

From O-Y-O to Ohio, From Territory to Statehood Study Guide

This program is designed to teach students about the early Ohio frontier and the struggles involved in becoming a state. The program is about one hour in length. Students will help me tell the story. I will need to meet with the students involved for about 30 minutes before the program to direct them in their parts. Parts are enclosed with this study guide. The student audience will also become Federalists and Democratic-Republicans and cheer for their side in the debates.

I will play the part of Governor Arthur St. Clair and lead the students through the story of the early Ohio frontier. We will start with St. Clair's personal history. I will briefly discuss the Articles of Confederation and explain how and why the Ohio Company came to Congress to buy Ohio land. We will discuss who owned the land. I will explain why the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 had to be written and discuss the important parts of the law. Moving to Ohio, we will try to make peace with the Indians. Failing that, I will tell the story of Harmar's and St. Clair's defeats and the importance of the Battle of Fallen Timbers and the Treaty of Greenville. Finally we will discuss the problems of governing the new territory as more and more settlers moved to Ohio. Students will act out the debates that created a new state.

Enclosed are parts for the students. I have also included brief histories of important men involved in the wars and politics of the Northwest Territory. These may be used to help prepare the students for the performance.

The Federalist Party During the Presidency of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton created the Federalist Party. He believed in strong national government. He believed educated men could better govern the new nation. Educated men could interpret the constitution to allow the government to do what ever it needed to do in the best interest of the country. This interest was determined by educated, land-owning businessmen who would rule America. Many of the Federalists were ex-officers in the Continental Army. They believed they had fought for freedom and had the right to determine the new rules of the country. Hamilton liked the English model and thought only the most deserving should rule.

The Democratic-Republican Party Thomas Jefferson disagreed with Hamilton and created his own party. Having just fought against an English King, Democratic-Republicans feared a strong central government. They believed that the Constitution was a "strict" document that clearly limited the powers of government. Thomas Jefferson particularly liked the farmers and wanted to create an America that could be the breadbasket of the world. He felt the farmers could sell their goods overseas and buy the manufactured goods they needed. They should own their own farms and be able to make their own laws. The Democratic-Republicans believed in the common man.

The two big questions in the Ohio country that had to be answered were:

1. Who owned the land?
2. Who would make the rules for the land?

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Little Turtle was a chief of the Miami tribe. His real name was Michikinqua. He joined with Blue Jacket to fight and defeat Gen. Harmar and Gen. St. Clair. He called Gen. Wayne the "chief that never sleeps" and wanted to make peace with him. He did fight at the Battle of Fallen Timbers and signed the Treaty of Greenville. He never fought the Americans again.

Blue Jacket was the warchief for the Shawnee tribe and along with Little Turtle lead the Indian confederation that defeated Harmar and St. Clair. He was the chief that lead the Indians to defeat at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. He signed the Treaty of Greenville which gave a great deal of the Ohio country to the United States. He never fought the Americans again. He died around 1810.

The Federalists

Governor Arthur St. Clair I was born in Scotland and became a soldier. I came to America and fought for the British during the French and Indian War. I lived in Pennsylvania and became a General for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. George Washington and I were friends. I was President of the Congress under the Articles of Confederation and was appointed Governor for the new Northwest Territory. It was a tough job. I wanted to bring laws and government to the wilderness. I believed educated men were best qualified to rule the government. I fought the idea of statehood for Ohio. I did not think the people were ready to govern themselves.. President Jefferson removed me as Governor and I went home to Pennsylvania to live out my life as a private citizen.

Winthrop Sargent I was born in Massachusetts in 1753. I helped survey the Seven Ranges of Ohio. I joined the Ohio Company and helped start the town of Marietta. I was appointed as the Secretary of the Northwest Territory and acted for the governor when he was away. I was a strong supporter of the Federalist Party.

Rufus Putnam I was born April, 9 1738 in Massachusetts. My father died when I was seven. Like George Washington, I fought for the British in the French and Indian War. I became a General in the Continental Army and helped General Washington in many battles. After the war, I encouraged the Congress under the Articles of Confederation to pay the soldiers who fought for our freedom. I helped start the Ohio Company and founded the city of Marietta. I believed in strong central government and supported Governor St. Clair. When President Jefferson was elected, like Governor St. Clair, I lost my government office and became a proud private citizen of the new state of Ohio.

