

## Notes for the Parent or Teacher

This newspaper pack can be used in a number of ways. The pages can be printed on regular paper for drafting the articles and then printed on other various types of paper that give a more authentic feel. The images used in the pack are also repeated on extra pages at the end of the unit in case they are needed for other projects or formats.

"The Big Picture" provides students a very brief summary of events in order to help them understand how the events and people depicted were related, but it is meant only to serve as a springboard for further discovery as students investigate and complete their assignments.

Also, as explained in the student introduction, sometimes the artist's rendition of an event does not match what history records happened. This is a great opportunity to help the student learn about investigating the facts of history and weighing conflicting sources and evidence.

In a classroom setting, you may wish to assign one article to each student and then create a class newspaper or presentation of the events studied.

A template for a newspaper page. It features a large rectangular box with rounded corners for a main image or headline. Below this box are five horizontal lines for text. A large, diagonal 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid on the entire page.

## Reporting From the American Revolution Instructions

It's time to go on assignment to the American Revolution. You'll need a few tools to get started. First, read the section called "The Big Picture." This introduces you to the time period and helps you see how your assignments are connected to each other.

Next are your assignments. Each assignment includes a small picture that matches the large picture on a newspaper page you'll find in this pack.

The next tool you have been given are ten sets of pages for newspaper articles. Each set is made up of three pages. The first has a large picture. There is room at the very top for the name of your newspaper and space for the issue number and date beneath it. The large picture is a picture related to your assignment (but be careful—some of these field artists don't always depict the information accurately, so be sure to do your own research and determine what happened at the event). Write your incredible, eye-catching headline beneath the picture. Then you can start your news story. Fill the first page. Then, depending on how long your story will be, fill the next two pages or jump to the third page that has the small box in the corner. Finish your article on this page. In the small box, write something such as a short bio of the author of the article, an advertisement, a help-wanted ad, etc. But be sure to keep in line with the time period. You can't have an ad for a television before one would have been invented!

Write an article for each of your assignments. When you are done, you will have a great record of the American Revolution!

## Reporting From the American Revolution

### The Big Picture

The American Revolution began because of problems between Britain and the thirteen colonies in America. After the British fought the French and Indian War against France in America, they needed to raise money to pay for the war. Britain decided to tax the colonists to raise the money they needed. The colonists argued that the government should not be able to tax them without the interests of the colonists being fairly represented in the government. Britain didn't listen. Riders, such as Paul Revere, warned the colonists that the British were marching on Lexington and Concord. When Britain tried to confiscate weapons that the colonists were storing in case they were needed, fighting broke out at Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts. The colonists sent the Olive Branch Petition to King George III to try to settle their complaints, but the king declared them in rebellion. Boston remained a hotbed. The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought, and the patriots threatened the British from Dorchester Heights.

Fighting continued in many areas in the northern colonies. With the help of artillery brought by troops under the command of Henry Knox, the British were driven from Boston. The next major city to be attacked by the British was New York City. There was also fighting in the south in battles such as the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge where the patriots and British sympathizers called Loyalists, or Tories, fought. The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776. John Hancock was the first to sign it. Near the end of 1776, General George Washington took his troops to New Jersey, and in December, he escaped the British by going to Pennsylvania. He attacked Trenton, New Jersey, where the Hessians were stationed on the night of December 25, 1776. After winning that battle, he attacked Princeton in January 1777, winning there also. This gave the patriots new hope in the war.

There was fighting throughout 1777, with Bernardo de Gálvez, acting governor of the Spanish colony of Louisiana, helping the patriots where possible. Many of the people of the Iroquois nations helped the British. After winning the Battle of Brandywine, the British were able to occupy Philadelphia, forcing the Continental Congress to move to York, Pennsylvania.

General Washington took his troops to Valley Forge to spend the winter of 1777. They were joined by Baron von Steuben of Prussia in February, who worked through the remaining part of the winter training the troops. They were also joined by the Marquis de Lafayette while at Valley Forge. During 1778, France entered the war on the side of the patriots.

As fighting continued, several events occurred in the southern colonies in the 1780s. Patriot General Gates was not able to win the Battle of Camden in South Carolina, which led to an extreme low in the morale of the Continental Army. Soon after, a further blow hit the patriots when word reached them of Benedict Arnold's treason.

Major General Nathanael Greene was put in charge of the Continental Army in the south, replacing General Gates. Fighting continued throughout South Carolina with the battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse caused British General Cornwallis to withdraw his men to Wilmington, North Carolina, to give them time to rest.

In 1781, General Cornwallis moved his troops to Yorktown, Virginia, with plans to move them north again. However, before he could accomplish this, a French fleet stopped an escape by water while General Washington and French Lieutenant General Jean Rochambeau led troops down from the northern colonies to stop the British from escaping by land.

After fierce fighting and a failed attempt to escape by General Cornwallis and his men, Cornwallis asked for surrender terms. About one-fourth of the British forces in America surrendered under General Cornwallis, a new group of ministers gained power in Britain, and peace talks began.

The Treaty of Paris to end the war was signed in 1783 and confirmed by America and the British in 1784.

## Reporting From the American Revolution On Assignment

Use the following questions to get you started and then add more questions of your own.



**On Assignment: The Battle of Lexington**  
Report on the circumstances surrounding the battle. What caused it? What happened at the battle? What was the outcome, and what happened afterward?



**On Assignment: Interview Henry Knox**  
Interview Henry Knox, the colonel responsible for bringing captured British artillery equaling about 60 tons (55,000 kg) from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston, a distance of about 300 miles (480 km). This artillery was needed by General Washington to help drive the British from Boston.



**On Assignment: The Battle of Bunker Hill**  
Report on the circumstances surrounding the battle. What caused it? What happened at the battle? What was the outcome, and what happened afterward?





SAMPLE

Blank lined paper with a large rectangular box on the right side for drawing or writing.