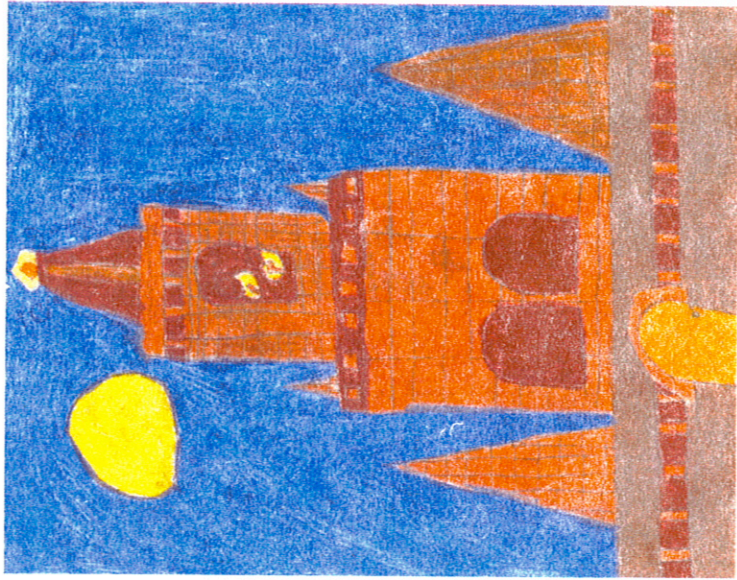


A Historical Walk Through Massachusetts

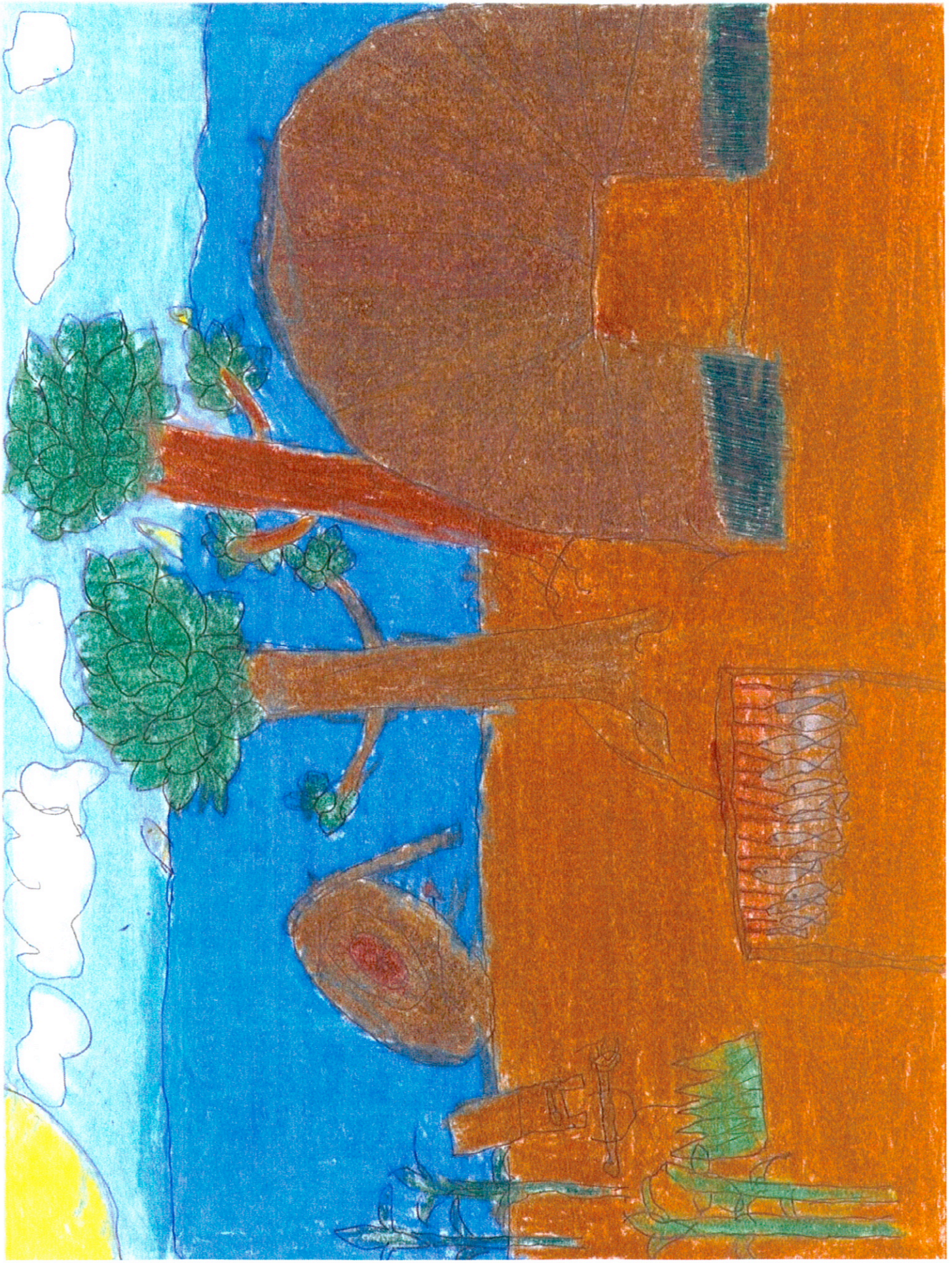
Written and Illustrated by Third Grade
Students at Alice B. Beal Elementary School



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Puritans

Who were the Puritans? They were a religious group of people from England. Their ships landed in what is now Salem in 1630. The Puritans formed the Massachusetts Bay Colony. They wanted to work together and live together and build towns. The group of Puritans was larger than the Pilgrims. The Puritans arrived in 1630, ten years after the Pilgrims. The Puritans came for religious freedom because they disagreed with King James of England. They called their town 'A City upon a Hill' because they wanted people to look up to them and respect them. Some people think that the Puritans were mean because they had strict rules. The Puritans came from England like the Pilgrims but they had different futures.

