



On behalf of Splash! Publications, we would like to welcome you to *American Revolution Battles in North*, one of nine lessons in our *American Revolution Unit*. This lesson was designed by teachers with you and your students in mind.

THE FORMAT

Our goal is a lesson that you can use immediately. No comprehension questions to write, activities to create, or vocabulary words to define. Simply make copies of the lesson for your students and start teaching.

THE VOCABULARY

Our lessons feature words in bold type. We have included a Glossary to help students pronounce and define the words. Unlike a dictionary, the definitions in the Glossary are concise and written in context. Remember, we're teachers! Students will be exposed to these vocabulary words in the comprehension activities. They will also be tested on the vocabulary words with two quizzes at the end of the lesson.

Students will be responsible for filling out and studying their vocabulary cards. You may want to have students bring in a small box for storing their vocabulary cards. We don't have to tell you that incorporating these words into your Reading and Spelling programs will save time and make the words more meaningful for students.

THE LESSON PLAN

Before reading *Battles in the North*, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for ***adopted, alliance, allies, boundaries, capital, citizens, colonies, convinced, Congress, constitution, Continental Army, contribution, Declaration of Independence, defeat, delegates, founded, Great Britain, harbor, historians, invent, Loyalists, militia, minister, naval, New England, outnumbered, Patriots, port, privateers, retreat, Revolutionary War, surrender, united.***


After reading *Battles in the North*, students will:

- answer *Battles in the North* Reading Comprehension Questions.
- read about Benjamin Franklin and answer thought-provoking questions.
- use a grid system to locate Revolutionary forts and battle sites in the North.
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for *Battles in the North*.


NOTE: The answers to all activities and quizzes are at the end of the lesson.

OUR OTHER AMERICAN REVOLUTION LESSONS


The Thirteen Original Colonies, the French and Indian War, The Proclamation of 1763, Struggle for Power, Preparing for Battle, The Revolution Begins, The Declaration of Independence, Battles in the South.

**VOCABULARY CARD**

word: _____
definition: _____

**VOCABULARY CARD**

word: _____
definition: _____

**VOCABULARY CARD**

word: _____
definition: _____

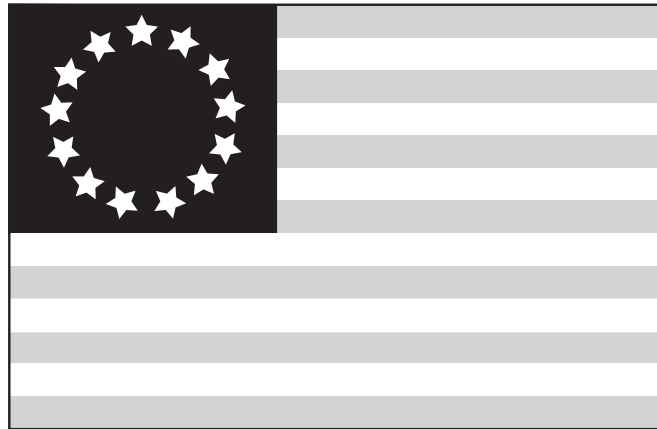
BATTLES IN THE NORTH

The Declaration of Independence was signed in the summer of 1776. After the signing, many things changed in America.

The thirteen original **colonies** joined together to form the United States of America. There were still many things to be decided about government, taxes, **boundaries**, and laws.

The **Revolutionary War** was also different after the Declaration of Independence was signed. The Americans were not just fighting for their rights. They were fighting for total independence from **Great Britain**.

Great Britain, on the other hand, was not simply trying to punish the colonists or teach them a lesson anymore. Great Britain was trying to completely crush the United States.



THE WAR IN THE NORTH

During the fall of 1776, things did not go well for the **Continental Army**. Great Britain had control of Canada. Just as the Americans feared, Great Britain used its position in Canada to take over New York. The British Army had over 30,000 well trained men. General Washington had just 20,000 men who were poorly trained and in need of weapons. Washington's men often went without food, pay, and proper clothing because the Continental Army was so poor.

The British attacked Long Island and drove the Americans across the East River into Manhattan. The British followed the Americans and took over the entire New York City area. The battle took almost all of General Washington's men. The British Army had control of the New York **Harbor**. The harbor could be used as a **port** for British ships to bring supplies and weapons to the British Army.

