



What traditions, events, and forces helped form an American identity?



CRITICAL THINKING Evaluate Which factor do you think was the most important in creating an American identity?

The New Colonial World

KEY QUESTION How did the French and Indian War change the colonial world?

The French and Indian War not only enlarged British territory, it also changed the way that colonial Americans and Native Americans viewed themselves and their relationship with the British empire.

Pontiac's Rebellion After French forces withdrew, the British took over their forts. They refused to give gifts to the Native Americans, as the French had. British settlers also moved across the mountains onto Native American land. In the spring and summer of 1763, Native American groups responded by attacking settlers and destroying almost every British fort west of the Appalachians. They then surrounded the three remaining forts. This revolt was called Pontiac's Rebellion, although the Ottawa war leader Pontiac was only one of many organizers.

British settlers reacted with equal viciousness, killing even those Native Americans who had not attacked them. British officers came up with a brutal plan to end the siege by the Lenni Lenape of Fort Pitt.