

a reader's theater
Presentation of

- *3 reading levels!
- *26 characters!

- *Builds fluency
- *Perfect for 3rd-5th



The Midnight Ride of
Paul Revere!

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Cast of Characters:

Narrator 1
Patrick Henry
Representative 1
Representative 2
Representative 3
Representative 4
Narrator 2
Narrator 3
Samuel Adams

John Hancock
Colonist 1
Colonist 2
Colonist 3
Colonist 4
Redcoat
Narrator 4
Narrator 5
Paul Revere

William Dawes
Narrator 6
Patriot
Narrator 7
Villager 1
Villager 2
Narrator 8
Narrator 9

SCENE 1: A meeting room in Philadelphia, 1774

Narrator 1: The Boston Tea Party of 1774 did more than just boycott tea from Great Britain. It sparked a great deal of interest among the colonists for creating a new country completely free of Great Britain. The 13 colonies sent representatives to meet with each other in what became known as the Continental Congress.

Patrick Henry: Gentlemen, thank you for coming today. We need to discuss our future relationship with Great Britain. It is clear from the Boston Tea party that many colonists are fed up with all of these unfair taxes. They are being placed on all of our most needed items!

Representative 1: I agree with you, Mr. Henry! Great Britain has really been treating our colonies poorly. How long does the King expect us just to keep supporting his country when we have no voice in any decisions? I say it's time for King George to listen to us for a change!

Representative 2: Let's go get him! We'll tie him up and make him listen!

- Colonist #4: We need someone who will serve as a spy on the British in order to gain this type of information. We also need to rely on that person to provide everyone that information in a timely manner . It will be a dangerous and risky job. Does anyone know of a man suitable for this task?
- John Hancock: I know a man in Boston that would be perfect for this job. His name is Paul Revere. He has been a spy for us for several months now. I will contact him at once. I'm sure we will be able to count on him to get us the information we need in order to begin our fight for freedom!
- Sam Adams: John, thank you! I've heard about his dedication to our colonies, also. He is known to be a brave and smart man. I think he's a perfect choice! Let's contact him at once!
- Redcoat: Hey! You colonists! You aren't supposed to be gathering like that. The King would not approve! You are to leave immediately! I demand that you break up this meeting!
- Sam Adams: We were, uh, just discussing the weather and the much needed rain. We'll be on our way now.
- Narrator 4: The colonists wink at each other behind the Redcoat's back. They are feeling good about their plan and the involvement from their fellow colonist, Paul Revere, to be on alert for any action that may occur as the tensions between the two groups grow and grow!

SCENE 3: Boston, Massachusetts

- Narrator 5: When Paul Revere was approached about helping the Colonists' cause, he immediately agreed to the dangerous job without hesitation. He spent several days slipping in and out of the places where the British soldiers held their meetings. He quietly learned about their plans to keep the colonists under British rule by force. When he gathered enough information, he decided the time had come to develop a plan with his friend and fellow spy, William Dawes.

Patriot: Oh, of course. I remember hearing about how some brave Patriot was going to send a signal by lantern to alert the other militia men. Hey, is that a light I see now?

Paul Revere: Yes! That's the signal....but wait! There's another light now. 2 lights! The British will be coming by sea! Row me across this river quickly! I've got to get to my horse and warn the others!

Patriot: Yes, sir! Hang on! I'm honored to help such a great cause. Anything for our freedom from the King! Here we go....we'll be on the other side in no time!

SCENE 5: April 18, 1775; at night in the countryside outside of Boston

Narrator: 7 As soon as the boat touched dry land, Paul Revere jumped out, shook the Patriot's hand, and mounted the horse that awaited him. He rode off into the countryside, headed for Lexington to warn John Hancock and Samuel Adams about the British's plan to arrest them. Along the way, he warns as many colonists as he can!

Paul Revere: Giddy-up, old girl! We have to move fast! I must warn the others about the British!

Villager #1: Hey! What's all that racket out there? We're trying to sleep! It's the middle of the night!

Paul Revere: The British are coming! The British are coming!

Villager #2: We're ready for them! Thank you!

Paul Revere: Hide what you can! Ready your weapons! The British are coming! The British are coming!

SCENE 6: At the home of Samuel Adams, Lexington

Narrator 8: When he finally arrives in Lexington, Paul Revere is happy to be reunited with his fellow patriot and good friend, William Dawes. Together, they approach the home of Samuel Adams.

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