VICTORY IN TRENTON

In December 1776, General Washington took his last 3,000 men across the Delaware River and into Pennsylvania. The day after Christmas, Washington and his men attacked German Hessian (HESH•un) troops who were celebrating Christmas in Trenton, New Jersey. During the surprise attack, Washington's men captured almost 1,000 Hessians and killed their commander. The news of the victory at Trenton excited the **citizens** of the United States. As a result, thousands of Americans volunteered to fight in the war.

THE BATTLE OF SARATOGA

One of the biggest victories for the Continental Army fighting in the North came in the summer of 1777, during the Battle of Saratoga. The British planned to send troops from Canada to capture New York's Hudson River Valley. Capturing the Hudson River Valley would cut the **New England** region off from the rest of the states. The United States would be split into two parts, making it very weak. There would be no way to get soldiers or supplies from New England. Great Britain hoped that this would **defeat** the American armies once and for all.

General John Burgoyne (bur•GOIN) was the commander of the British forces in Canada. General Burgoyne was not prepared for the American **militia** (muh•LIH•shuh). When Burgoyne reached Saratoga, New York, his army of 9,000 men was **outnumbered** by the American troops. After a bloody battle, General Burgoyne was forced to **surrender**. The Americans took nearly 6,000 prisoners and a large supply of weapons.

CAPTURING THE AMERICAN CAPITAL

During the summer and fall of 1777, British troops led by General Lord Howe entered Pennsylvania. They took over the American **capital** in Philadelphia. The Continental Army tried to drive the British out of Pennsylvania. The British Army was too strong. The Americans were forced to **retreat** to their winter camp in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.



FAST FACTS

- ★ The Battle of Saratoga was actually two different battles known as the Battle of Freeman's Farm and the Battle of Bemis Heights.
- ★ During the Battle of Freeman's Farm, the British lost twice as many men as the Americans.
- ★ During the Battle of Bemis Heights, the British lost four times as many men as the Americans.

THE WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE

The winter at Valley Forge was a very difficult time for General George Washington and his 11,000 men. Bitter cold and little food or shelter took the lives of over 2,000 soldiers. Many of Washington's men did not even have shoes. Most of their horses and oxen died of starvation. The wagons with supplies had to be pulled by barefoot soldiers.

General Washington wrote to **Congress** asking for money and supplies.

Congress was not able to get the states to help Washington's army. The states were keeping most of what they had for their own militias. The only

good thing to come out of the terrible winter was that German officer Friedrich von Steuben volunteered to train the American soldiers at Valley Forge. When spring came, General Washington's troops left Valley Forge well trained and ready to fight.



FRANCE ENTERS THE WAR

France had been carefully watching the Revolutionary War since it started. French leaders had not forgotten what Great Britain had done to them during the French and Indian War. France secretly gave the United States loans, gifts of money, and weapons. It was too risky for France to openly help the Americans until they proved themselves in battle. The victory in the Battle of Saratoga **convinced** France to enter the war.

In 1778, France and the United States signed treaties of **alliance**. In the spring of 1778, the first French ships arrived in America. They were full of French soldiers and supplies. The British became very concerned and made plans to take over New York. General Washington and his newly trained troops kept that from happening. For the next three years, the British made very little progress in the North.

FAST FACTS

- ★ In 1776, the Second Continental Congress sent 70 year old Benjamin Franklin to France to ask King Louis XIV for supplies, money, and soldiers. France secretly sent supplies, but was not ready to enter the war.
- ★ A year later, in 1777, Benjamin Franklin returned to France and once again requested France's help. This time, France agreed to enter the war and help the United States. **Historians** agree that without France's soldiers and money, the Americans would have lost the war.


