

Name: _____

The Liberty Bell

The Liberty Bell, located in Pennsylvania, changed the world on July 8, 1776. It rang out from the tower of Independence Hall. It was used to summon the citizens to hear the first reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon. In the 1800s, the Liberty Bell became a symbol for ending slavery in America.



The Liberty Bell is famous for its large crack. People don't know when the crack first appeared on the bell. The crack got worse over time and people didn't want the bell to break apart. In order to preserve it, it was decided that the Liberty Bell should never again be used. The last time the bell was rung was on George Washington's birthday in 1842.

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1. Why was the Liberty Bell rung on July 8, 1776?

2. What is the name of the structure in which the bell is located?

3. In the 1800s, what did the Liberty Bell symbolize?

4. Why isn't the bell rung any more?

5. What does the word *summon* mean?

ANSWER KEY

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1. Why was the Liberty Bell rung on July 8, 1776?

to summon citizens to the first reading of the Declaration of Independence

2. What is the name of the structure in which the bell is located?

Independence Hall

3. In the 1800s, what did the Liberty Bell symbolize?

an ending to slavery in America

4. Why isn't the bell rung any more?

because there's a crack in it and people don't want it to break

5. What does the word *summon* mean?

to call