The Puritans started up a government of their own. Leaders from each town set up meetings and made new rules. This was called the general court. The people of the town also met at a place called a meeting house. This was another place where they shared information. Members of the church voted for the rules. Men who were not members of the church could vote for rules in some towns if they owned land. Rules that received the most votes won. Puritans were successful in setting up a government.

Strict rules and punishments were a big part of life of the Puritans. If you swore they would burn you with a hot iron on your tongue. If you were drunk they would whip you or fine you. A fine is when you have to pay the government. If a woman spread rumors they would gag her and tie her to a chair in front of her house. The Puritans had a hard life following rules.

Wampanoags

The Wampanoags were the first people who lived around the area we now call Cape Cod. They lived in different villages. Since they lived so far east they were called the People of the First Light. All Wampanoags felt we should share the land and borrow the land but no one should own the land. They lived that way for thousands of years.

Did you know the Wampanoags were called the "People of the Dawn"? The Wampanoags were one of the first people to live in Massachusetts. Wampanoags shared and did not own the land. They thought the land did not belong to them. It belonged to the earth. The Wampanoags lived by the seasons. During spring and summer they lived near the water and had small wetus. Wetus are small houses made of wood, bark and grasses. They caught fish and planted corn, beans and squash. In the fall and winter the Wampanoags would hunt bear and they would make small holes in the icy ponds to catch fish. In the winter they would move into the forest with their families and build longhouses. This is how the Wampanoags lived before the Pilgrims came.

The Wampanoags and the Pilgrims did not get along that easy. The Wampanoags and Pilgrims traded lots of things. First the Wampanoags traded arrows for guns. The Wampanoags traded squash for bread. The Wampanoags helped them plant food. They helped them hunt food. They helped them plant squash, beans and corn. They helped them fish for trout. The Pilgrims and Wampanoags did not get along about the land. The Pilgrims said they needed fences to keep things out. The Wampanoags were mad because they all wanted to share the land. The Wampanoags wanted to go wherever they wanted to go and whenever they wanted, but the Pilgrims didn't want them to. That's how the Pilgrims and Wampanoags tried to get along together.

Life for the Wampanoags after the settlement of the Pilgrims was difficult. When the Pilgrims came they passed lots of sicknesses to the native people. After the Pilgrims settled they took over the land and they felt they owned it. The People of the Dawn, also known as the Wampanoags, thought that the land could be used by everyone and that they were just borrowing it from the earth. They wanted peace so they signed a treaty with the Pilgrims. A treaty is a promise written down. Life after the settlement was hard for the Wampanoags and they struggled for peace.

Pilgrims

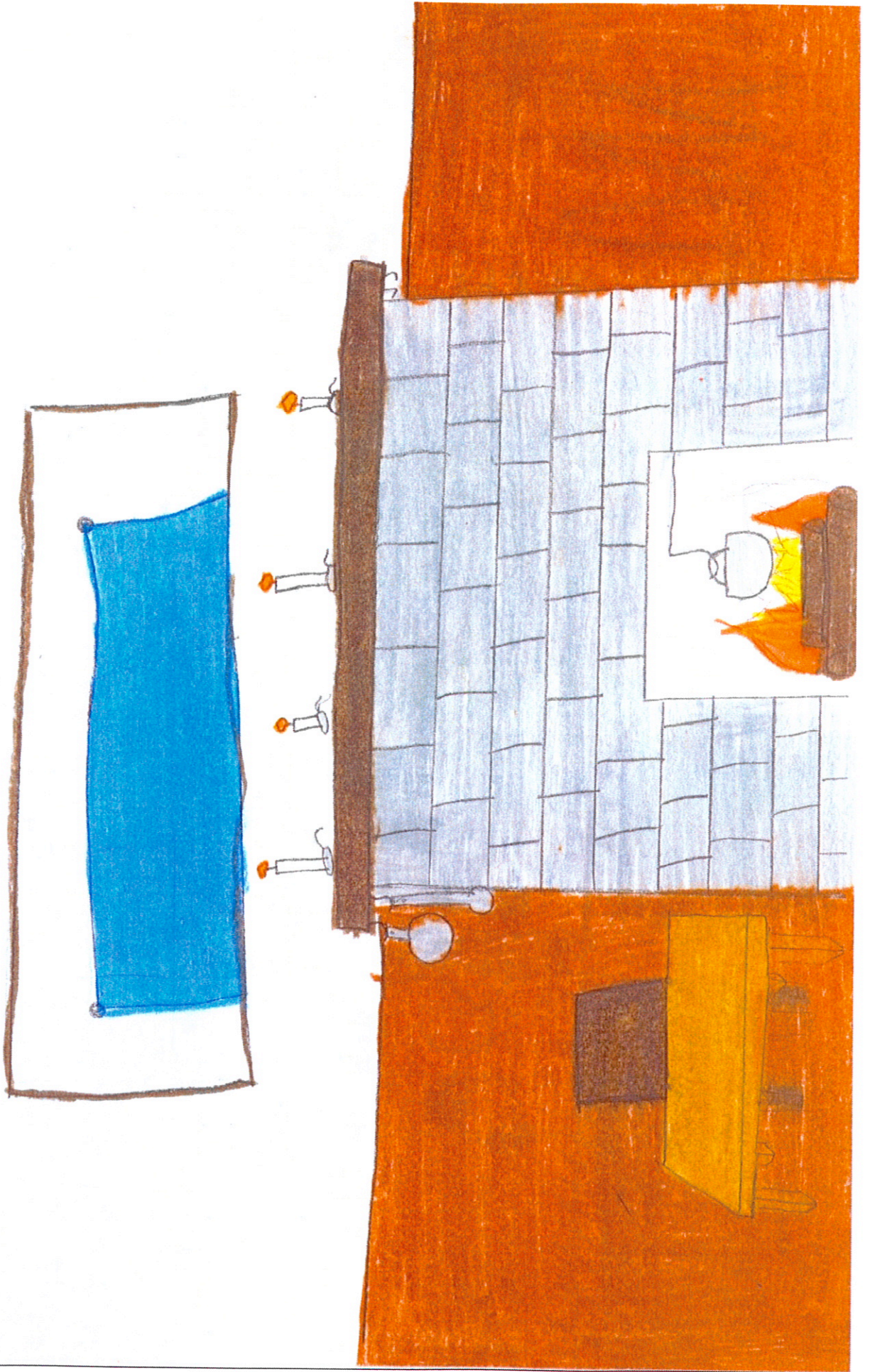
Why did the Pilgrims leave England? The Pilgrims left England because they didn't like the King's laws. The king wanted them to go to his church. They wanted to go to their church. If the Pilgrims did not follow the rules they went to jail or got hanged. The Pilgrims had a good idea to leave England.

