

The Boston Massacre



- On March 5, 1770, after the colonists boycotted buying any British items, the British soldiers and the colonists were very upset and angry with each other.
- A few colonists started calling some British soldiers names and throwing snowballs at them.
 - **Can anyone guess what happened next?**
- The British soldiers fired into the crowd of colonists and killed five (5), and injured six (6) others.
- **Crispus Attucks was the first African American to die on colony soil.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oo5rNWygHF4>

Student Quick Write

So far, in your opinion, do you think the colonists were right in demanding independence from England?

Or, do you think the colonists were the cause of all the problems in the first place?

Using your notes and what we have learned in class, give TWO (2) reasons behind your opinion.

Let's try and look at this from the British standpoint, too.

The Tea Act + Boston Tea Party

- The final insult to the colonists after the Boston Massacre was when **the British placed taxes on the item they drank every single day – TEA!**
- The colonists wanted to stay as British as possible, and followed the daily tradition of drinking tea at 3:00 pm.
- When England placed a tax on something they drank every day to keep the British tradition, this was enough!
 - *Why do you think the colonists viewed these laws as attacks on their rights as British citizens?*



The Boston Tea Party

- An angry group of colonists – they called themselves **the Sons of Liberty** – decided they would rather destroy the tea than pay taxes on drinking it.
- They dressed up as Native Indians and snuck on the British ship holding large crates full of tea.
- They broke up the boxes and hurled everything into the water – permanently destroying all the tea.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pt8MmmLLHJY>

