

Essential Question: Did the American Revolution accomplish its goals?

Focus Questions

- What sequence of events led to the colonies declaring independence from Great Britain?
- How did colonists, African Americans, and Native Americans choose sides during the Revolutionary War?
- How did specific individuals, battles, and geography shape the outcome of the Revolutionary War?
- What role did New York City play in the Revolutionary War?
- How did the political, economic, and social outcomes of the Revolution affect different groups of people?

Connected Academic Vocabulary

boycott	propaganda	militia	mercantilism	Patriot	Loyalist	tyranny
unalienable	revolution	representation	treaty	declare	grievance	treason
protest	legislation	independence	quartering	dissident	law	act
govern	government	liberty	repeal	rebel	tax	

Student Outcomes

What the student should know and be able to do by the end of the unit:

Content, Concepts, Understandings, and Skills

- Understand the colonial demand to have representation in their government.
- Explain the causes that led to the American Revolution.
- Analyze how the Declaration of Independence made a case for revolution and shaped our government and other modern democracies.
- Recognize that colonial actions were treasonous.
- Evaluate multiple perspectives from both the Loyalist and Patriot sides, and the influence of propaganda and point of view.
- Identify key leaders and evaluate how the decisions they made affected the outcome of the war.
- Research and analyze information about the American Revolution from diverse sources to gain an informed understanding of events.
- Conduct research to learn about the role of women during wartime.
- Determine the stake that slaves had in the outcome of the war.
- Describe the effect of geography on the development of the war.
- Examine events that occurred in New York and determine their importance.
- Connect themes from the American Revolution to current events and/or contemporary American culture.
- Gather and cite evidence from a variety of sources to support analysis, research, and reflection.

Performance Tasks and Formative Assessments

Mid-Unit:

- Students create a broadside to demonstrate their understanding of the causes of the American Revolution.

End Unit:

- Student teams design a five-borough tour of the Revolutionary War sites in New York City in order to demonstrate their knowledge of the importance of New York in the birth of our nation.