The Pilgrims sailed to the new world in 1620. They were people from England who came to have religious freedom. They were the second society to live in the area called Plymouth. The Wampanoag of the Patuxet Village that lived there first had died because of a sickness. When the Pilgrims were sailing people died because they were really sick. The new world that the Pilgrims sailed to was the land where the Wampanoags lived first.

What did the Pilgrims think of the Wampanoags? At first they felt scared of the Wampanoags. But the Wampanoags taught the pilgrims to plant, fish, hunt and trade with others. The Wampanoags and Pilgrims signed a treaty promising to be nice to each other. For more than fifty years no one broke that treaty.

Adjusting to Massachusetts was hard for the Pilgrims. The Pilgrims needed help to live in the cold weather. They were sick and dying. About half of the Pilgrims got sick and died that first winter. Some of the Pilgrims needed help to build homes because there were no homes when they got there. All of the Pilgrims needed food to eat and crops to plant because there was not enough left on the ship when they all got there. All of the Pilgrims needed help, luck and hard work.

What happened in Plimoth Plantation to make it grow? More people came from England to be with their families. When the families came they brought more supplies from England. They hoped to have their own church, wanted to farm and trade. They wanted a better life.





Early Massachusetts- Springfield

Do you know who William Pynchon was? He was the man who founded Springfield, Massachusetts. He was born in Springfield, Essex, England in 1590. Pynchon had a good education and an understanding of laws. He settled in Roxbury, Massachusetts and lived there for 5 years. There he started a fur trading business. He came to Massachusetts in 1630 at the age of 40. He mainly came for more money. With two scouts John Cable, a carpenter, and his assistant John Woodcock, Pynchon sailed for Connecticut in September 1635 and chose the land at the junction, something that intersects, of Agawam and Connecticut. Leaving the two scouts to make a shelter and plan for the winter, Pynchon went back to Boston. In the spring of 1636 Pynchon learned that the Indians had raised the price of the land he wanted to buy.

Did you ever wonder why Springfield, Massachusetts was founded? Well it was founded because William Pynchon wanted religious freedom and personal wealth from trading furs. John Winthrop was another passenger down the river to Springfield. He was also the leader of one of the boats called shallops. He said as they sailed, "We must consider that to be the city upon the hill. The eyes of all the people are upon us." (Massachusetts Our Home, Gibbs Smith, 2004) This means he wants all the different cities to look up to them. Springfield was a good spot to settle because the Agawam Indians wanted the English here. Trade was good because people could get to Boston easily, hunting for animal furs would be good and so was farming.

In 1645 the first meeting house or church was built near Court Square. For early shelters they built wigwams just like the Agawam Indians. The town had also provided a house for its minister, Mr. George Moxen, in 1639. Farming was very important for the settlers. The natives showed the settlers how to grow crops such as corn. The settlers didn't just grow crops they also raised different kinds of animals like cattle and sheep. The Native Americans did not have a lot of fancy stuff like we do now. They had to use wampum, a type of money, to pay for stuff like blankets, clothes, food and guns. If they could not pay their bills they would lose their land to the settlers.

Do you know what William Pynchon did after he settled in Springfield? After he settled in Springfield, Pynchon went back to England to get more people. In five more years William Pynchon came back with more people. Before Pynchon found this land he lived in Roxbury with his son-in-law. After he came back with more people he began selling furs. Do you know what he came for? He came for religious freedom and to better his fur trade. But things started getting bad in Springfield. He wrote a book that upset many people. When Pynchon went back to England, the Natives burned the village. When Pynchon returned he tried to save the houses but it was too late. In the winter they had to rebuild their houses. Pynchon was lucky because his house didn't burn down and it was the biggest house in the village. That was what happened after they settled Springfield.



