

Study Guide



Chapter 4, Section 3

For use with textbook pages 116–119

FRANCE AND BRITAIN CLASH

KEY TERMS

Iroquois Confederacy

A powerful group of Native Americans formed in 1570 and based in New York (page 117)

militia

A group of civilians trained to fight in emergencies (page 118)

DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Has anyone ever tried to claim something that was yours? How did you react? How did you try to resolve the situation?

In the last section, you read about the different types of colonial government. This section focuses on how Native American groups and British colonists were drawn into the rivalry between France and Britain.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about how the tensions between the British and French affected the Native Americans.

Relationships With Native Americans	
French	British
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
	4.
	5.

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READ TO LEARN

- **British-French Rivalry** (pages 116–118)

The British and French had been rivals for centuries. As the British moved closer to French-held territories in North America, tensions between the British and French colonists increased. The French did not want British land companies or colonists to share in the profits of their fur trade in the Ohio River valley. In the 1740s, British fur traders built a fort at Pickawillany in Ohio country. The French attacked them and drove them out. The French then built forts along the rivers in the upper Ohio Valley, close to the British colonies. The French also attacked Nova Scotia in present-day Canada, which was controlled by Great Britain. New Englanders captured the French fortress, Louisbourg, on Cape Breton Island north of Nova Scotia, but Britain later returned it to France.

French fur traders and British colonists needed Native American allies to help them establish control of North America. The French had better relations with Native Americans because they did not try to take Native American land or change their way of life. Native Americans helped the French in the wars between Great Britain and France by raiding British settlements.

The ***Iroquois Confederacy***, the most powerful group of Native Americans in the East, was a union of many different groups of Native Americans. They traded with both the British and French and dominated the Great Lakes region. When the British moved into the Ohio Valley, the Iroquois Confederacy became their allies and gave them trading rights. As a result, the British had more power than the French.

1. Why was the Ohio Valley important to both the French and the British?

- **American Colonists Take Action** (pages 118–119)

Virginians wanted to settle the Ohio Valley. In 1753 the governor of Virginia sent George Washington to notify the British that they were on British territory and that they must leave. When they refused, Washington was sent back with a ***militia***, a volunteer group of citizen soldiers. They found the French were building a fort on the site. Washington established a small post located nearby. Washington's militia attacked a French scouting party. Because they were outnumbered and inexperienced, they lost and had to surrender. The French eventually released the soldiers and let them return to Virginia where they were regarded as heroes.

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Delegates from New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland met in Albany, New York, to discuss the threat of war and plan their defense. They also wanted to sway the Iroquois to become their allies against the French. Benjamin Franklin's plan, called the Albany Plan of Union, was adopted by the delegates. It called for a general government for the American colonies. It further proposed an elected legislature with the power to collect taxes, establish an army, and regulate trade. None of the colonies approved the plan or united to fight the French. A series of battles and a war followed, called the French and Indian War. The British were fighting the French and their Native American allies.

2. What were the first steps toward the French and Indian War?
