



Mapping the Declaration

Once the Declaration was created, edited, ratified, and written out for the printer, it began its journey to reach the colonies. Unlike today, with phones, emails and texts, the Declaration could travel only as fast as a rider on a horse. The official printer of the Continental Congress, John Dunlap, made “broadside” copies the night of July 4-5, which immediately began to be distributed. Despite the speed, Georgia, the most distant state, didn’t receive a copy for a month!

Read [the online description](#) of this journey. Once you have read and viewed the content, you will use the map to fill out the blank map, and the text to fill out the blank timeline.

Complete Map

This map does not include every place the Declaration traveled to, but it hits some key sites in the first two weeks, as well as the final colony to receive the Declaration, and two later and important official signed copies. Use the **complete map** to better understand the geography, and to fill out your **blank map**.

Blank Map

- Label each of the 13 colonies on the blank map
- Lightly color each colony using a different color for each colony
- Label the following cities
 - Philadelphia, PA
 - Trenton, NJ
 - New York City, NY
 - Boston, MA
 - Baltimore, MD
 - Savannah, GA

Blank Timeline

After reading the online materials and completing the blank map, create a timeline for the events, splitting up the July Philadelphia events, into two of the timeline boxes.

Sharing the Declaration of Independence

July 1776

(Philadelphia PA #1)

2nd –Congress voted in favor of independence

4th –Final draft adopted; informal reading

5th –Dunlap's Broadside distributed

6th –Philadelphia Evening Post, first newspaper to publish the Declaration

8th –Dunlap's weekly newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Packet*, printed the Declaration with reaction from Trenton.

(Trenton NJ, Easton PA #2)

8th –In unison with Philadelphia, these three cities make their official readings at the same time.

(New York City #3)

9th –General Washington had the Declaration of Independence read to his troops; a New York crowd toppled the statue of King George III.

(Boston MA #4)

18th –Public reading in Boston with reaction from Abigail Adams and others

August 1776

(Philadelphia #1)

2nd –Signing of hand-written and engrossed Declaration of Independence begins.

(Savannah GA #5)

10th –Georgia is the last state to officially read aloud the Declaration of Independence

January 1777

(Baltimore #6)

18th –Official text with signers' names printed by Mary K Goddard.





Name: _____

Date: _____

Timeline of: _____