Early Springfield

Did you ever wonder who the Agawam Indians were and how they played a role in Springfield's history? The Agawam Indians came from a tribe called Algonquin. When William Pynchon came, there were about 75 to 200 Agawam Indians. In 1636 they lived in a fort on a bluff overlooking the Connecticut River. For food they hunted deer, bear, turkey and pheasant. They would surround an animal to kill it. A hunter would have a stone spear or a copper spear to kill the game or fish. The Agawam Indians were surrounded by a stockade fence which meant they were worried about attacks from other natives. The Agawam Indians went to Boston to ask the people if they would be allies in their fight against their enemies.

How do we know about King Phillip's war? In 1677 a man named William Hubbard published a history of King Phillip's war called A Narrative of the Trouble with the Indians. He got his information from his daughter who was married to John Pynchon. The Natives burned Brookfield, Massachusetts and were driven into the woods near Hadley. They wanted to destroy all of the towns. First Dome of the Hadley Indians pretended real friendship. Indians gathered together in those parts. They were starting to feel more confident because they were slowly burning down the towns. They joined with King Phillip's Indians and planned to burn down Springfield.

King Phillip's War was through 1775-1776. It was the most devastating war between the colonist and the Native Americans in New England. The war is named for King Philip, the son of Massasoit and chief of the Wampanoags. His Wampanoag name was Metacom sometimes people called him Pomentocom. The war was extremely costly to the colonists in people and money. Towns were burned. This war happened in Springfield where I live today.

Deerfield Massachusetts

Old Deerfield was settled in 1673. The people in Old Deerfield came from England and Dedham, MA. They cleared the trees and made the land to farm. The Native American tribe called the Pocumtucks tribe was already there. The Native Americans called Old Deerfield "Pocumtuck". Old Deerfield is about 38 miles from Springfield and it will take 49 minutes to get there.

Why did the settlers come to old Deerfield? The people who came from England came to find rich farming meadow land. They were looking for a way to make money. They also came for religious freedom. The Natives were here before the English. The English and the natives had many battles over land. Old Deerfield used to be great farming land and today it is a town to visit.

Rules and the meeting house were the two most important things in Old Deerfield. The meeting house was very important. You would go there for information about the town. The church was very important too because they were religious people. The rules were extremely important. One of the rules was about traveling on Sunday. You could not go out because it was a church day. You were also not allowed to make fun of the church because it was disrespectful. Idleness was another rule- being lazy was not good. Children who disrespected their parents would be put to death. If you fell asleep in church you would get poked with a pole. If you lived in Old Deerfield it would be important to go to church and follow all the rules so nothing bad would happen.

If You Were at the Boston Tea Party

It was a December night I'll never forget in 1773. There I was standing on the dock of the harbor, the Boston Harbor you know in Boston, Massachusetts. The night was cold and there was trouble in the air. A group of us formed on the docks and we looked over to see about 50 Patriots who were The Sons of Liberty, with Samuel Adams, Ebenezer Stevenson, Ben Hatcher and Paul Revere coming toward the harbor. I wasn't sure why?

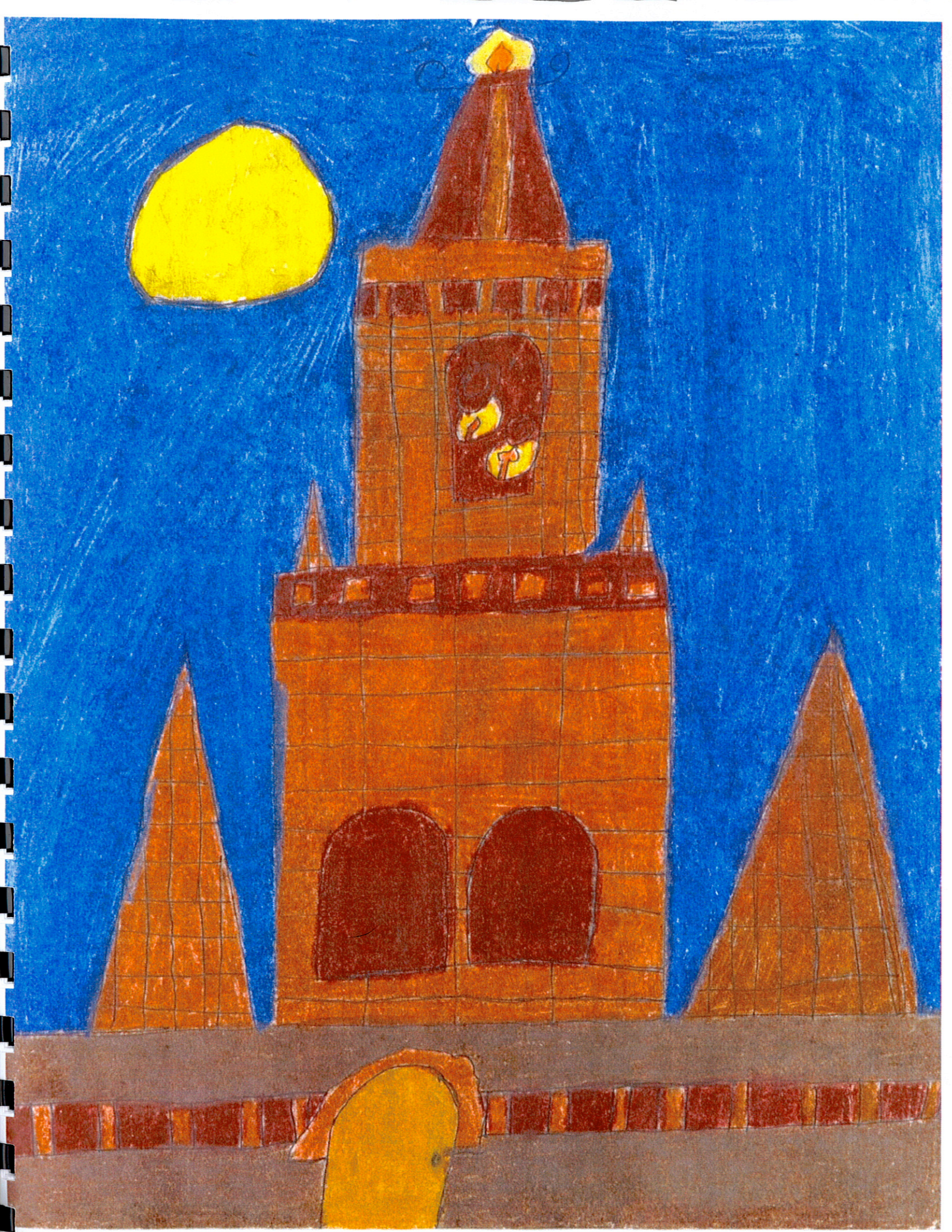
Climbing in a rowboat, I felt scared and nervous on that cold night down on the Boston Harbor. Paul Revere sat next to me as we The Sons of Liberty rowed out to the ship, The Dartmouth, dressed as Mohawk Indians so no one from the King's army would recognize us. As I climbed aboard the ship, two of my friends tied the crew up and we started dumping the tea, crate-by-crate, overboard. The water looked black. Others were doing the same thing on the other two ships. I looked over to the docks and saw a crowd of people forming. I could hear people cheering. "Rally Mohawks bring out your axes, and tell King George we will pay no taxes on his foreign tea!"