BATTLES IN THE NORTH

★ COMPREHENSION ★

Directions: Read each question carefully. Darken the circle for the correct answer.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Which of the following events happened <u>before</u> the Declaration of Independence was signed?</p> <p>A The thirteen original colonies became the United States of America.</p> <p>B George Washington took control of the Continental Army.</p> <p>C Great Britain took control of the New York Harbor.</p> <p>D The British attacked Long Island.</p> <p>2 How did the Declaration of Independence change the way Great Britain felt about the colonists?</p> <p>F Great Britain felt sorry for the colonists.</p> <p>G Great Britain wanted to help the colonists by sending money and supplies to the United States.</p> <p>H Great Britain wanted to crush the colonists and take control of the United States.</p> <p>J Great Britain agreed that the colonists should be independent and make their own rules.</p> <p>3 Which statement about George Washington's army is <u>true</u>?</p> <p>A They kept the British from taking control of New York City.</p> <p>B Lord Howe was put in charge of the Continental Army.</p> <p>C George Washington's army had more men in it than the British Army.</p> <p>D Washington's men were poorly trained.</p> | <p>4 After reading about the Winter at Valley Forge, you learn that –</p> <p>F the Continental Army had to share Valley Forge with the British Army</p> <p>G it was too hot for the soldiers to train</p> <p>H bitter cold, little food, and no money for supplies made the winter very difficult</p> <p>J a British soldier volunteered to train the American soldiers</p> <p>5 Which of the following is an example of a <u>Secondary Source</u>?</p> <p>A The autobiography of George Washington.</p> <p>B The original map of the Hudson River Valley.</p> <p>C A piece of the first American flag.</p> <p>D An encyclopedia article about the Battle of Saratoga.</p> <p>6 Which battle convinced the French to enter the Revolutionary War?</p> <p>F The Battle in Trenton.</p> <p>G The Battle of Saratoga.</p> <p>H The Battle of Canada.</p> <p>J The Battle of Bunker Hill.</p> |
|---|--|

Answers

READING

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 (A) (B) (C) (D) | 4 (F) (G) (H) (J) |
| 2 (F) (G) (H) (J) | 5 (A) (B) (C) (D) |
| 3 (A) (B) (C) (D) | 6 (F) (G) (H) (J) |

★ ★ BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ★ ★

Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, Massachusetts. He was one of 17 children. His father made candles and soap in Boston. At first, Ben's father hoped that his son would attend Harvard College and become a **minister**.

Unfortunately, Benjamin's parents couldn't afford to send him to college. Mr. Franklin decided instead that Benjamin would one day take over the candle and soap shop. Ben, however, hated making candles and soap. He loved to read and **invent** things.

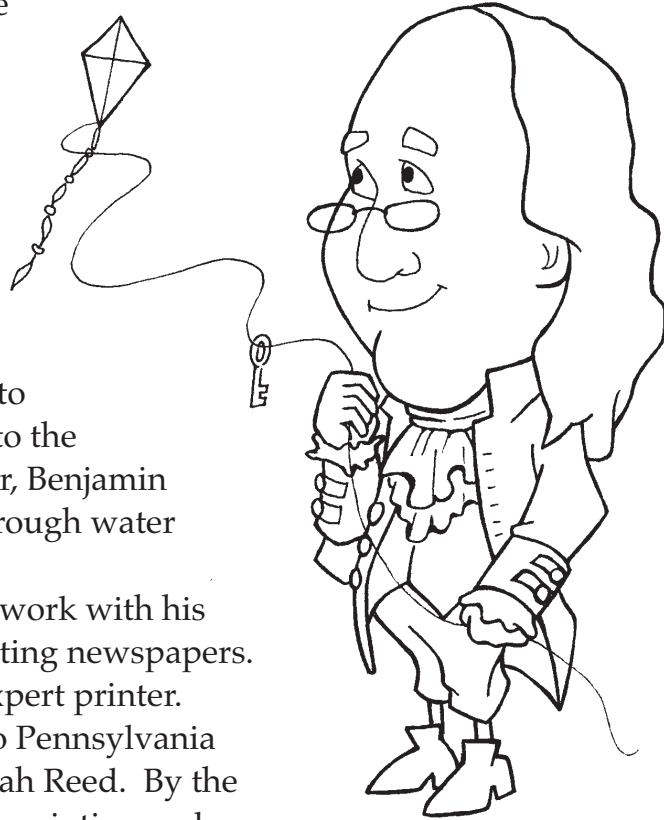
BENJAMIN'S EXPERIMENTS

By the time Ben was ten, he had already found an easier way to swim by attaching paddles to his hands and feet. By holding on to the string of a kite as it floated in the air, Benjamin discovered he could easily glide through water on his back.

At the age of 12, Ben went to work with his brother who taught him about printing newspapers. By 15, Benjamin Franklin was an expert printer.

Benjamin Franklin traveled to Pennsylvania at the age of 17. He married Deborah Reed. By the time he was 22, Ben owned his own printing and publishing company. He published his own newspaper, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*.

