Grade 3 Sample Lesson

You Wouldn’t Want to Be at the Boston Tea Party by Peter Cook

**Genre:** Informational Text

**DRA/Guided Reading Level:** 60/W

**Reading Strategies:** Main Idea, Text Features

**Speaking/Listening Strategy:** Think, Pair, Share

**Time:** 45–60 minutes (including vocabulary work, exploration of text features, and discussion)

**Vocabulary**

British, Britain (p. 10 & 12), discontent (p. 10), sentry (p.10), massacre (p.10), Lobster back (p. 10), enraged, enrages (p. 10), protest (p. 12), distant (p. 12), resentment (p. 12), boycott (p. 13), appease (p. 14), rebellion/rebel/revolution/revolt (p. 16) landed (p. 16), outrage, outraged (p. 20)

**Read-Aloud**

**Book Talk**

This book tells the story of the Boston Tea Party, an important event that started the colonists on their path to declaring independence from Britain. One of the people in the book is George Robert Twelves Hewes, a real person who participated in the Tea Party. He was born in 1742 and died in 1840. Sometimes, the narrator talks directly to George.
Before reading the text, you may want to place the year of George Robert Twelves Hewes’ birth (1742) on your timeline. If you have a screen projector, you may want to look up George Robert Twelves Hewes so the students can see that he really existed.

Begin Read-Aloud

“Introduction,” p. 5
Read p. 5 and discuss:
Q: Who’s telling the story?
Explain that when the narrator says, “you,” he is talking to George Robert Twelves Hewes.
Q: When does the story take place?

Read the main text on p. 10.
Then read the picture captions on Pp. 10 & 11.
Q: What happened at the Boston Massacre?
Optional: Read the picture captions on p. 11 for a re-cap of the event.

Read the main text on p. 12 first.
Skip the captions on p. 12.

Use Think/Pair/Share and ask:
Q: How do the colonists want Britain to treat them?
Read only the “Samuel Adams” caption on p. 13.

Read the main text on p. 14.
Q: What things does the British government do to try to get the colonists to calm down?
Read the caption about “tea agents” on P. 14.
Skip the other caption on p. 14 and the caption on p. 15.

Read the main text on p. 16 first.
Next, explain that these captions will give a more detailed explanation of the events: read all of the captions pp. 16-17.

Begin with the heading: “How the Events Unfold”
Read the “Dartmouth” caption on p. 16
Read the “Governor Hutchinson” caption on p. 16

**Q:** What do the Sons of Liberty want the British to do with the tea?
**Q:** What does Governor Hutchinson want to do with the tea?
**Q:** Why do you think some of the people at the meeting are dressed like Indians?

Read the main text on p. 18
Read the “Tea Party Song” on p. 19

**Q:** Why was this protest called a tea party?
**Q:** Why was it important that no one participating in the tea party stole any tea?

Read the “Revenge!” caption on p. 21

**Q:** How did the British punish the colonists for the tea party?