How Did The War Progress?

"The blow which has knocked the French in the head."
—Col. Henry Bouquet, on the Treaty of Easton, referring
to the Ohio River Valley Indians' agreement in the treaty
not to fight for the French⁵

Background for the Teacher

Read "How Did the War Progress?" in the Teacher Background on the French and Indian War, pages 22-24.

There were two distinct phases of the war as it progressed in North America. In this unit, you and your students will follow the progress of the war and analyze some of the reasons why the fortunes of the French, the British, and the American Indians changed over time.

Key Teaching Points

- Britain formally declared war on France
- French General Montcalm arrived in Canada
- Lord Loudoun became the commander-in-chief of all British troops in North America
- The French, using their American Indian allies, were successful in 1756 and 1757
- William Pitt made changes to war policies which were favorable to the colonists, and the colonists responded with overwhelming support for the war
- The British captured the fortress at Louisbourg, Fort Frontenac, and Fort Duquesne in 1758
- The British made peace with the Ohio River Valley Indians in the Treaty of Easton in 1758
- In 1759, Fort Niagara, Fort Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Quebec all fell to the British
- The British began to build Fort Pitt
- The fall of Montreal in 1760 ended the fighting in North America

Activity in This Unit "Time Line of the French and Indian War"

 This helps students put the events of the French and Indian War in chronological order.

A view of Quebec, 1759, with many ruined buildings after a summer of being bombed



⁵ S.K. Stevens, Donald H. Kent, Autumn L. Leonard, editors. The Papers of Henry Bouquet, vol. II. (Harrisburg, PA: The Pennsylvania Historical Museum and Commission, 1951), 611.

Standards

National History Standards

K-4 Topic 2: 3A, 3B, 3D, 3E K-4 Topic 3: 5A

US Era 2: 1B

National Geography Standards

1, 4, 5, 13, 17

Materials You'll Need

- 1 copy of the Activity Worksheet "Time Line" for each student
- 1 copy of the map "Indian Nations and French and Indian War Forts 1754-1763" for each student
- 1 long piece of shelf paper or butcher paper for each student
- Glue
- Reference works reference books, computers with access to the internet, biography cards

The major events in the French and Indian War are complicated and can be confusing. This time line will help your students put events in chronological order.

Some of the dates are shaded. These events deal with the arrival of new commanders, new alliances, or new policies.

There is a lot of flexibility in this activity. If completing the entire time line is too time consuming, direct the students to complete only specific years or only the un-shaded events.

Procedure

- 1. Give students copies of the Activity Worksheet "Time Line."
- 2. Review the events on the time line with students.
- 3. Each row makes one strip. Thus each strip has one "Date/Event/What took Place." The entire time line has 33 strips.
- 4. Have students cut out each strip of the time line.
- 5. Students can create their own time lines using long rolls of paper. Work with the class to design the time line spacing. Students should attach the time line strips above the date line.
- 6. Have students add additional information to the time line. Ask the students what else was going on in the world during the time of these events. Add the new information below the line.
- 7. Have students locate on the map the French and Indian War forts that were key to the progress of the war. Label when they were captured and/or whether they were British or French forts.

Extension Activity

Have students create a time line of George Washington's military service in the French and Indian War.

Date	Events	What Took Place
Spring and Summer 1753	French build forts	The French build Fort Presque Isle and Fort LeBoeuf in the upper Ohio River Valley
April 17, 1754	Forks of the Ohio captured	The French capture the Forks of the Ohio and begin to build Fort Duquesne. They now control the Ohio River Valley.
May 28, 1754	Jumonville skirmish	The first shots of the French and Indian War are fired when George Washington's soldiers surround the French. The French commander, Jumonville, is killed.
July 3, 1754	Great Meadows Battle or Battle at Fort Necessity	The skirmish with Jumonville leads to the Battle at Fort Necessity. Washington surrenders. The war in North America has begun.
July 9, 1755	The Battle of the Monongahela (Meh-NON-gah-HAY-lah)	General Edward Braddock and an army of 2,400 set out to capture Fort Duquesne. A few miles from the fort, they fight with the French and their American Indian allies. It is a terrible defeat for the British.
After July 9, 1755	Ohio Valley American Indians choose	After Braddock's defeat many American Indians decide to fight for the French. Other American Indians who are loyal to the British leave the Ohio River Valley