Benjamin Franklin was probably most famous for his experiments with electricity. In 1752, he flew a homemade kite in a storm. Suddenly, a lightning bolt zoomed down the kite string to a key. This produced a spark. Through this dangerous experiment, Benjamin Franklin proved that lightning is electricity.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

During the American Revolution, Benjamin Franklin helped make many important decisions. He strongly supported the colonists' independence from Great Britain. Benjamin was one of five committee members chosen to write the statement of independence. In 1776, the Second Continental Congress **adopted** the Declaration of Independence. Benjamin Franklin was 70 years old when he signed this important document.

TRAVELING TO FRANCE

After the Declaration of Independence was signed, the United States sent Benjamin Franklin to France. He asked the French leaders to help the United States win the Revolutionary War. France was not interested in helping until the United States proved it could win the war. France hated Great Britain, but it was afraid of angering Great Britain and causing another war between the two countries. Benjamin Franklin was able to convince the French to secretly send supplies to America.

In 1778, the Americans won the Battle of Saratoga. France decided to enter the war and help the United States battle Great Britain. Getting help from France was probably Benjamin Franklin's greatest **contribution** to our country. Historians believe that without France's help, the United States would not have won the Revolutionary War.

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

In 1787, the Constitutional Convention was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was here that the **Constitution** of the United States was written. Benjamin Franklin was 81 years old, but he still attended the meeting. He strongly believed that the **delegates** of the convention should approve the Constitution. Benjamin Franklin got his wish.

Before his death at the age of 84, Benjamin Franklin **founded** America's first general hospital, the first volunteer fire department, the first library in America, and the University of Pennsylvania.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Directions: Use the selection about Benjamin Franklin to answer these questions. Circle the answers to questions 1 and 2. Write your answers on the lines provided for questions 3-6.

1 Benjamin Franklin died in 1790 at the age of 84. In what year was Benjamin born?

- A 1734
- B 1874
- C 1706
- D 1714

2 After reading about Benjamin Franklin, you learn that –

- A he was forced to become a minister
- B he wanted to do whatever his parents decided for him
- C he hated traveling
- D he didn't let being poor stop him from reaching his dreams

3 Why do you think Benjamin Franklin cared so much about his country? Have you ever wanted to get involved in making something better the way Benjamin Franklin did? Explain why or why not.

4 List two important contributions that Benjamin Franklin made to America.

- a. _____
- b. _____

5 Are these accomplishments still important to us today? Explain your answer.

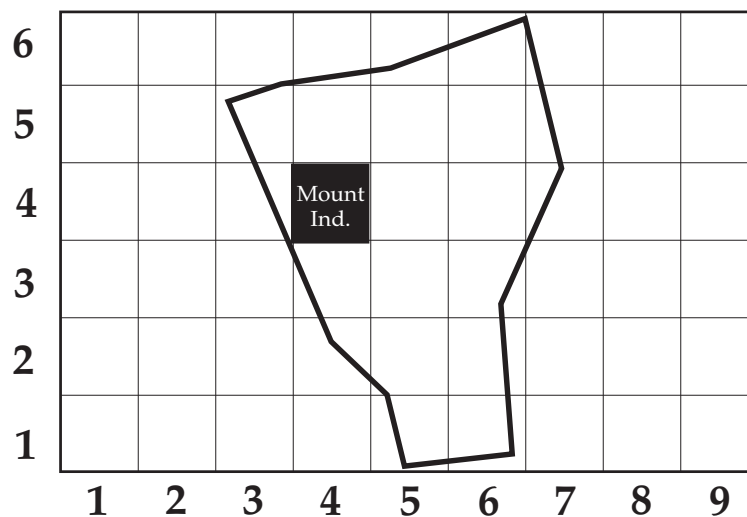
6 Benjamin Franklin will always be remembered for his contributions to America. What would you like to be remembered for?

★ ★ MAPPING: NORTHERN BATTLES ★ ★

Using a **grid system** helps you locate places in the world. A **grid system** is made up of lines that come together to form squares. The squares divide a map into smaller pieces, making it easier to find important places. Learning how to use a **grid system** is easy, and will teach you an important location skill.

Example: In July 1777, the British Army took control of Mount Independence. Hundreds of soldiers from America, Great Britain, and Germany are buried in unmarked graves on top of Mount Independence. Mount Independence is located at (4,4).

Locate Mount Independence at (4,4), by putting your finger on the number 1 at the bottom of the grid. Slide **over** to 4 and **up** to 4. Mount Independence is located in the square created where these two numbers come together.



