

# The Salem Witch Trials ( . . . . - . . . . )

## HOW IT ALL STARTED



One freezing day in January of 1692, something strange happened inside the Parris household of Salem Village, Massachusetts. .....  
..... (on the left) and her cousin ..... (on the right), aged 9 and 11 began to .....their bodies into

strange shapes, speaking in words that made no sense. Betty's alarmed father, the Reverend Parris, immediately called on a doctor called William Griggs to examine the girls. The doctor's diagnosis? The pair had been .....ed.

## WITCH .....

At the time, Salem Village was a small New England town populated mostly by Puritans, or religious individuals with a belief in the ..... The Puritan way of life was strict, and even small differences in attitude made people suspicious. Upon hearing about the Parris girls' behaviour, much of the Puritan community agreed that the duo had been victims of .....

Betty and Abigail blamed three townswomen, including Tituba, a Native American slave who worked in the Parris household. Tituba was known to have played ..... games, which were strictly forbidden by the Puritans. The other two accused women, Sarah Good and Sarah Osbourne, weren't well liked by the community either.



An elderly woman accused of witchcraft is taken to the ..... by an officer of the law.

A .....  
 ..... against  
 an accused witch  
 during one of the  
 many witchcraft trials  
 of the 1690s.

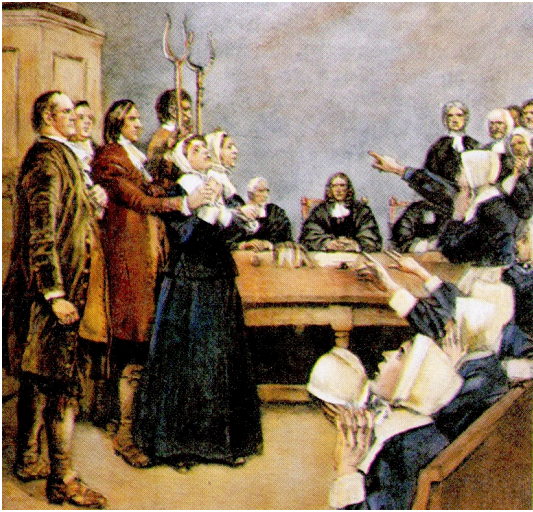


## ON TRIAL

The three women were thrown in ..... to await trial for practicing witchcraft. During the trial, Tituba confessed to having seen the devil and also .....d that there was a ....., or group, of witches in the Salem Village area. Good and Osbourne insisted they were innocent. The court didn't believe them, and found all three women ..... practicing witchcraft. The punishment was .....

As the weeks passed, other young girls claimed to have been infected by witchcraft too. They accused other townspeople of torturing them, and a few of the so-called witches on trial even named others as witches.

Women were not the only ones believed to be witches—men and children were accused too.



## An artwork representing

Sarah Good and Sarah  
Osborne on trial.

George Burroughs, a .....,  
was one of the few men accused of  
witchcraft during the trials. This  
illustration shows him speaking at  
Witches Hill, the site of his  
execution.



By the end of the trials in 1693, 24  
people had died, some in jail but most  
by hanging.

## THE HYSTERIA FADES

....., after seeming to realize how unfair the trials were to the accused, the court  
refused to hear any more charges of witchcraft. All of the accused were finally pardoned in  
1711. This witch craze brought lasting changes to the United States legal system and the way  
..... and witnesses were treated. The Salem Village hangings were the last executions  
of accused witches in the United States.