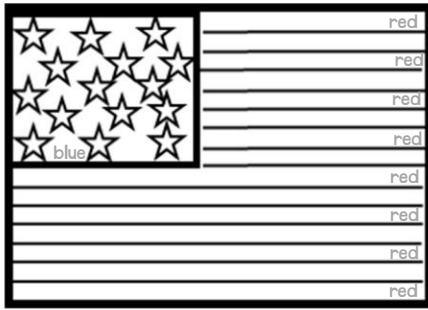
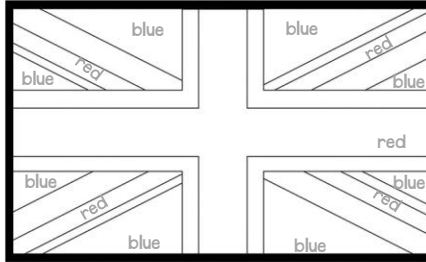


Roots of the War of 1812



UNITED STATES VS.



GREAT BRITAIN

CAUSES OF THE WAR:

1. The U.S. wanted Great Britain and France to respect its rights as a neutral nation at sea and for the British to stop impressing American sailors (forcing American sailors to work in the British Navy).
2. The U.S. wanted British Canada and Spanish Florida.
3. A vocal group of Americans called War Hawks wanted to go to war against Great Britain.
4. Americans blamed the British for aiding a Native American rebellion led by Tecumseh and Prophet.
5. The British did not meet U.S. demands over neutrality rights. Despite Federalists and Northern merchants being opposed to war, Congress declared war on Great Britain.

WHO, WHEN, WHERE?

The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Great Britain between 1812-1815. The war was mainly fought on land in British Canada and the United States and the nearby bodies of waters. While the British had a superior navy and easily blockaded the east coast of the United States, the United States navy played a key role in the war.

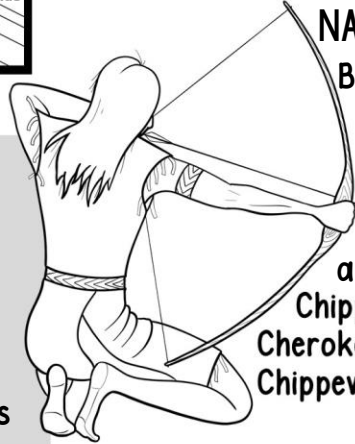
NAPOLEONIC WARS

Between 1803-1815, Great Britain and her allies fought against the French Empire led by Napoleon and his allies. Despite being a neutral nation, the war affected the United States' economy when neither France nor Great Britain would respect the United States' neutrality at sea. Attempts by the United States to solve the issue were unsuccessful and eventually led to the War of 1812.



NATIVE AMERICAN ALLIES

Both the British and the Americans were aided in the war by Native American allies. However, the British had the advantage - American expansion or the threat of American expansion into their lands convinced most Native American nations to side with the British. Nations allied with the British included the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Chippewa (Ojibwe), Muscogee Creek, Seminole, Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and the Mohawks. Only a few Seneca and Chippewa factions allied themselves with the Americans.



TECUMSEH

Tecumseh and his brother known as Prophet were Shawnee. They built a confederation of Native American nations who agreed to band together to stop the United States from encroaching on their lands. Prior to the War of 1812, U.S. General William Henry Harrison defeated part of Tecumseh's alliance at the Battle of Tippecanoe. When the War of 1812 broke out, Tecumseh and his confederation sided with the British. In 1813, Tecumseh met William Henry Harrison again in the Battle of the Thames. Here, Tecumseh was mortally wounded and the Native American fight against the United States lost its momentum.



TECUMSEH

OUTCOME

The United States won the War of 1812 and solidified its control over the city of New Orleans. Control over New Orleans was important because whatever country controlled New Orleans, controlled the Mississippi River. Despite the overall victory, the United States failed drastically in the attempt to gain control over Canada. The war's greatest losers were the Native Americans who sided with the British. They were forced to sign treaties ceding their land to the United States.