina became a royal colony in 1729
3. Corporate Colonies:
   a. Jamestown was operated by the Virginia Company.
   b. A large portion of the New England area was operated by the Massachusetts Bay Company.
II. American Colonial Regions

A. The British colonies in North America were in three separate geographic areas.
B. Southern Colonies: Georgia, N. & S. Carolina, Virginia and Maryland
C. Middle Colonies: New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware
D. New England Colonies: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Hampshire
E. Differences amongst the areas:
   1. The New England Colonies had a colder climate with rockier soil. These colonies had more industry, shipbuilding, fishing and only small farms. The population was large with many big cities built on natural harbors. Examples include Boston and Providence.
2. Middle Colonies: These colonies had the most diversified economy because they had an industrial base as well as a farming culture which relied heavily on grain crops (Quaker Oats) and corn. They were the “bread basket” of the colonies. Several large cities existed such as New York and Philadelphia.
3. Southern Colonies: These colonies were entirely dependent on farming because of the warm climate and fertile soil. Large plantations existed here which depended on the cheap labor of slavery to grow tobacco, rice and indigo. Most farms were small.
III. Georgia Becomes a Royal Colony

A. When the King made Georgia a royal colony in 1752 the trustees’ leadership was replaced by a royal governor.

B. John Reynolds became the first royal governor in 1754 and brought the idea of self government.
   1. The trustees had not allowed Georgia Colonists to vote, hold elections or collect taxes. However, Gov. Reynolds wanted the colonists to help run the government.
   2. A colonial Congress (legislature) was established which had two parts or houses.
C. The lower house of the legislature was called the “Commons House of Assembly”
   1. Only white men who owned 50 acres could vote.
   2. Only white men who owned at least 500 acres could be elected.
   3. Any laws or decisions could be vetoed by the governor or the king.

D. The upper house was called the Governor’s Council.
   1. Members were chosen by the King and served as advisors to the governor.
2. Members were wealthy and influential members of society.

IV. French & Indian War
A. The first real world war started in 1754.
B. The main countries involved were France & Britain.
C. It happened because both nations wanted the Ohio River Valley.
D. The war began when a young British officer named George Washington attacked the French and built Fort Necessity. Despite surrendering the fort, he would eventually become a war hero to the Virginians.
E. The Seven Year’s War was another name for this war because in two years the fighting in America to spread to Europe. All fighting ended in 1763 when France surrendered under the Treaty of Paris.

F. The most important outcome of the war was that it caused Britain to run up a very large debt. After, the war Britain taxed the American colonies to help get out of debt. Thus, it lead to the American Revolution.
V. French & Indian War Results

A. Georgia did not play a part in the French and Indian War; however, it benefited Georgia in many ways.

1. Spain joined forces with France toward the war’s end and lost Florida to the British.

2. Britain gave up land claims west of the Mississippi River so this river became Georgia’s western boundary in 1763.
3. **Proclamation of 1763** – King George III forbid Americans from moving west across the Appalachian Mtns.
   a. This was in response to Pontiac's War on British settlements in the Great Lakes area.
   b. Britain wanted to prevent any future wars with the Indians because of their debt.
4. Creeks and Cherokees were forced to give up large portions of their Georgia lands.
5. **Georgia’s southern border** was moved to the **St. Mary’s River**.
6. Since people couldn’t move west, they moved south into Georgia to settle the new Indian lands and Georgia’s population grew.
B. Bad Royal Governors

1. Despite introducing self government, Gov. Reynolds upset the Georgia legislature when he sent the members of the Governor’s Council home and started trying to run the colony all by himself.

2. Due to unpopularity Reynolds was replaced by Henry Ellis in 1757.
   a. Ellis governed for three years.
   b. Slavery & large farms grew in Georgia
   c. More merchants came to Georgia
   d. Ellis left Georgia in 1759 because the climate was too hot for him. He always carried an umbrella to protect him from the sun.
VI. James Wright

A. He was Georgia’s third and final Royal Governor.

B. He wanted to help Georgia grow by:
   1. expanding plantations
   2. expanding trade
   3. opening up GA’s western lands to settlement

C. Wright allowed some self-government for colonists

D. As plantations expanded with the use of slave labor, rice and indigo became profitable crops

E. About one ton of silk was produced yearly in GA.

F. 1763 - Georgia’s 1st newspaper (Georgia Gazette) was published in Savannah
A. As the British colonies in America grew older, a time was reached when a lot of colonists had been born in America and had never set foot in Britain.

B. As colonies developed they became less dependant on the mother country, and more freedom and self-government were demanded.

C. Tensions came to a climax when Britain found itself with a large debt from the French and Indian War. A war which had benefited the colonies in America.

