

# The Enlightenment Activity

**Leading to the Enlightenment** (Define each—use your note in your portfolio and/or your phone in necessary)

1. Absolutism-
2. Divine Right-
3. Mercantilism-
4. Scientific Revolution-
5. Protestant Reformation-

## The Enlightenment

1. How do you think scientists used reason to explain the laws of nature? (hint: think of gravity and natural law associated with it. How did they discover the law of gravity?—ask me if need help)
2. Why do you think the Enlightenment was called “the Age of \_\_\_\_\_”?
3. What is one natural law that works in either: government, religion, economics, or education? (hint: a government law might be that if a ruler is too overbearing/ unfair → the people will rebel)

## England a Model for the Enlightenment

4. Which of the reasons do you feel was the most significant for explaining why Enlightened philosophers used England as an example? Why?
5. How might the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 reasons led to the production of the 5<sup>th</sup> reason (prosperity, stability, and loyal citizens)?

## John Locke

6. Think about the English Civil War, Cromwell’s Commonwealth, the restoration of the monarchy, and the Glorious Revolution. Locke lived through all of this. How do you think it impacted his philosophy about government and power (read the rest of the chart to help you answer this)?
7. Natural Rights =
8. What did Locke feel the government’s purpose was?

## The Enlightenment



**Scientific Revolution paved the way for the Enlightenment**



**Age of Reason—height in mid-1700s**

- Philosophers saw that scientists were using reason to explain the laws of nature
- Began looking for laws governing human behavior—wanted to apply reason to all aspects of society
- (government, religion, economics, education)

## England a Model for Enlightenment



**Permitted religious toleration**



**Relative freedom of press & free speech**



**Limited authority of monarchy w/ Parliament**



**Courts protected citizens**



**Produced prosperity, stability, & loyal citizens**



## John Locke

**British philosopher—1600s—lived through English Civil War**

**Believed people can learn from mistakes and improve**

**Criticized absolute monarchies and favored self-government**

**Natural rights = all people were born free and had these three rights: life, liberty, and property**

**Government’s purpose—to protect natural rights**

- If a govern. failed to do so, the people could over throw the govern.

## Philosophes

9. Think back to the last unit. Why do you suppose so many philosophes came from France? (ask me if you need help)
10. Which of the five Enlightenment Concepts do you feel was the most impactful to people at the time? Why?
11. Which do you think is most impactful today? Why?

## Philosophes (French for philosophers)

- **Paris** became the place for discussion of politics and ideas
- **Applied reason to all aspects of life**

### Five Enlightenment Concepts:

<b>Reason</b>	truth discovered through reason; absence of intolerance, bigotry, or prejudice
<b>Nature</b>	good and reasonable; natural laws of economics & politics
<b>Happiness</b>	if lived by natural laws = happy (medieval thought—should accept misery)
<b>Progress</b>	believe in progress in society; society could be perfected
<b>Liberty</b>	through reason, believed society could be set free

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## Notes on Enlightenment: (we will take these in class)

### Important Philosophes

1. Voltaire
2. Montesquieu
3. Denis Diderot

### Impact of the Enlightenment