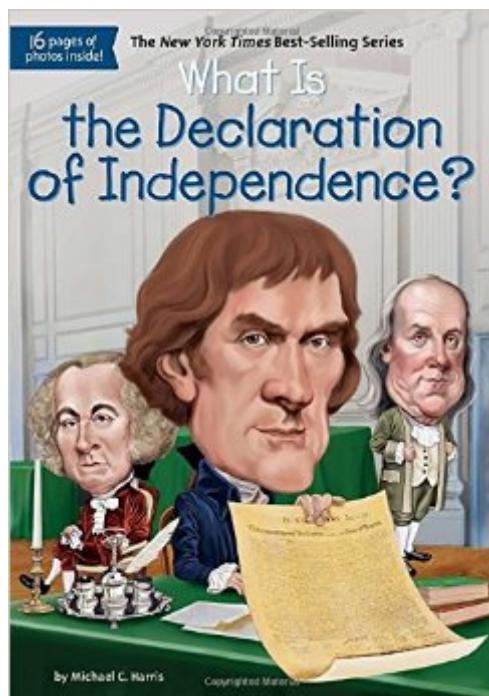


The book was found

What Is The Declaration Of Independence? (What Was...?)



Synopsis

Step back in time to the birth of America and meet the real-life rebels who made this country free! On a hot summer day near Philadelphia in 1776, Thomas Jefferson sat at his desk and wrote furiously until early the next morning. He was drafting the Declaration of Independence, a document that would sever this country's ties with Britain and announce a new nation— "The United States of America. Colonists were willing to risk their lives for freedom, and the Declaration of Independence made that official. Discover the true story of one of the most radical and uplifting documents in history and follow the action that fueled the Revolutionary War.

Book Information

Series: What Was...?

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars— See all reviews (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,561 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary #4 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I recently got this one because my kids are just about the right age to learn about this. Overall, I'd give it 3 or 3.5 stars because it cannot stand on its own without explanation. My opinion: Skip the Introduction and go right into the first chapter. The introduction is a summary and as such does not represent the issue of slavery accurately because it tries to explain it (and fails) in only a couple of sentences. It explains the issue a little more accurately later in the book, although it could explain it better. Several of the founding fathers were opposed to slavery, but they knew that if they made an issue out of it (tried to abolish slavery at that time), there would be no Revolution and no independence from Great Britain. But I understand they only have so much room in a children's

book. The other issue I had was with the grey box about 2/3 the way through the book that discusses women's role in the Declaration and American Revolution. It basically states that women did not have the rights that women do today and did not have the right to vote. It is implied that because of that, women didn't have much impact/role during these events. This is a real missed opportunity. The author could have shown that even though women didn't vote (and to be clear, many did not want to vote as evidenced by a large movement of women opposing suffrage later on), they had a great deal of influence in the American Revolution and the independence of our nation. A quick search on the Web, and you can get so many examples of the thousands of women who were camp followers on the battlefields helping the troops and other efforts. Also, when George Washington was elected president in 1789, it was primarily only landowners that could vote, and sometimes there were restrictions depending on religion.

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