THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

Essential Question: What caused the French and Indian War (Seven Years War)?

The war was fought between the British Colonists and the French/Native Americans.
The land both the French and English colonies wanted to expand into was called the Ohio River Valley.

Summary of the French and Indian War:
First, France built a ford called Fort Duquesne.
so George Washington and his men built Fort Necessity.
The war began when the French attacked and captured Fort Necessity in 1756.
At first, France won many battles because they had help from the Native Americans.
However, a change in Britain’s strategy allowed them to prevent supplies from reaching French troops and capturing several important French forts, including Fort Ticonderoga.
The War ended in 1763. Both sides signed the Treaty of Paris
which required France to give all of their land East of the Mississippi River to the British and all of their land West of the Mississippi River to Spain.

What caused the French and Indian War?

The French and Indian War was caused because of the tensions between the English colonists and the French who both wanted to settle in the Ohio River Valley. The French began building Forts to protect their claims in the area. The British demanded the French leave and they refused.
French and Indian War

The French and Indian War was a major war fought in the American Colonies between 1754 and 1763. The British gained significant territory in North America as a result of the war.

Who fought in the French and Indian War?
From the name of the war, you would probably guess that the French fought the Indians during the French and Indian War. Actually, the main enemies in the war were the French and the British. Both sides had American Indian allies. The French allied with several tribes including the Shawnee, Lenape, Ojibwa, Ottawa, and the Algonquin peoples. The British allied with the Iroquois, Catawba, and the Cherokee (for a time).

Where was it fought?
The war was fought mostly in the northeast along the border between the British colonies and the French Colonies of New France.

Leading up to the War
As the American colonies began to expand to the west, they came into conflict with the French. The first real conflict began when the French moved into the Ohio country and built Fort Duquesne on the Ohio River (where the city of Pittsburgh is today). It was over the construction of this fort that the first battle of the war took place.

Major Battles and Events
- General Braddock at Fort Duquesne (1755) - British General Braddock led 1500 men to take Fort Duquesne. They were ambushed and defeated by French and Indian soldiers.
- Massacre at Fort William Henry (1757) - The French took Fort William Henry. France's Indian allies killed around 150 British soldiers.
- Battle of Quebec (1759) - The British claimed a significant victory over the French and occupied Quebec City.
- Fall of Montreal (1760) - The city of Montreal falls to the British led by Field Marshal Jeffery Amherst. The fighting is nearly over in the American colonies.

End of the War and Results
The French and Indian War ended on February 10, 1763 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris. France was forced to give up all of its North American territory. Britain gained all of the land east of the Mississippi River and Spain gained the land west of the Mississippi.

Consequences
The French and Indian War had some major consequences on the future of the British colonies in America.
The French and Indian War

During the 1600s and 1700s, Great Britain, France, and Spain often fought one another to gain lands. They clashed in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

In North America, Great Britain and France both claimed the Ohio River Valley. British settlers wanted to farm the rich soil there, and the French wanted to trap beavers and trade the furs. Great Britain and France could not agree about which country should control these lands.

In 1754, the contest over the land along the Ohio River began a war that lasted almost ten years. Thousands of British soldiers, along with many colonists, fought against the French. Because many American Indian tribes were allies of the French, the British colonists called the conflict the French and Indian War. Other American Indian tribes, however, fought alongside the British.

During the beginning of the French and Indian War, Great Britain lost many battles. However, things changed in 1759 when British troops captured Quebec City in Canada. By 1760, the French had lost control of Canada. Finally, in 1763, the French surrendered to the British. Under the terms of the Treaty of Paris (peace agreement in 1763), France gave up its land claims in present-day Canada to Great Britain. The British also won the land between the Mississippi River and the Appalachian Mountains.

Although the war gave the British more land, it also created huge problems for them. Most important, it left Great Britain with debts, or unpaid bills. The British national debt had almost doubled by the end of the war.

Why was this war called the French and Indian War?

The English Colonists named the war the “French and Indian War” because that is who they fought against.

How did the British want to use the land in the Ohio River Valley?

The British wanted to use the Ohio River Valley for farming.

How did the French want to use the land in the Ohio River Valley?

The French wanted to use the Ohio River Valley to capture beavers and trade fur.

What were the positive outcomes of the war for Britain?

After the war, England gained a lot of additional land when they took control of France’s territory.

What was the big negative impact of the war for Britain?

The war cost a lot of money for England, so they doubled their national debt by the end of the war and owed a lot of money.
Essential Question: What impact did the French and Indian War have on England, France, and the American Colonies?

The French and Indian War had negative impacts for the French and both positive and negative impacts for the English and American Colonies. France lost the war, which caused them to have to give up their land to the English. The English and American Colonies gained a lot of land after the war, which meant they had access to a lot more natural resources and land to settle and expand. However, the war was costly for England and they owed a lot of money.