D. The British government felt that it was only fair for these colonists to pay their share of the cost; plus taxes would pay for the British army (Redcoats), frequently called “Lobsterbacks” by colonists, to protect the colonies from the Indians.
E. Americans resented the British taxes because their rights as British citizens were being ignored. Americans believed that they should’ve been allowed to vote for leaders to represent them in Parliament back in London just as the people living in Britain did.
F. Thus, a popular slogan became “No taxation without representation!”
G. Colonists who remained loyal to the British King George III were known as Tories or Loyalists.
H. Colonists who believed in independence from Britain and fought for those beliefs were known as Whigs or Patriots. (examples; Sons and Daughters of Liberty or Liberty Boys)
VIII. Causes of the American Revolution

A. Navigation Acts: There were several of these British laws; however, the main point was that British colonies were to trade only with Britain or other British colonies, and only British ships were to be used to trade. Although these acts dated back to the 1660s they weren’t enforced until the 1760s when Britain begin trying to pay off its war debt. Needless to say, these acts weren’t popular amongst Americans nor were they obeyed. (i.e. smuggling)
B. Sugar Act (1764) – Placed a tax on sugar and molasses which were imported into the colonies.

C. Stamp Act (1765) – Placed a tax on all paper items. (newspapers, cards, dice, writing paper, dice, legal documents, licenses, deeds, etc.).

1. This was a very important event because the stamp act was violently opposed in all colonies.

2. A stamp Act Congress met in Boston. All colonies except Georgia were represented. This was the first-step toward the 13 colonies joining together to become the United States of America.
D. Townshend Acts - (1767) – proposed by Charles Townshend - these acts of Parliament placed a tax on the following items imported by the American colonies:

1. Taxed Items:
   a. tea   b. paper   c. glass   d. lead

2. These acts were met with vicious protests in America where tax collectors were harassed and had their effigies burned.

3. The Townsend Acts were repealed by 1770.

4. Except, the Tax on tea remained in place.
E. Boston Massacre (1770) - a small group of British soldiers killed five Americans on a cold winter evening in March.

1. Patriot Paul Revere made an engraving of the episode that was used for printing images throughout the colonial newspapers.
2. The event & engraving were used as propaganda to promote the American independence movement. This helped to increase the tensions between the British and the Americans.
F. Boston Tea Party – (December 16, 1773)

1. John Hancock organized a boycott of tea from the East India Company because he’d been charged with smuggling by the British and had his property taken.

2. The East India Company was near bankruptcy so Parliament passed an act which allowed it to exclusively sell tea directly to the American colonies and at a lower price which included a tax.

3. This basically gave the company a monopoly on the tea trade in America and severely hurt colonial tea merchants and smugglers like Sam Adams because they couldn’t match the low sales prices of the company.

4. Patriots were angered over the basis that this was yet another “trick” to get them to pay taxes.
5. Adams, Hancock and others known as the Sons of Liberty terrorized the company workers and kept the ships from unloading the tea in Boston.
6. When the Governor was going to have it unloaded the Sons of Liberty dressed as Mohawk Indians and dumped 90,000 Lbs. into the sea.

G. Britain responded with the **Intolerable Acts**.
   1. The port of Boston was closed until the Americans paid for the tea.
   2. A British General became the governor of Massachusetts and the people could not have a town meeting without his permission.
   3. British officials would be tried for any crimes in Britain not America.
   4. The Quartering Act was passed.
H. Quartering Act
   Required the citizens of all colonies to house and feed British soldiers at their own expense. (4,000 Redcoats were in Boston)

IX. Continental Congress
   A. September 5, 1774 – Philadelphia
   B. All colonies except Georgia sent representatives to meet and discuss the situation.
   C. The Congress called on each colony to boycott British goods and set up committees of safety to carry out the boycott.
   D. This was done in secret because it was an act of treason against the British government.
X. Georgia is Divided

A. Georgia was the only colony not to participate in the Stamp Act Congress.
B. Some Georgians were upset by the Stamp Act.
   1. They called themselves “Liberty Boys”
   2. Some called them “Liberty Brawlers”
      a. So nicknamed because they met in Savannah taverns.
      b. Tondee’s Tavern was a popular meeting spot.
C. Georgia was the only colony to sell the stamps.
D. Georgia Gazette stopped publishing until Stamp Act was repealed.
E. Georgia was deeply divided between Patriots and Tories.
   1. Georgia was youngest colony and heavily dependant on Britain.
   2. Georgia paid little tax to Britain because most of the money for Georgia’s government came from Parliament in London.
F. Georgians in the colonial assembly began to speak out more, especially against the Townshend Acts, and without Gov. Wright’s permission elected Noble Wimberly Jones who was an outspoken leader for Georgia’s patriots.
G. Gov. Wright did away with the colonial assembly.
H. No representatives were sent to the Continental Congress because the colony was divided between Patriots and Tories.
I. Georgians divided:
   a. 1/3 were Patriots   b. 1/3 were Tories  
   c. 1/3 were neutral

J. Georgians were forced to take a stand when the Revolutionary War began on April 19, 1775 with the Battles of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts.

