

Name _____

Date _____

2. Independence Day - July 4, 1776

I Do Declare



Miss Wilson's fourth grade class had just finished a social studies unit on the Declaration of Independence, a very famous and important document that was written by Thomas Jefferson in 1776. It announced that the colonies were declaring freedom from the rule of Great Britain and signaled the birth of a new nation, The United States of America.

Samuel got an idea from studying that unit. He would declare his own independence at home...no more having to do his homework or making his bed or taking out the trash. He wrote his declaration on a piece of school notebook paper and handed it to his father after dinner one night. His father read it, tried not to smile, and then showed it to Samuel's mother. She disappeared into the den for a few minutes and returned with a piece of paper containing her own declaration of independence. She would no longer grocery shop, prepare meals for Samuel, or take him to buy his clothes. Samuel would have to find a way to do those things for himself.

After reading his mom's declaration, Samuel sat and thought a bit. He would really miss her delicious cooking. With a grin on his face, he told her to throw away his silly piece of paper, gave her a big hug, and asked if she would make her world-famous lasagna soon. She said she sure would and then asked him to please go take out the trash. Independence would have to wait.

Directions: Use the words in the Word Bank to complete the sentences below.

1. Thomas _____ wrote the Declaration of Independence.
2. In Samuel's declaration, he said he would no longer do _____.
3. Samuel showed his declaration to his _____ first.
4. Samuel's father showed the declaration to his _____.
5. Samuel's mother declared that she would no longer _____.
6. Samuel realized he would miss his mother's _____.
7. He told her to throw away his _____ declaration of independence.
8. Samuel's mother agreed to make _____ for dinner soon.

WORD BANK

prepare meals
father
mother
homework
silly
lasagna
delicious cooking
Jefferson