

Map Activity: *Major Battles of the American Revolution*

Directions

1. Set up a key in the lower left hand corner of your map. The solid arrow represents British troop movements. Trace over this arrow with a red colored pencil. Use the same colored pencil to fill in the battle symbol (explosion) in the key that represents a British victory.
2. Find the dotted arrow in the key that represents American troop movements. Trace over this arrow with a blue colored pencil. Use the same colored pencil to fill in the battle symbol in the key that represents an American victory.
3. Label the Atlantic Ocean using all capital letters. Label the five Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico using upper and lower case letters.
4. Near the key, draw in a compass rose, record "Not Drawn to Scale," and record your name and date. At the top of the map, record the title "Major Battles of the American Revolution."
5. Use pencil to complete your map. Read the brief description and follow the numbered map directions in italics.

Battles

Battles of Lexington and Concord

General Thomas Gage ordered British troops to capture Samuel Adams and John Hancock, as well as arms and ammunition. Two brief battles then ensued.

- Map:*
1. Trace Arrow 1 (British) from Boston to Lexington and Concord.
 2. Print April 1775 next to Lexington and Concord.
 3. Color the battle symbol to represent American victory.

Battle of Bunker Hill

The British attempted to drive colonial militiamen off of Breed's (Bunker) Hill. The third British assault on the hill succeeded when the Americans ran out of ammunition. The British won the battle, but lost far more soldiers than the Patriots.

- Map:*
1. Print June 1775 next to Bunker Hill.
 2. Color the battle symbol to represent a British victory.

Invasion of Canada

Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys of Vermont, with the help of American General Benedict Arnold, captured the British forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point. The Americans invaded Canada hoping they could win the assistance of French-Canadians who disliked the British. American commander Richard Montgomery captured Montreal. Montgomery and Arnold then attacked Quebec during a blizzard on December 31, 1775, but were driven back. Montgomery was killed and Arnold was seriously wounded.

- Map:*
1. Next to Forts Ticonderoga and Crown Point, print Ethan Allen/Green Mountain Boys. Color the battle symbols to represent American victories and print May 1775.
 2. Trace Arrow 2 (Americans) from Fort Ticonderoga to Montreal. Print Montgomery next to the arrow and November 1775 next to Montreal.
 3. Color the battle symbol at Montreal to represent an American victory.
 4. Trace Arrow 3 to Quebec and print Montgomery next to it.
 5. Trace Arrow 4 from Boston to Quebec and print Arnold next to it.
 6. Color the battle symbol at Quebec to represent a British victory.
 7. Print December 1775 next to Quebec.

The British Withdraw from Boston

Two weeks after the Battle of Bunker Hill, General George Washington took command of the Continental Army in Boston. Cannon taken at Fort Ticonderoga was positioned on Dorchester Heights overlooking Boston Harbor. Fearing the cannon, British general William Howe, who had replaced General Gage, withdrew from Boston to

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Nova Scotia, Canada. Five months later, General Howe landed on Long Island with the intention of capturing New York City. He was met by General Washington, who had moved the Continental Army south from Boston.

Map:

1. Trace Arrow 5 from Boston to Nova Scotia and print Howe next to it.
2. Trace Arrow 6 to show the movement of British forces from Nova Scotia to Long Island. Print Howe next to it.

The British Capture New York City

Over the next four months, the British army won the battles of Long Island, New York, and White Plains. General Howe's powerful forces overwhelmed the smaller and poorly equipped American army. Howe missed several chances to pursue and destroy the retreating Americans. General Washington, using all of his skill as a commander, managed to escape into New Jersey.

Map:

1. Color the battle symbol to represent the British victories at Long Island, New York, and White Plains.
2. Print October 1776 next to the battle symbol.

Battles of Trenton and Princeton

New York City was now in the hands of the British. The ragged Continental Army was on the verge of defeat. Washington rallied the troops with a reading of *The Crisis* and two triumphs. Crossing the icy Delaware River on December 25, he surprised a large Hessian mercenary force at Trenton, New Jersey. A week later, he took Princeton. These victories boosted American spirits and attracted more men into the Continental Army.

Map:

1. Trace Arrow 7 to show Washington's retreat through New Jersey and subsequent attacks on Trenton and Princeton. Print Washington next to the arrow.
2. Color the battle symbols at Trenton and Princeton to represent American victories.
3. Print December 1776 next to Trenton and January 1777 next to Princeton.

