**Background Information**

- **Election of 1808**
  - Madison (Republican Party) is elected as 5th President of USA
  - Much like Thomas Jefferson
  - Supported by south, west, and farmers
  - Father of Constitution

**Madison’s Foreign Policy**

- **Britain and France at War**
  - Both had laws that supported the attack of American Merchant shipping
  - Britain: Orders of Council
    - All ships on route to Europe must stop in England and be searched first
  - France: Berlin-Milan Decrees
    - All ships that stop in Britain will be sunk
Solution

- **Embargo Act**
  - Did not work!
  - Hurt Americans more than the Europeans, Madison needs a different approach

- **Macon Act 1810**
  - USA will trade with the country that repeals their laws and promises not to trade with the other
  - (*we can't lose, trading with one is better than none!*
  - France repeals their law quickly
  - British Parliament takes too long to repeal their law, leads to bad US-UK relations

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Battle of Tippecanoe (Indiana, 1811)

- **Tecumseh**
  - Forms Shawnee Confederation to fight Americans in the West
  - Armed by British
  - Believes that the white man is responsible for all the Native Americans problems
  - **Gen. William Henry Harrison**
    - Governor of Indiana Territory
    - Represents feeling of "The only good Indian is a dead one"

- **The Battle**
  - Tecumseh plots to kill Harrison after they meet
  - Battle is fought near town of Tippecanoe
  - The Prophet told the Shawnee people they would not be harmed in battle
  - Many were killed, Tecumseh’s army disbands, The Prophet loses his following
  - Harrison wins and destroys many Indian Villages
  - Harrison becomes a hero, Tecumseh moves to Canada

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Reasons for the War of 1812

- **"War Hawks"**
  - Congressmen from West who want new land and war
  - Want Canada, Florida, and Cuba

- **Tradition Attachment to France**
  - Because of help during American Revolution

- **Indians**
  - Aided and instigated by Britain

- **Impressment**
  - England captures US Sailors and forces them to serve in British Navy

- **Orders of Council repealed just two days before Declaration of War**
  - Didn’t reach US in time
  - England already fighting with Napoleon in Europe
  - Most people in New England don’t want war
  - USA is broke, army is not prepared
1812
- Madison re-elected
- Supported in South
- United States invades Canada
  - 3-Pronged Attack!
- Attack at Detroit / Niagara / Lake Champlain
  - All three fail, US surrenders Detroit
  - Some small naval victories for US

1813
- USA Burns Toronto
- USS Chesapeake captured by HMS Shannon
  - Captured outside of Boston because of Blockade
  - "Don't Give Up the Ship" – Capt. Lawrence's dying words
- Battle of Lake Erie
  - Perry builds fleet in Erie, PA
  - Battle fought in Put-in-Bay, Ohio
  - Major USA victory "We have met the enemy and they are ours!"
- England Blockades US Coast
  - impressment
- Battle of Thames
  - Harrison attacks retreating British/Indians
  - Tecumseh dies in battle

1814
- British Burn Washington
  - Capitol, White House, other buildings
  - Dolly Madison saves portrait of G. Washington
- Battle of Ft. McHenry
  - Fort withstands British bombardment
  - Francis Scott Key writes poem while prisoner on a British ship
  - Flag can be seen at Museum of American History in D.C. – parts of flag are missing because parts were buried with soldiers from fort
- Treaty of Ghent
  - Both sides stop fighting, borders return to where they were prior to the war
  - Nationalism soars in USA
  - "Second War for Independence"
  - Europe recognizes USA as a "Real Nation"
  - Indian troubles end for awhile, impressment ends
1815

- **Battle of New Orleans**
  - Very Strategic, Part 3 of English attack
  - Andrew Jackson leads his men to New Orleans
  - He's aided by pirates
  - Defeats British after war was already over, word just hadn't reached the South
  - English lose 2,000 of 8,000 in frontal Assault
  - Biggest American Victory of the War!
  - Andrew Jackson becomes War Hero!

- **Aftermath**
  - Nationalism starts to replace Sectionalism
  - "I was a New Yorker, but now I'm an American!"
  - Before 1812, most art, books, etc. was purchased from Europe
  - Now Americans started to create their own
    - "Webster's Dictionary"