

American Revolution

Lesson Plan for Educators

Subject: American Revolution

Grade Level: 5-6

In-Class Time: Approximately 4 sessions (50 minutes each)

Lesson Goals: Teach students about the American Revolution

Student Goals: Identify why the war started, the major players and location, and how the war ended.

Student Objectives:

1. Explain why the American Revolution started.
2. Explain how the war was fought (weapons, transportation, etc) and the locations of the important battles.
3. Identify the important people in the war with illustrations of their uniforms (you provide, downloaded from Internet).

Materials Needed for Project:

- Computer with Internet for accessing Web sites
- Classroom textbook and other acceptable educational resources (encyclopedia, reference book, magazine article, etc.)
- Photos/Illustrations of soldiers in their uniforms (you provide, downloaded from Internet)
- Handout for possible Web site research and resources

Prerequisites:

Ability to use a computer keyboard and to access Internet Web sites

Ability to organize information into a diorama or display.

Anticipatory Set:

- Begin classroom discussion on the American Revolution and what the students' impressions are of why and where it happened. Ask the students if they know how it may have affected our world today.
- Show students the location of where the important battles took place (on the globe), in relation to where they live, and/or by going on-line to see maps of the battles. A good Web site for this is <http://www.harlingen.isd.tenet.edu/coakhist/amrev.html#BATTLES>.
- Tell the students what they will be learning in this section: why and how the American Revolution started, plus the important battles that were fought.
- Tell the students by the end of the section they will be able to identify the main reasons for the American Revolution.
- Create a K-W-L chart (copy form at end of this Lesson Plan):
 - What I **Know**, What I **Want** to know, What I **Learned** (at the end of the lesson)
 - Utilize this chart individually at first, then in small groups, then finally with the whole class

Procedures:

Session 1: Use this class session for background information on the American Revolution.

During the lecture, involve the students with various forms of active participation. Students should take notes. Ask each student to draw what they think a battle in the American Revolution

might have looked like. After that, bring up a Web site or show photos of the soldier's uniforms. Ask questions to find out if the students are retaining what they've learned. While it is fresh in their minds, have them write down information about what they have learned. Challenge the students to find out if they have any ancestors that may have fought in the American Revolution. It might be fun for the class to see personal writings, photos, paintings and other articles of the time (excluding weapons of course).

Session 2: Take this class session to teach about some of the important battles of the American Revolution. Teach about the type of transportation and the weapons that were used in the battle and some of the crude types of warfare that the soldiers fought with. Prepare some handouts with photos or illustrations of the American and British uniforms. After the lecture, ask the students to draw a picture of one form of transportation and one weapon that might have been used in the battles. Have them make a list or a drawing of the supplies the soldiers might have needed. Prepare a handout for research Web sites and resources for research.

Session 3: Hand out the American Revolution Diorama Assignment Sheet (at the end of the Lesson Plan) that will outline the project. Review the material so that each child understands the project. This assignment can be created during class time with your help, or students can build the diorama at home and turn it in by your established due date. During the class sessions, hand out photos or charts that show the location of important battles. It might be good to give them four or five important players in the American Revolution as well.

Session 4: Do a brief run-through of important terms and information the students have learned and then hand out an assessment in the form of a quiz or drawing. At the end of the session, have the students fill out a K-W-L form again.

Assessment of Learning:

- Prepare a quiz for the last class session on the American Revolution.
- Ask the students to give two reasons for the start of the American Revolution, name the parties in the war, name two important battles and other important factors.
- Ask the students to identify the American, French and British soldiers from pictures of their uniforms.
- Have the students complete the K –W – L Chart, filling in the last column: What I Learned

Internet resources:

<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/>

<http://www.pocanticohills.org/revolution/revolution.htm>

<http://edtech.kennesaw.edu/web/amrevol.html>

http://www.picadome.fcps.net/lab/currl/amer_rev/default.htm

<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/revolutionarywar.htm>

http://cybersleuth-kids.com/sleuth/History/US_History/American_Revolution/People/index.htm

Reading resources:

Women In The American Revolution, Berkin, Carol, Jackdaw Publishers, 1994.

Revolutionary War, Carratello, John and Patty, Teacher Created Materials, Inc., 1991.

The American Revolution, Johnson, David, Jackdaw Publications, 1998.

World Almanac of the American Revolution, Purcell and Burg, World Almanac, 1992.

Colonial Spirit of '76, Smith, Kay, Ferguson Publishing.

The Revolutionary Soldier: 1775-1783, Wilbur, Keith, Globe, Pequot Press, 1997.

Those Remarkable Women of the Revolutionary War, Zeinert, Karen, Millbrook Press, 1996.

American Revolution Diorama Assignment Sheet

Your assignment is to create a diorama depicting battles or other elements of the American Revolution. This project will be due _____. The more detail that you add, the better grade you will receive. Complete one of the following:



1. Create a display of an important battle of the Revolution.
2. Create a display of a soldier's uniform. You may choose any soldier's uniform, from the American, British or French troops. Include the colors, the kind of cloth, what kind of shoes they wore and describe what kind of weapons they might have used (describe weapons with models, photos, your drawings or illustrations only).
3. Create a display of a type of transportation used in the war, such as a ship, horses, wagons or other transportation.

Clearly put the name of your diorama at the top or on the front, either on a background or a label. Label the important parts of your project. Add your name, teacher's name, classroom and date on the front of your diorama. They will be on display for the entire school to see.

Extra Credit

There will be extra credit for creating a timeline of the American Revolution, from the first day to the last day. There must be at least 10 different entries on the timeline. Go to www.scenearama.com to find information and products to help you create your diorama (be sure to have an adult help you with this).

<p>K WHAT I KNOW</p>	<p>W WHAT I WANT TO KNOW</p>	<p>L WHAT I LEARNED</p>