Battles of Oriskany and Saratoga

The British, in 1777, planned to divide New England from the other colonies by capturing the Hudson River and New York State. But the British plan failed. British General St. Leger was defeated at the Battle of Oriskany. Instead of marching north to Albany, General Howe moved his army to Philadelphia, winning battles at Brandywine and Germantown against General Washington. General Burgoyne was defeated at the Battle of Saratoga by American forces commanded by General Horatio Gates. The news of the American victory at Saratoga convinced France to sign the Treaty of Alliance with the United States.

Map:

1. Trace Arrow 8 to Oriskany. Print St. Leger next to it.
2. Color the battle symbol to represent an American victory. Print August 1777 next to Oriskany.
3. Trace Arrow 9 from New York City to Philadelphia. Print Howe next to it.
4. Color the battle symbols at Brandywine and Germantown to represent British victories. Print September 1777 next to Brandywine and October 1777 next to Germantown.
5. Trace Arrow 10 to Saratoga. Print Burgoyne next to it.
6. Color the battle symbol at Saratoga to represent an American victory and print October 1777 and Gates next to it.

The British Leave Philadelphia

The Redcoats spent the winter of 1777-1778 in Philadelphia, the capital of the United States. Meanwhile, the Continental Army endured a difficult winter at nearby Valley Forge. By May, French soldiers and naval ships began arriving in the United States. British General Henry Clinton abandoned Philadelphia and moved the British forces back to New York City.

Map:

1. Print Continental Army: Winter 1778 next to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
2. In Box 1, along the right side of the map, print May 1778: Congress Ratifies the Treaty of Alliance with France.

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George Rogers Clark Conquers the Northwest

To end raids by British-allied Native Americans on the frontier, George Rogers Clark led a band of frontiersmen and captured the British forts at Kaskaskia and Vincennes. These victories helped Natives in the area decide to support the Americans.

- Map:
1. Trace Arrow 11 and print Clark next to it.
 2. Color the battle symbols at Kaskaskia and Vincennes to represent American victories.
 3. Print July 1778 next to Kaskaskia.
 4. Print February 1779 next to Vincennes.

The War at Sea

During the war, the small American navy tried to avoid battles with the powerful British Navy. Instead, they concentrated on disrupting Great Britain's trade. With the help of about 2,000 privateers, the Americans captured or destroyed 800 British ships. The most famous battle involved the "Bon Homme Richard," commanded by Captain John Paul Jones, and the British warship "Serapis." The Americans captured the "Serapis" after a long fight off the coast of Great Britain.

- Map:
1. In Box 2 along the right side of the map, print September 1779: John Paul Jones Captures the "Serapis."
 2. In the Atlantic Ocean, color the largest ship red to represent the British naval forces. Next to it, print British Navy.
 3. Color the smaller ship blue to represent the American naval forces. Next to it, print Continental Navy/Privateers.

The End of the War

Most of the fighting in the last years of the war took place in the South. The British navy captured the coastal cities of Savannah, Charlestown, and Wilmington. The British army, under General Charles Cornwallis, defeated American forces at Camden, South Carolina. The Continental Army, led by General Nathaniel Greene, won battles at King's Mountain, Cowpens, and Guilford Courthouse. Cornwallis encamped at Yorktown, Virginia. Washington and Lafayette marched to Yorktown with a large army. Meanwhile, a French fleet under Admiral de Grasse prevented the British Navy from rescuing Cornwallis. Surrounded on all sides and under a savage bombardment, Cornwallis surrendered, effectively ending the American Revolution. Two years later, in the Treaty of Paris, Great Britain recognized the independence of the United States.

- Map:
1. Color the battle symbols at Savannah (December 1778), Charleston (May 1780), Camden (August 1780), and Wilmington (February 1781) to represent British victories. Print the dates on the map.
 2. Color the battle symbols at King's Mountain (October 1780), Cowpens (January 1781), and Guilford Courthouse (March 1781) to represent American victories. Print the dates on the map.
 3. Arrow 12 shows Cornwallis' march through the South. Trace the arrow from Charleston to Yorktown, and print Cornwallis next to it.
 4. Print Greene next to Guilford Courthouse.
 5. Trace Arrow 13 and print Lafayette next to it.
 6. Trace Arrow 14 and print Washington next to it.
 7. Trace Arrow 15 and print Admiral de Grasse next to it.
 8. Color the battle symbol at Yorktown to represent an American victory. Print October 1781 next to it.
 9. In Box 3, print September 1783: The United States and Great Britain Sign the Treaty of Paris.