I am Elizabeth and I am part of a group called the Daughters of Liberty. On the night of December 16, 1773 I helped to make costumes to disguise Paul Revere and the other Patriots as Mohawk Indians. They are going to board the three ships that are in the harbor and throw the crates of tea overboard. This is all happening because King George and Britain granted a monopoly to the British East India Company. That means we will only be able to buy tea from that one company owned by the British and King George. We will also have to pay three pence a pound for a tea tax. We're so furious! We have no say in our laws. This is taxation without representation! Down with King George!

It's been about two hours and my friends and I have orders to clean up this ship. We want to make sure the ships are exactly as we found them, minus the tea. I swore not to take any of the tea so that this night would be a matter of protest not thievery. We have been sworn to secrecy. I also want to be careful not to break anything or hurt anyone. I have seen a lock broken by mistake and I must take note of this, so it can be replaced tomorrow.

Americans were a 'race of convicts' said the British. They must be punished. Six months later the King and the Parliament closed down Boston harbor. Nothing could come in and nothing could go out. The Patriots were furious with the British. This was done because King George said he would close the harbor until Sam Adams and his mob paid all the tea taxes for all the tea they destroyed. In 1774, Parliament passed a group of laws called the Coercive Acts made to restore imperial control over the American colonies. The colonists called the Coercive Acts the Intolerable Acts. All Coercive Acts were to handle the people in Massachusetts, except one, the Quartering Act, that all 13 colonies had to obey. This act required troops to live in all colonies, even in homes that were occupied! It put our Patriots and forming armies in danger. Could this mean war with England?





The Beginning of the American Revolution

The colonists created a militia by gathering men in town. A militia is a local army or a small group of soldiers. They gather together and have only a few weapons and not much ammo. The colonists had hidden their guns in Concord so that the British wouldn't know where they were. The Patriots militia was called the "Minutemen" because they had only a minute to get ready to go to battle.

Paul Revere was an important Patriot. He lit the lanterns in the Old North Tower and came up with the code "one if by land, two if by sea". One lantern meant that the British were coming by land; two lanterns meant they were coming by sea. Paul Revere was one of the most important messengers for the Patriots. He did this to warn the Patriots that the British were coming. Many years later Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" to remember that night. Although he did not fight in the war, he warned the Patriots that the British were coming.

The Battle of Lexington took place on the green. This was the first battle between the British and the Patriots. It happened on April 19, 1775. The minutemen said "Don't fire unless fired upon" because they didn't have enough gun powder. Nobody knows who shot first, but when the smoke cleared eight colonists lay dead.

A famous battle between the Patriots and the British happened in Concord. The British went, to Concord to take the Patriots guns that they had hidden. The first famous shot fired is called the "shot heard round the world". The Patriots had a new fighting strategy- they hid behind trees, stone walls and buildings. The British were not used to this kind of fighting. Finally they stopped firing. The Battle of Concord took place on April 19, 1775. The battle of Concord was a famous battle between the Patriots and the British.

Do you know where and when the battle of Bunker Hill took place? It took place in what is now Charlestown, Massachusetts on the night of June 16, 1775. The battle was between the British and the colonists. When the battle began the colonists said, "Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes." The reason they said that is because they did not have much gun powder to use. At the end of the battle the British troops thought that the colonist could fight very well. Also the British lost many, many men. The British and the colonists did not know who shot first.

