



## DUNMORE'S DECLARATION

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### BACKGROUND

*Read the following prompt followed by the population profile for people of African descent. Then, visit the Museum of the American Revolution's Virtual Tour and explore the galleries entitled "War in the South" and "Sometimes Freedom Wore a Red Coat".*

*Virginia's royal governor, John Murray, Lord Dunmore, issued a proclamation in response to information that rebellious colonists had begun forming armies and attacking British troops. This announcement, known as Dunmore's Proclamation, offered freedom to any person enslaved by rebels who could bear arms for the King. Though the Proclamation was a call to arms, women and children as well as men flocked to Dunmore's location.*

### NEW LEARNING

*Record information you learn about the experience of enslaved people in the American South using the space below.*

### PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR SHOES

*Try to imagine what an enslaved person would have needed to consider before deciding whether or not to respond to Dunmore's Proclamation and go fight for King George III. Then answer the questions below.*

1. How might things like family connections, distance to Dunmore's meeting point, age, risk of capture and consequences, etc., have impacted his or her decision? What other factors might an enslaved person have considered?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What would you have done if you were an enslaved person living in Virginia who heard about Dunmore's Proclamation? Explain your reasoning.