Date	Events	What Took Place
May 1756	French General Montcalm (mon-KAHLM) arrives in Quebec	He does not like depending on American Indian allies. Over time he changes the way the French fight the war.
May 17, 1756	War declared	The British formally declare war on the French. Fighting spreads to the West Indies, India, and Europe.
July 23, 1756	British Lord Loudoun arrives in New York	Lord Loudoun threatens the colonies and treats them badly. They do not like his behavior and resist helping him. This hurts the British war effort.
August 14, 1756	Fort Oswego captured	The French capture the British Fort Oswego and take control of Lake Ontario.
August 9-10, 1757	Fort William Henry captured	The French capture Fort William Henry. However, they do not talk with their American Indian allies about the surrender. The surrender agreement angers the American Indians, and the next day they capture or kill hundreds of British.
March 10, 1758	British Secretary of State William Pitt sets a new policy	A letter arrives from Pitt that changes the policies of Lord Loudoun. Now the colonies are very supportive of the war.

Date	Events	What Took Place
May – November 25, 1758	General Forbes' campaign	General John Forbes builds a road through Pennsylvania. He builds forts along the road. The last fort is called the "post at Loyalhanna," later Fort Ligonier (lig-oh-NIHR).
July 8, 1758	Fort Ticonderoga (TEYE-kon-duh-ROH-guh) battle	Despite having many more troops, the British do not take Fort Ticonderoga.
June 8 – July 26, 1758	Fortress at Louisbourg captured	The British capture the fortress at Louisbourg. This opens the St. Lawrence River and the water route to Canada.
August 25-27, 1758	Fort Frontenac (FRAHN- tay-nak) captured	The British capture Fort Frontenac. This fort supplied all the French forts in the Ohio River Valley and further west.
October 8-26, 1758	Treaty of Easton negotiated	The Ohio River Valley American Indians sign the treaty promising not to fight for the French. In return the British promise not to settle the lands west of the Allegheny Mountains after the war.
November 24-25, 1758	Fort Duquesne destroyed	The French abandon Fort Duquesne and destroy it before they go. The British take control of the abandoned fort site.

Date	Events	What Took Place
July 1759	The Iroquois ally with the British	The Iroquois decide to ally with the British and help them defeat the French at Fort Niagara.
July 10-25, 1759	Fort Niagara captured	The French surrender the fort to the British after a long fight.
July 26, 1759	Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point captured	The French army retreats and the British capture Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point.
Summer 1759	Fort Pitt built	The British begin building Fort Pitt at the Forks of the Ohio.
September 13, 1759	Battle of Quebec	The French surrender the city of Quebec after the British defeat them in an early morning battle just outside the city.
September 8, 1760	Montreal captured	The British capture Montreal. Fighting ends between the French and the British in North America. The British and French are still fighting in other parts of the world.
Fall 1761	Jeffery Amherst changes trade policy	Amherst changes the trading practices with the American Indians. The new rules cause the American Indians to suffer great hardship.

Date	Events	What Took Place
June 8 – August 13, 1762	Havana, Cuba, captured	The British capture the Spanish city of Havana and bring another European power into the war.
February 10, 1763	Treaty of Paris implemented	The Spanish, French, and British sign a peace treaty at Paris. Much of North America changes hands.
April 27, 1763	Pontiac holds a council	Pontiac holds a council and plans to attack Fort Detroit. He unites many American Indian nations in an effort to drive British soldiers off their land.
May 9, 1763	Pontiac's War begins	Pontiac and his warriors attack Fort Detroit.
May 16 – June 21, 1763	Eight British Forts are captured	The American Indians capture and burn British forts and settlements. Both Fort Pitt and Fort Detroit are surrounded without help or supplies.
August 5-6, 1763	Battle of Bushy Run	Colonel Henry Bouquet (Boo-KAY) attempts to relieve Fort Pitt. On August 5, near Bushy Run, American Indians attack. The next day Bouquet tricks the Indians and drives them off.

October 7, 1763 Proclamation of 1763 issued In an effort to stop all the American Indian fighting, King George III signs the Proclamation of 1763, which requires British colonists to live east of the Allegheny Mountains. Fall 1765 Pontiac's War ends The British change their policy regarding trade with the American Indians make peace with the American Indians make peace with the British and end Pontiac's War.	Date	Events	What Took Place
Pontiac's War ends	October 7, 1763	Proclamation of 1763 issued	In an effort to stop all the American Indian fighting, King George III signs the Proclamation of 1763, which requires British colonists to live east of the Allegheny Mountains.
	Fall 1765	Pontiac's War ends	The British change their policy regarding trade with the American Indians, which the American Indians find agreeable. The American Indians make peace with the British and end Pontiac's War.