

# Simple Early America Costume Ideas for Kids

These easy and respectful Early America costume ideas use simple household items. They're perfect for homeschool parties, Colonial Day, or history dress-up events — comfortable, creative, and educational!

## Colonial Boy / Settler

- White button-up shirt or plain T-shirt with folded collar
- Dark pants or khakis (rolled up at the knees if possible)
- Long socks and black shoes
- Vest: cut armholes in a brown pillowcase or old T-shirt
- Paper tricorn hat (folded newspaper or black paper)
- Optional: cardboard 'musket' or toy tool

## Colonial Girl / Settler

- Plain long dress or long skirt and blouse
- Apron made from a white pillowcase or tea towel
- Bonnet: fold a white pillowcase or paper into a cap
- Optional: shawl or blanket over shoulders
- Basket or wooden spoon prop

## Revolutionary Soldier / Minuteman

- Blue or gray shirt with tan pants
- Belt or scarf around the waist
- Paper or cardboard tricorn hat
- Paper 'epaulettes' (shoulder decorations) taped to shirt
- Optional: toy flag or rolled-up 'scroll'

## Colonial Lady / Patriot Woman

- Long skirt and blouse
- Apron and bonnet (white pillowcase or kitchen towel)
- Shawl or scarf tied around shoulders
- Optional: carry a small book or rolled paper 'letter'

## **Native American–Inspired Nature Costume (Respectful & Simple)**

- Brown T-shirt or pillowcase made into a tunic (cut holes for arms and neck)
- Twine or string belt
- Headband: braided yarn or ribbon
- Paper or felt feathers taped to headband
- Optional: necklace made of paper beads or pasta
- Focus on nature-inspired designs — avoid specific tribal symbols or regalia

## **Farmer / Pioneer**

- Plaid shirt or plain long-sleeve top
- Jeans or overalls
- Straw hat or wide-brimmed hat
- Bandana tied around neck
- Optional: toy pitchfork, basket, or stuffed animal ‘farm pet’

## **Betsy Ross / Seamstress**

- Long dress or skirt with apron
- White bonnet or scarf around hair
- Small piece of fabric or paper ‘flag’ to hold or sew
- Optional: spool of thread or plastic sewing needle prop

## **Colonial Sailor**

- White or blue shirt
- Dark pants rolled up at the bottom
- Bandana or scarf tied around neck
- Paper sailor hat (folded newspaper works perfectly!)
- Optional: cardboard telescope or toy ship

## **Town Crier**

- Button-up shirt and vest
- Paper tricorne hat
- Scroll (rolled paper tied with ribbon)
- Optional: bell or cup to ‘ring’ for announcements

## **Inventor / Scholar (Benjamin Franklin Style)**

- White shirt with dark vest or jacket
- Paper glasses (cut from construction paper)
- Rolled paper 'invention plans'
- Optional: gray wig made from cotton balls glued to a headband

*Tip: These costumes are meant to spark imagination and historical curiosity while keeping things simple, respectful, and fun!*