Name:



**MISSION 1: “For Crown or Colony?” (**[**www.mission-us.org**](http://www.mission-us.org)**)**

**Introduction:**



Mission 1: “For Crown or Colony?” puts players in the shoes of Nat Wheeler, a printer’s apprentice in 1770 Boston. They encounter both Patriots and Loyalists, and when rising tensions result in the Boston Massacre, they must choose where their loyalties lie (from the Mission US website).

Note: this worksheet has been adapted from the ‘Mission US: Flight to Freedom’ teacher guide. This extensive guide, containing a wide swath of activities, can be found at:

<http://www.mission-us.org/pages/mission-1-educator-guide-activities>

**Tasks:**

1. Go to [www.mission-us.org](http://www.mission-us.org) and choose ‘Mission 1: For Crown or Colony?’. Click on ‘Register’ and fill out the necessary information. Record your Username and Password somewhere private.
2. Be sure to click on, collect, and read the Smartwords, and collect as many Badges as you can. These will help you at the end of the game.
3. After you play each Part, read and answer these questions from the point of view of your character, Nat. You may not know all the answers, so do the best you can.

**Part 1: New in Town**

1. What are some of the ways you can demonstrate to Mr. Edes that you are worthy of the apprenticeship in his shop?

1. What did you learn from Royce about his political opinions?

1. If you have sold an ad to Constance, you were told by Mr. Edes to return the money to her. Why does he refuse to print her ad?

1. Did you doff your hat to the British customs official? If you did, why did you? If you did not, why didn’t you?

**Part 2: A Death in Boston**

1. What is the difference between a Patriot and a Loyalist?

1. Who is Christopher Seider? What has happened to him? Why and how did it happen?

1. What later news does Mrs. Edes give you about Christopher Seider? How does it affect your opinion?

1. If you overheard the meeting in the Long Room, how does that affect your opinion?

**Part 3: March of the Apprentices (refer to poem at end of document)**

1. If you knew nothing of Christopher Seider except what you’d read in this poem, what kind of person would you assume he’s been? Is this impression supported by the facts as we know them?

1. If you knew nothing of Ebenezer Richardson except what you’d read in this poem, what kind of person would you assume he’s been? Does the description match the facts we know?

1. 18th century poetry was often very dramatic, with references to Greek mythology being especially popular, and a way to give current events a grander, more eternal meaning. Where and how has Phillis Wheatley used this approach in the poem?

**Part 4: From Bad to Worse**

According to each account, who commits the first threatening or violent behaviour?

**Account #1 – Report in the *Boston Gazette* and *Country Journal*, March 12, 1770**

Thirty or forty persons, mostly lads, being gathered in King-street, Capt. Preston with a party of men with charged bayonets, came from the main guard to the Commissioner’s house the soldiers pushing their bayonets, crying, Make way! They took place by the custom-house, and continuing to push, to drive the people off, pricked some in several places; on which [the crowd] were clamorous, and, it is said threw snow balls. On this, the Captain commanded them to fire, and more snow balls coming he again said, Damn you, Fire, be the consequences what it will!

**Account #2 – Deposition of Captain Thomas Preston of the 29th Regiment**

The mob increased and were more outrageous, striking their clubs or bludgeons one against another, and calling out, come on you rascals, you bloody backs, you lobster scoundrels, fire if you dare, G-d damn you, fire and be damned, we know you dare not… Some well-behaved persons asked me if I intended to order the men to fire. I answered no, by no means… While I was thus speaking, one of the soldiers having received a severe blow with a stick, stepped a little on one side and instantly fired. [When] turning to [him] and asking him why he fired without orders, I was struck with a club on my arm, which for some time deprived me of the use of it… On this a general attack was made on the men by a great number of heavy clubs and snowballs being thrown at them, by which all our lives were in imminent danger. [S]ome persons at the same time called out, damn your bloods-why don’t you fire. Instantly three or four of the soldiers fired, one after another, and directly after three more in the same confusion and hurry.

**Part 5: A Meeting with Fate**

1. When you are summoned to give your deposition of the events that took place on King Street the night before, record which choices you made in the game and explain why for each choice.

1. Which path did you choose at the end and why? What does the future hold for you?

**Poem to be used for Part 3: “On the death of Mr Snider Murder’d by Richardson” (by Phillis Wheatley)**

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| -British occupation troops  -to make more acute or intense  -a villain  -the ancient Greek hero of the Trojan War, as recounted in Homer’s Iliad  -wherever  -a fierce or violent person  -spears; a continuation of the Homeric metaphor  -the ancient Greek Gods; again, a Homeric metaphor  -Homeric combat was often waged between the two best fighters—or “champions” from each army.  -military  -appalled  -despise  -colonists loyal to the Crown  -allow  -a deplorable or despicable person, in this case Ebenezer Richardson (see below)  -chased  -a shameful reputation  -Ebenezer Richardson, the Customs  official who shot Seider  -those who seize and hold power without legal right  -excessively praised  -The River Styx in classical mythology, which the dead crossed on their way to the underworld Hades.  -Christopher Seider’s last name was misspelled “Snider” in the poem.  -attendants accompanying a person of importance  -corpse | In heavens eternal court it was decreed  How the first martyr for the cause should bleed  To clear the country of the hated brood  He whet his courage for the common good  Long hid before, a vileinfernal here  Prevents Achilles in his mid career  Where’er this fury darts his Poisonous breath  All are endanger’d to the Shafts of death.  The generous Sires beheld the fatal wound  Saw their Young champion gasping on the ground  They rais’d him up. but to each present ear  What martial glories did his tongue declare  The wretch appal’d no longer can dispise  But from the Striking victim turns his eyes  When this young martial genius did appear  The Tory chiefs no longer could forbear.  Ripe for destruction, see the wretches doom  He waits the curses of the age to come  In vain he flies, by Justice Swiftly chaced  With unexpected infamy disgraced  Be [Richardson](http://boston1775.blogspot.com/2006/05/ebenezer-richardson-customs-informer.html) for ever banish’d here  The grand Usurpers bravely vaunted Heir.  We bring the body from the wat’ry bower  To lodge it where it shall remove no more  Snider behold with what Majestic Love  The Illustrious retinue begins to move  With Secret rage fair freedoms foes beneath  See in thy corse ev’n Majesty in Death |