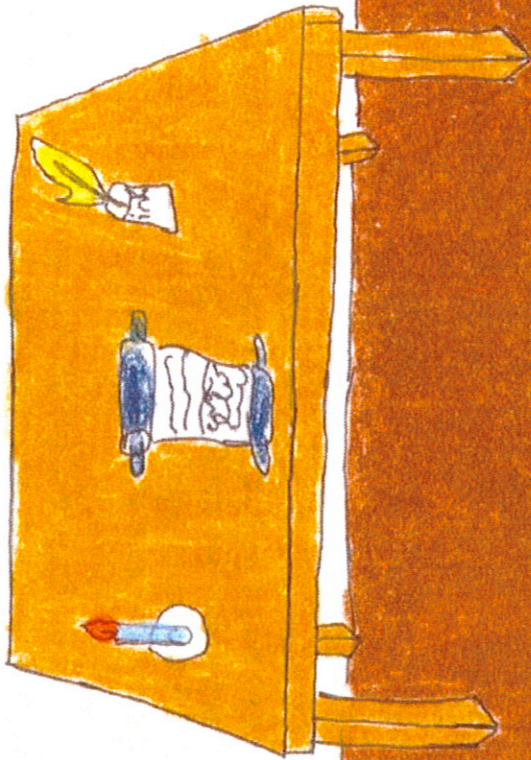
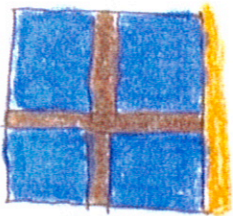
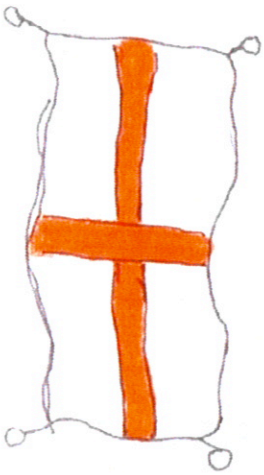
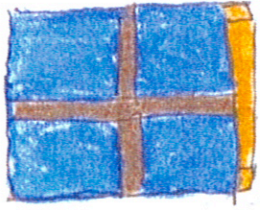
The Declaration of Independence

Do you want to know about the Declaration of Independence? The Declaration of Independence was a document announcing independence from England. It was adopted on July 4, 1776. A lot of people thought that John Adams should write the Declaration but Jefferson ended up writing it. The Declaration of Independence was an important document for the Patriots and the beginning of a new country.

Thomas Jefferson is the man from Virginia who wrote the Declaration of Independence. When the Patriots asked Thomas Jefferson to write it he said that he would try his best. It took him two weeks to write the Declaration of Independence. When it was done it was read to the citizens from the Old State House balcony. The Declaration of Independence is now in Washington D.C. in the National Archives.

Have you heard of Ben Franklin? Young Ben Franklin was a printing apprentice and set up his own print shop. Ben Franklin wrote the book called Poor Richard's Almanac. Farmers used the almanac to know when to plant their crops. Ben did an experiment with electricity to prove that it came from lightning. Franklin invented a stove to keep him warm. He also started the first lending library. Ben Franklin once said, "From a child I was fond of reading all the little money that came into my hands was ever laid in books." (Massachusetts Our Home, Gibbs Smith, 2004)

Ben Franklin was an important patriot who signed the Declaration of Independence. He also helped write the Constitution. He wanted the colonies to be an independent country and live by their own rules. Ben Franklin helped write the Constitution after the Revolutionary War. Later, he helped plan the new government in Pennsylvania. He was an important Patriot because he was an important writer.

