



Announcement of the Declaration of Independence First Public Reading

Are you in 5th through 8th grade?
You're invited to participate in a

Essay Contest

Topic for 2026-2027

"To announce independence from Great Britain, the Declaration of Independence was publicly read in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776. Following this reading, the word spread throughout the colonies in newspapers, more public readings, and posted notices. Imagine you lived in Philadelphia or an area of the colonies where news did not reach you for weeks. How would you react to hearing the Declaration read in your community? With whom would you share the news? What action would you take after hearing it? How would this have impacted your life?"

Open to Grades 5-8
Length 300-1,000 words (depending on grade level)

For information, contact:

DAR Chapter _____

Contact _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____