The End of the First British Empire: North America 1750-1780

10 February 1763 The Treaty of Paris ended the Seven Years' War. France ceded Canada and the Mississippi Valley to Britain.
Themes

- The First British Empire
- North America and idea of Empire
- Seven Years War 1756-1763
- Collapse of the First British Empire
The First British Empire

• The name given to the North Atlantic Empire
• The moment of Britain’s emergence as world power
• The idea of empire
• The loss of North America and the shift towards Asia
North America and the idea of Empire

• How did North Americans think of themselves?
• The importance of religion
• An empire of liberty in contrast to France and Spain
• And an empire of commerce
Seven Years War 1756-1763

• First war with clearly colonial origins
• The first *world* war
In North America
Conquest of Canada

THE BRITISH CONQUEST OF CANADA 1758–1760

- 1758-1759, Britain's Red Indian allies harass French and drive them from the Lakes
- June-September 1759, Wolfe’s expedition
- 8 July 1758, French hold fort against British assault; 2000 out of 15,000 British troops killed
- 24 November 1758, Fort Vincennes blown up by French as they retreated
- 26 July 1758, French surrender
- 17 September 1759, French capitulate. Death of Wolfe
- 1760, triple British advance on Montreal where the French finally surrender

THE THIRTEEN COLONIES
In the Caribbean
And in India
Seven Years War

- The way it was fought
- Impact on national identity in Britain
Collapse of the First British Empire

- The costs of war and alienation of American colonies
- The American Revolution 1776