K. In July of 1775 - Patriots from the 8 Georgia parishes met in a Provincial Congress and setup a Council of Safety to Enforce the boycott of British goods.
   a. Gradually these Whigs took control of the militia  
   b. Whigs also took control of other gov’t offices  
   c. Gov. Wright was arrested but then he escaped.

L. Georgia created a temporary government called the “Rules and Regulations” – first state government in GA.
XI. The American Revolution

A. Georgia’s Patriots sent five delegates to the Second Continental Congress which met in Philadelphia.
1. A Continental Army was assembled.
2. George Washington was placed in command as a General.

B. Declaration of Independence
1. Adopted by 2nd Continental Congress – July 4, 1776
2. Authors: Thomas Jefferson (actual writer), John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman & Robert Livingston
3. Georgia’s three delegates who signed: Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall and George Walton
4. Purpose: Create a new nation of thirteen free and independent states which were united (a.k.a. United States of America) and tell the world why we were separating ourselves from the British which was because they had denied us our basic God-given rights…life, liberty and property.
C. Fighting in Georgia

1. Patriots controlled GA for the first two years.
   a. British took control of Savannah in 1778
   b. Gov. Wright returned & Britain tried to take Augusta as well as the rest of the backcountry

2. Battle of Kettle Creek (1779)
   a. led by Elijah Clarke – Patriots won an important victory and lifted their spirits and captured badly needed ammunition, weapons and horses
   b. This victory saved Georgia’s backcountry

3. Siege of Savannah
   a. Americans lost the battle to re-take the city
   b. Savannah was held by Britain until the war came to an end.
4. Georgia remained a divided colony for the rest of the war
   a. Patriots controlled Backcountry
   b. British controlled Savannah
   c. Guerrilla fighting continued
   d. Augusta was re-taken by the Patriots in 1781.

D. Fighting in the northern part of America
   1. Siege of Boston - Americans tried to trap the Redcoats who were garrisoned within the city
   2. Battle of Bunker – British victory – escaped siege
   3. Washington moved the Continental Army to defend New York but lost the battles for it.
   4. Washington retreated south with Redcoats chasing and crossed the Delaware River to safety.
5. On Christmas Night 1776 Washington’s army crossed the Delaware River and surprised the British the next morning to win a major victory at Trenton, NJ and kept the war effort alive.

6. The Continental Army won another big victory in 1777 at Princeton which freed NJ of British control.

7. Washington’s army had a difficult time keeping from freezing and starving to death at Valley Forge for the winter months of 1777-1778; the army that emerged was much improved due to training from Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben.
8. The turning point in the war happened at the Battle of Saratoga when the Continentals achieved a major victory that boosted the American spirits, caused France to join the war to help us fight Britain and caused the British to evacuate the city of Philadelphia to protect New York.

E. Fighting in the southern part of America
   1. Fighting moved to the South with the entry of Spain and France into the war on America’s side.
   2. France helped America increase its naval power forcing Britain to move operations southward so its navy could protect the West Indies.
   3. Savannah was taken by the British in 1778 and Charleston was taken in 1780.
4. Major American victories occurred at King’s Mountain and Cowpens in the Carolinas.
5. Cornwallis (British General) moved the army north to Virginia where he failed to defeat the marquis de La Fayette whom Washington had placed in command of a force to defend Virginia.
6. Cornwallis retreated to Yorktown where his army was trapped by Washington’s army and the French navy.
7. In October 1781, the Redcoats surrendered after the Battle of Yorktown.
8. The American Revolution ended with the Treaty of Paris in 1783.
XII. Articles of Confederation

A. Created by the Continental Congress
B. Approved by the Colonies on March 1, 1781.
C. This was the first government of the U.S.A.
D. It created a weak union of the 13 states called a Confederation...basically there were 13 independent nations (states) that pledged allegiance to one another...a.k.a. the U.S.A.
E. There was only one branch of national government – a Congress where each state had one representative. There was NO president and NO court system.
F. The U.S. government didn’t have the power to tax or regulate trade amongst the 13 states.
G. The people wanted a weak central government because of their experience with the British.
H. However, the Articles were too weak!
I. In response to... Shay’s Rebellion, squabbling amongst the states over boundaries and trade and no central control over the nation’s affairs... a Constitutional Convention was called in Philadelphia.
J. In the summer of 1787 the U.S. Constitution was written at Freedom Hall. (current U.S. government)
K. The government was ratified and went into effect in 1789 as elected leaders were sworn into Federal office.
L. A Bill of Rights was created by the first U.S. Congress to protect individual freedoms and rights.
M. George Washington became the first President.