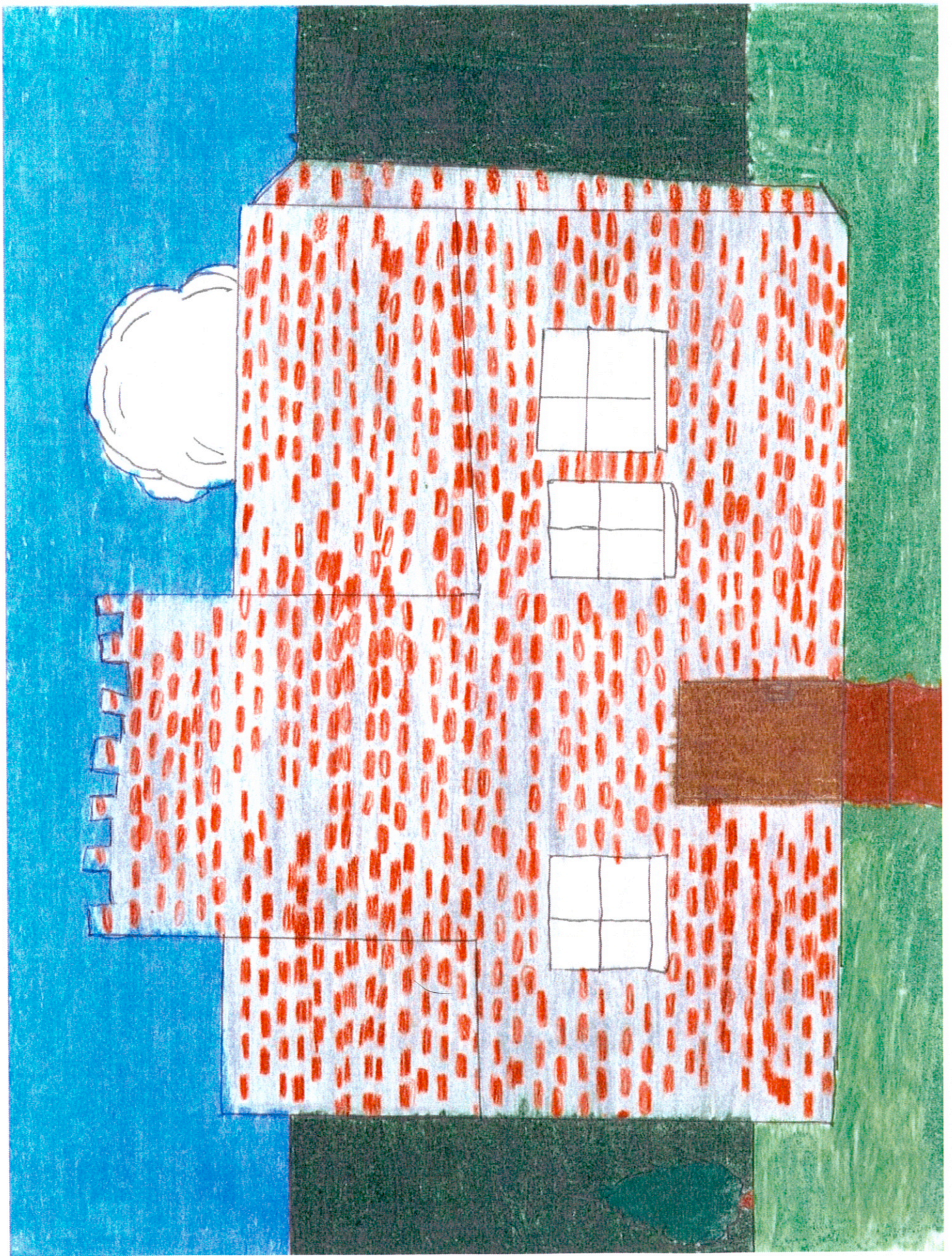


The Declaration of Independence

John Adams was a Patriot who was born in what is now called Quincy. John Adams married Abigail Smith and they were perfect for each other. They loved to read and think. They had children. John was a teacher for a short amount of time and then he studied law and became a lawyer. He was a great one too. John did not believe in the Stamp Act- that was when the British made the colonists pay taxes for things like tea. John Adams lived this life of colonial times in 1735 to 1826.

John Adams was an important Patriot. He said the colonies should be independent from England. He said that Washington should lead the Minutemen. He said Thomas Jefferson should write the Declaration of Independence. John Adams became the first Vice President. He later became the second President of the United States. John Adams was a significant Patriot who died in 1826.

John Hancock grew up wealthy. His uncle was rich and he helped the Patriots. He hid from the British in Lexington because he bought guns for the Patriots. John Hancock is famous because he signed the Declaration of Independence with his name large. He said "There! They can read that name without spectacles." John Hancock had a special life because he helped the Patriots. (Massachusetts Our Home, Gibbs Smith, 2004)



Shays Rebellion

Do you know who Daniel Shays is? Daniel Shays was born in 1747 and died in 1825. He was born in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. Daniel Shays was a former Revolutionary War captain. He led people in the Shays' Rebellion. Many angry townspeople gathered outside courthouses and hassled lawyers and judges. Farmers and former Revolutionary war soldiers were in Shays Rebellion. The government in Boston sent a militia to stop them. George Washington was not happy because he saw people fighting and he did not like it. They needed to lower taxes, and that's what the government did.

Did you ever wonder where Shays' Rebellion began? Well it started in Springfield, Massachusetts in January of 1787. The farmers started getting disappointed because they would lose their farms because of taxes. In 1786-1787 western Massachusetts farmers were angry because the state government was making farmers pay high taxes. So then a group of militia and Shays' group started to have a fight. The militia got to Springfield before Shays' group. The militia shot four people and the rest of Shays' group started running. The result of the rebels helped us, because it made the taxes go down but still the militia won.

Did you ever wonder why Shays' Rebellion started? Shays' Rebellion started because the government in Boston was putting high taxes on Springfield and the farmers and they could not pay these high taxes. If they could not pay these taxes, they would be thrown in jail and they could lose their farms. They asked the government to stop. Nothing was done. Daniel Shays was a farmer. He and other farmers closed the courts in four counties so nobody would get sent to jail. The Boston government sent a militia, a local army, to stop them.

Did you know that the farmers wanted to go to Springfield, Massachusetts to get the muskets and lots of old guns? The leader was Daniel Shays. The governor heard about the guns so he sent a militia, a local army, to stop them. The militia and the farmers were on their way to Springfield but the militia got there first. When the rebels came to the Springfield Armory the militia was already there with a cannon. The rebels thought they were not going to move until they got the guns. Then the militia fired the cannon and 4 rebels lay dead. Daniel Shays and the farmers were running for about a year and while they were running, the government lowered the taxes.

The Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights

The constitution is the law of the United States. It was for Americans to have freedoms. The constitution also has something called the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights was added to the constitution in 1789. The constitution is for Americans to begin a new system of government and to have independence after the Revolutionary War fought against Britain and won by the Patriots in 1783. It was the law for everyone in the 13 colonies. It made a "more perfect union."

Want to know why the Constitution was made? The Constitution was made because the United States of America was a new country and it needed rules for everyone to follow. The Constitution was so important to America because it united us after the Revolutionary War. The men who wrote it had trouble but came through for the United States. Imagine what would happen to us without the Constitution! The people were proud, they had laws.

Do you know why we have the Constitution that we have today? The Articles of Confederation was the first constitution in 1777. When the war with the British, the American Revolution, was going on all the states tried to stay together as one nation, but after we had won the war in 1783 all of the states started to disagree about the laws. George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison and all other leaders from the 12 states were alarmed at the states fighting. So they thought something had to be done. So they decided to meet and make the constitution in 1787. This made us the United States of America. The states didn't think the laws were specific enough. So they made the Bill of Rights which was added to the Constitution 2 years later. The Constitution is what holds us together.

Do you know who was at the writing of the Constitution? George Washington and Benjamin Franklin and 38 people from the 12 different states were there. No one from Rhode Island was there. George Washington went even though he had a headache and upset belly. I wonder how the other 39 people felt. Nervous I bet. That's who was there at the making of the Constitution.