Directions: In this activity, you will use a grid system to locate important Revolutionary War forts and battles in the North.

1. Follow the example above for locating each fort or battle by going **over** and **up**. If a fort or battle is located at (4,4), go **over** to 4 and **up** to 4.
2. When you locate a fort or battle on the grid, color in the square with a coloring pencil. If the fort or battle was won by the Americans, color the square blue. If the fort or battle was won by the British, color the square red.
3. The first one has been done for you as an example.
4. When you are finished, ask your teacher to pull down the classroom map of the United States. Neatly label each state with its name.



1. During the Revolutionary War, Portsmouth was an important port from which about 100 American **privateers** successfully attacked British ships. Portsmouth is located at (27,21).
2. In April of 1775, the first shots of the Revolutionary War were fired in the towns of Lexington and Concord. Lives were lost on both sides, but the Americans won the battles and kept the British troops from taking control of their weapons and gunpowder. Lexington and Concord are located at (27,18).
3. On May 10, 1775, Fort Ticonderoga was captured by the Continental Army without firing a single shot. Fort Ticonderoga is located at (17,22).
4. On June 11, 1775, Machias was the site of the first **naval** battle of the Revolutionary War. The battle led to the American capture of a British ship. Machias is located at (33,29).
5. On June 17, 1775, the first major battle of the Revolutionary War was fought. Although the Battle of Bunker Hill was won by the British, it proved that the Americans were prepared to fight for their freedom. Bunker Hill is located at (28,18).
6. Fort Plain was an American fort built in 1776. While many of the village's men were fighting Revolutionary War battles in the Continental Army, the women at Fort Plain dressed as men and defended the village from Native American attacks. Fort Plain is located at (15,17).
7. On August 27, 1776, the Battle of Long Island was fought. This was the first battle fought after the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the first battle fought by the United States Army. The British Army won the Battle of Long Island and used its location in Long Island to capture New York City. Long Island is located at (25,12).
8. Fort Washington was located on the highest point near the north end of Manhattan Island. On November 16, 1776, Fort Washington was captured by the British. The British also took 2,818 American prisoners and all of their weapons and supplies. Fort Washington is located at (23,11).
9. The Battle of Trenton took place on December 26, 1776. General George Washington crossed the Delaware River and captured 1,000 German soldiers. The news of the American victory at Trenton excited the citizens of the United States. As a result, thousands of Americans volunteered to fight in the war. Trenton is located at (20,9).
10. On July 7, 1777, the Battle of Hubbardton was won by the British and their German **allies**. Hubbardton is located at (20,21).
11. The Battle of Bennington took place on August 16, 1777. An American force of 2,000 defeated a British force of 1,250 Canadians, **Loyalists**, and Native Americans. Bennington is located at (19,19).