Manasseh Cutler I was born in Connecticut. I studied at Yale and became a lawyer. I later studied and became a minister of the Congregational Church. I was a patriot and served during the American Revolution as a chaplain for the army. After the war, I joined the Ohio Company. I went to Congress and convinced them to sell us land in Ohio. I also was very important in creating the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. I did not move to Ohio, but my son, Ephraim, moved to Marietta to live.

Ephraim Cutler I was born in Massachusetts but moved to Ohio to settle Marietta for my father. I voted against a constitutional convention for statehood, but I helped ban slavery in the constitution for Ohio.

Col. Ebenezer Sproat I had the honor of marching in the parade to welcome Governor St. Clair to Marietta. I marched so proudly that the Indians said I had the look of a proud "hettuck" meaning "buck's eye". We all liked the idea so much we began calling ourselves "Buckeyes".

The Democratic Republicans

Nathaniel Massie I was born in Virginia but moved to Kentucky. I became a surveyor and surveyed the Ohio lands. I started the town of Massie's Station which was later called Manchester. I also started the town of Chillicothe. I fought with Governor St. Clair when he would not make my town of Manchester the county seat for Adams County. I believed local people could govern themselves better than some far off government.

Thomas Worthington I was born in Virginia in 1773. My father died when I was a young child. I studied surveying and helped survey the Virginia Military District. Like Edward Tiffin, my brother-in-law, I freed my slaves when I moved to Chillicothe. We both opposed slavery. I built my home called Adena and became involved in the frontier politics. I joined the Democratic-Republican party. I was the representative to Congress for the Northwest Territory and fought Governor St. Clair's efforts to divide the territory along the Scioto River. I helped write the state constitution and served as the first Senator of Ohio. I later became Governor of Ohio in 1814.

Edward Tiffin I was born in England on June 19, 1766. I moved to Virginia and went to school at Jefferson Medical College. I also studied the Bible and became a Methodist Minister. In 1798 I moved to the Northwest Territory to the town of Chillicothe. I married Thomas Worthington's sister. I served as the first Speaker of the House for the Territorial Legislature. Three years later, I served as President of the Constitutional Convention and was elected the first Governor of Ohio in 1803. I served two terms as Governor.

John Cleves Symmes I was born in New York. While serving in Congress, I became interested in buying land in the new Ohio country. I purchased a large tract of land between the Miami Rivers. I was a judge and helped create the Maxwell Code -- the laws for the Northwest Territory. I got in a hurry and started selling land before I had the legal title. Governor St. Clair and Congress took me to court. I started as a Federalist, but because of my legal troubles with Governor St. Clair I became a Democratic-Republican. William Henry Harrison married my daughter.

William Henry Harrison I was born in Virginia and came to Ohio as a soldier just after St. Clair's Defeat. I fought the Indians at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. I became a representative to Congress from the Northwest Territory. I helped stop St. Clair from dividing Ohio by creating the Indiana Territory of which I was made Governor. I later became the President of the United States.

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Suggestions of how to prepare the students for this program.

1. The actor parts for the students may be copied and cut apart. All pages may be cut apart except the page with the four parts 1- Tiffin, 2- Massie, 3- Cutler, 4- Worthington. Four copies should be made of this page to give to the four actors in addition to their other parts. These are the last parts read in order by these actors.

Some of the words may be difficult for them, but I believe good 4th grade readers and above should be able to handle the words. Most are actual statements from the men of history.

2. Having the students use current maps of Ohio to locate the following sites may help them become familiar with the cities, battle sites and Indian tribes that will be discussed.