Do you know when the Constitution was completed and where it is today? Well the Constitution was completed on September 17, 1787. It was made at The Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Then, 2 years later the Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution. The original Constitution of the U.S. is kept under guard in the Exhibition Hall of the National Archives building in Washington, D.C. Other important national documents are stored there, too, like The Declaration of Independence. Each year thousands of visitors come to see them. They are sealed in cases made of bronze and glass and filled with gas to be kept from breaking apart.

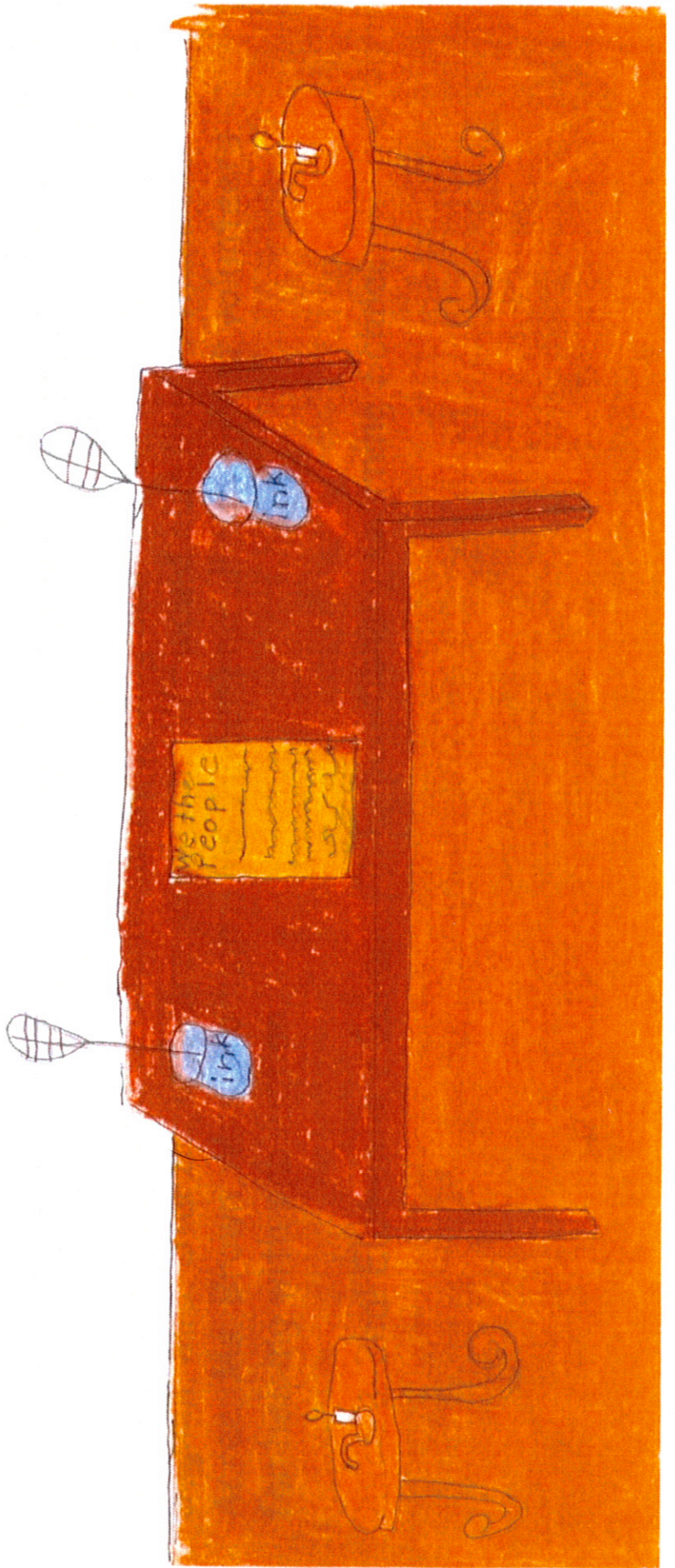
Do you know where the Constitution was made? The Constitution was written in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was written in the year 1787. After the Constitution was completed 40 people signed it. It was very important to the United States because it was the supreme law of the United States. It made all the rules for the land. It also started making things better for the people. Really important people signed it like George Washington and Ben Franklin. It was made there and then because of all the high taxes and bad things that were happening after the Revolutionary War. The thirteen states needed to come together as one United States.

Are you wondering what the Bill of Rights is? Without the Bill of Rights people would still not be united. They made it because they saw the Constitution and it was impressive but scary. Many people thought that the government was too strong. They made the Bill of Rights because people didn't think that the laws in the Constitution were specific enough. A couple of years later the Bill of Rights was a part of the Constitution. The Bill had laws that made people happy. Some of the laws were:

- Freedom to worship as they wish
- Freedom to write and speak what they want even if they don't think the government is right
- Freedom to meet in groups
- The right to bear arms
- Freedom to ask the government to change the laws if they are not fair
- The right to a fair and speedy trial
- The right to be tried by a jury
- Freedom to keep up a militia or National Guard

These were rights that the people had fought for against the English King in the American Revolution.

Constitution



The illustrations for this book were designed as a part of the Magnet Extended Day Program with Ms. Favaloro. They later became scenery boards for the exhibition night. They were painted by the focus groups in preparation for their exhibit.

Thank you to the Third Grade team: Mrs. Glogowski, Ms. Favaloro, Mrs. Gagnon, Mrs. Starzic, and Mrs. Wellman. We would also like to thank Ms. Acree, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Modugno, Ms. Hager and all the parent volunteers for helping with production.

Alice B. Beal Elementary School: An Expeditionary Learning School