Name _____

The History of Independence Day

Independence Day is a holiday celebrated each year on July 4th. Its origins date back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. America was originally a colony of Britain. The colonists argued and fought for their rights but the British refused. The Continental Congress voted in favor of independence from Britain. The delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a document drafted by Thomas Jefferson, to present to King George III. The British rejected their claim and they went to war.

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists held annual celebrations of the king's _____ s.
Afte _____
bonf _____ ad
the [_____

For t _____ n't
celeb _____ nd
John Adams on July 4, 1826 some promoted the idea of July 4 as an important date to celebrate. In 1870 the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday.

1. The holiday was dated back to _____ .

2. Thomas Jefferson drafted the _____ .

3. Colonists celebrated by _____ .

4. It was made a federal holiday in _____ .