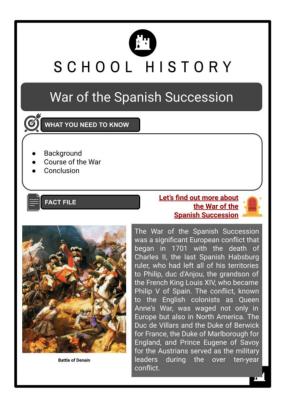
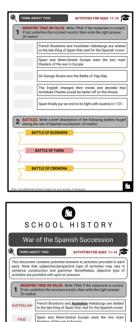


SCHOOL HISTORY





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SCHOOL HISTORY

War of the Spanish Succession



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

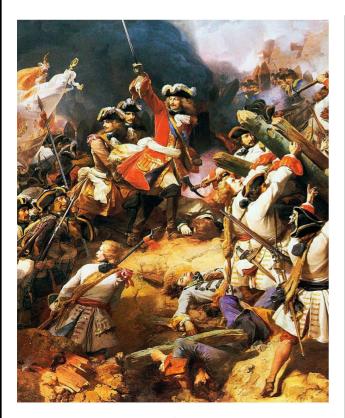
- Background
- Course of the War
- Conclusion



FACT FILE

Let's find out more about the War of the Spanish Succession





Battle of Denain

The War of the Spanish Succession was a significant European conflict that began in 1701 with the death of Charles II, the last Spanish Habsburg ruler, who had left all of his territories to Philip, duc d'Anjou, the grandson of the French King Louis XIV, who became Philip V of Spain. The conflict, known to the English colonists as Queen Anne's War, was waged not only in Europe but also in North America. The Duc de Villars and the Duke of Berwick for France, the Duke of Marlborough for England, and Prince Eugene of Savoy for the Austrians served as the military leaders during the over ten-year conflict.

BACKGROUND

It was evident that King Charles II of Spain could not have children since he had been psychologically and physically ill since a very early age. As a result, the question of who would inherit the Spanish kingdoms—which encompassed not just Spain but also dominions in Italy, the Low Countries, and the Americas—became highly contested. The French Bourbons and the Austrian Habsburgs, both royal houses that were related to the late King of Spain, vied for the Spanish crown.



The issue of the inheritance was contentious after the death of King Charles II. The French Bourbons and the Austrian Habsburgs both claimed the Spanish throne, with Louis, the Grand Dauphin, being the most legitimate successor as the son of King Louis XIV of France and Spanish Princess Maria Theresa, who was also Charles II's older half-sister. However, his inheritance of both the French and Spanish realms would have resulted in a large empire that threatened the balance of power in Europe, making him a problematic choice.

Charles II

Leopold I, the Holy Roman Emperor, was the alternate candidate for the Spanish throne. He was a first cousin of the King of Spain, his mother being a sister of Philip IV, Charles II's father. Leopold's claim to the Spanish throne would have reunited the powerful Spanish-Austrian Habsburg empire of century, making him a formidable candidate. In 1668, the Spanish territories were partitioned between the Bourbons Habsburgs, despite Philip IV's will stating that the Austrians were the rightful heirs. However, in 1689, when William III of England sought the Emperor's aid in the War of the Grand Alliance against France, the Emperor promised to support his claim to the undivided Spanish empire.



Leopold I





THINK ABOUT THIS!

ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 11-14



MODIFIED TRUE OR FALSE. Write TRUE if the statement is correct.

If not, underline the incorrect word/s then write the right answer.

(X marks)

French Bourbons and Australian Habsburgs are related to the late King of Spain that vied for the Spanish crown

Spain and West-Central Europe were the two main theaters of the war in Europe

Sir George Rooke won the Battle of Vigo Bay

The English changed their minds and decided that Archduke Charles would be better off on the throne

Spain finally put an end to its fight with Austria in 1721



THINK ABOUT THIS!

ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 14-16

)	

1	the war of Spanish succession finally came to an end. (X marks)
_	



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