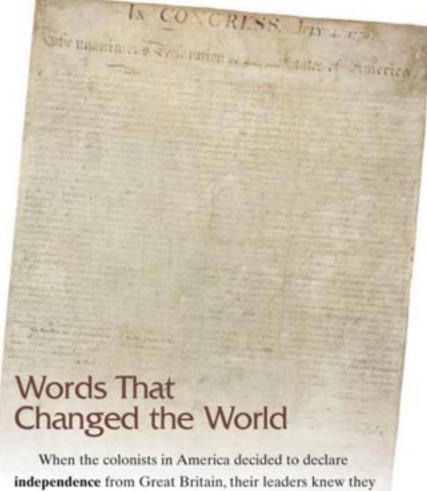
The Declaration of Independence

Words That Changed the World
What Should We Do Next?
Getting Close to a Decision6–7
An Important Task
The Right Man for the Job
A Natural Place to Start
Strong Words for the King14–15
Leaving the Old World Behind
A Most Important Vote
Preparing a Final Draft
Spreading the News22–23
Glossary
Index



When the colonists in America decided to declare independence from Great Britain, their leaders knew they needed a special document. It would explain all the reasons they were willing to take this big step. A young man named Thomas Jefferson wrote a beautiful essay. It inspired people to change the world.