

South Carolina's Signers of the *Declaration of Independence*



Edward Rutledge



Arthur Middleton



Thomas Lynch, Jr.



Thomas Heyward, Jr.

Objective: To name and define the roles of the four South Carolina signers of the Declaration of Independence (SC Standard 8-2.1)

South Carolinians played a vital role in the birth of our nation. In 1776, four of South Carolina's most upstanding citizens were present in Philadelphia to join with other colonists in signing the *Declaration of Independence* from Britain. If you were a member of the Second Continental Congress in 1776, you were a rebel and considered a traitor by the King of England. You knew that a reward had been posted for the capture of certain prominent rebel leaders and signing your name to the declaration meant that you pledged your life, your fortune, and your sacred honor to the cause of freedom. The four South Carolinians who supported the Declaration of Independence risked their lives to establish liberty for our nation.

In this learning station, you will take a closer look at the lives of Edward Rutledge, Arthur Middleton, Thomas Lynch, Jr., and Thomas Heyward, Jr.

Please complete the following:

1. Each member of your group should choose one of the men to research.
2. Transform the information from your research into a "baseball card" (use the examples included in the folder for models).
3. Each "card" should include the following:
 - Statistics—Name, area of the state, family, birth, death, etc.
 - Reason this person was chosen to represent South Carolina at the signing / role he played in it
 - Anything else unusual (for example, one of these men was the youngest signer of the Declaration of Independence)
4. Upon completion, your group should have a baseball card for each of the four men. Present individual findings to the group.