Marietta Cincinnati Columbia Manchester Chillicothe North Bend

Ft. Hamilton (Hamilton), Ft. Jefferson, Ft. St. Clair (Eaton), Ft. Recovery,
Ft. Defiance (Defiance), Battle of Fallen Timbers, Treaty of Greenville

Western Reserve, Symmes Purchase (land between the Miami Rivers below Dayton)
Seven Ranges (Eastern Ohio), Virginia Military Lands (Along the Scioto, Chillicothe)
(see #5 Map B below)

Shawnee Indians -- villages at Chillicothe, Xenia, Springfield, Piqua
Miami Indians -- along Great Miami River and Maumee Rivers (both from tribal name)
Wyandot Indians -- North of Columbus Ohio along Olentangy River
Delaware -- eastern Ohio near Newcomerstown along Tuscarawas River
Mingo -- Beaver Creek near East Liverpool

3. Have the students identify all of the Ohio counties named after Indian tribes. Here are a few. Can you find more? How about Indian words or Generals too?

Huron, Ottawa, Erie, Miami, Delaware, Wyandot, Seneca
Muskingum, Tuscarawas, Pickaway, Scioto, Cuyahoga
Wayne, Greene, Hamilton, Butler, Clark, Mercer, Shelby, Putnam

4. Advanced -- A review of the Ordinance of 1787 and conditions under the Articles of Confederation which led to the Constitution of the United States would be helpful.

Little Turtle

1. No white man shall plant corn in the Ohio Country.
 2. We beat General St. Clair. The Indians won. This is still Indian Land.
 3. This general never sleeps. I think we should make peace with him.
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Blue Jacket

1. We will put out the fire of every paleface on the Indian shore.
2. We beat General Harmar. The Indians won. This is still Indian Land
3. We attacked the army at Fallen Timbers. We Indians lost.
This is Indian land no more.

Rufus Putnam

1. I'm General Rufus Putnam. I was a friend of George Washington's. I started the Ohio Company. I had the idea that the government should pay the soldier's by giving them or selling them land west of the Mountains. This would make the soldiers happy and the government could get out of debt.
2. My name is Rufus Putnam. With the Ohio Company, I started the first town called Marietta.

Dr. Manassan Cutler

1. I'm Dr. Cutler. I am a preacher and a scientist. I am a friend of Ben Franklin's. I was part of the Ohio Company. I was asked by the Ohio Company to go to Congress and convince them to sell us land in Ohio.

Nathaniel Massie

1. My name is Nathaniel Massie. I surveyed the Ohio country and started the towns of Manchester and Chillicothe.
 2. That's not fair. The people who live there should choose. I'm going to write the President and complain.
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Winthrop Sargent

1. My name is Winthrop Sargent. I was part of the Ohio Company. They made me Secretary of the Northwest Territory.
 2. Western settlements without good wise management would be troublesome.
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John Cleves Symmes

1. My name is John Cleves Symmes. I bought the land between the Miami Rivers. I was a judge for the Territory.

Ephraim Cutler

1. My name is Ephraim Cutler. I moved to Marietta and was elected to the legislature.
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William Henry Harrison

1. My name is William Henry Harrison. I married John Symmes daughter. I was a soldier and was appointed to represent the Northwest Territory at Congress.
2. We should draw the boundary line North from the Great Miami river and make two territories. We should call the new territory west of the boundary line Indiana.

Thomas Worthington

1. My name is Thomas Worthington. I helped survey the land and moved to Chillicothe, Ohio. I built my house and called it Adena.
 2. Governor St. Clair is saying only He can make the laws. The President and Congress should have no say in the territory.
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Edward Tiffin

1. My name is Edward Tiffin. I married Thomas Worthington's sister and moved to Chillicothe. They appointed me speaker of the legislature.
2. All power ought to flow from the people for they are fully competent to govern themselves.

*Please do not cut this page apart. The readers will read it in order.
Please make four copies of this page -- one for each reader.*

1. Edward Tiffin

I am Edward Tiffin. We held the constitutional convention at Chillicothe.

I was elected President of the convention.

2. Nathaniel Massie

I am Nathaniel Massie. Most of the people at the convention were Democratic

Republicans, so we were able to write the constitution the way we wanted it.

3. Ephraim Cutler

I am Ephraim Cutler. I made sure the constitution of the new state banned

slavery. I did not want anyone to be a slave in Ohio.

4. Thomas Worthington

I am Thomas Worthington. I took the constitution to Washington D.C. and

the Congress approved it. When I came home, we elected Edward Tiffin

to be our first Governor. This made the Democratic Republicans very happy.