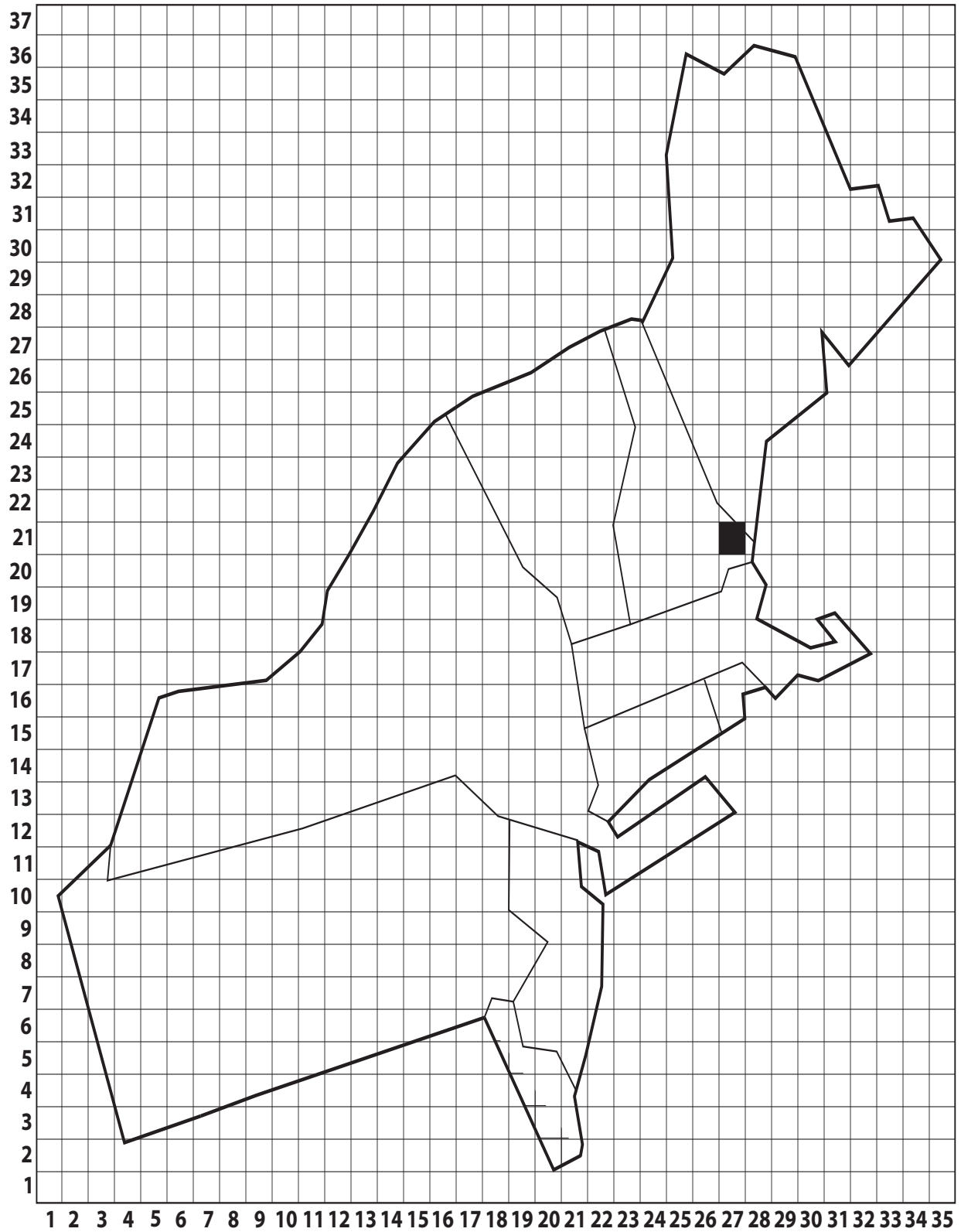


12. The Battle of Cooch Bridge was fought on September 3, 1777. This was the only Revolutionary War battle fought in this state. The British won the Battle of Cooch Bridge. Historians believe that this was the first time the American flag was flown in battle. Cooch Bridge is located at (18,6).
13. The Battle of Brandywine was fought on September 11, 1777. The battle, which was won by the British, left the capital city of Philadelphia undefended. The British captured Philadelphia a few weeks later and kept control until June of 1778. Brandywine is located at (18,8).
14. The Battle of Saratoga was fought in the fall of 1777. The American victory convinced France to enter the Revolutionary War and fight for the United States. Saratoga is located at (18,20).
15. In the winter of 1777, George Washington's men retreated to the American camp at Valley Forge. Bitter cold, poor clothing, and little food made for a horrible experience. The only good thing to come out of the terrible winter was that German officer Friedrich von Steuben volunteered to train the American soldiers at Valley Forge. In the spring of 1778, the troops left Valley Forge well trained and ready to fight. Valley Forge is located at (17,7).
16. The Battle of Monmouth was fought on June 28, 1778. This was the first battle for George Washington's newly trained men after the horrible winter spent at Valley Forge. The Americans claimed victory for the battle. Monmouth is located at (20,11).
17. The Battle of Wyoming was fought on July 3, 1778, between British Loyalists and American **Patriots**. More than 300 Patriots were killed during the battle. Patriots who tried to escape were hunted down and killed by Native Americans who allied with the Loyalists. The battle was a clear victory for the British Army. Wyoming is located at (16,11).
18. The Battle of Quaker Hill took place on August 29, 1778, in the town of Newport. The Continental Army tried to take over the island so French and American ships could use the Narragansett (nar•ra•GAN•set) Bay. The British kept the Americans from taking control. Newport is located at (27,16).
19. In July of 1779, a British ship sailed into the Castine Harbor and took control of the village. The Americans retreated up the Penobscot River, destroying eight million dollars worth of ships to keep them out of British hands. Castine is located at (30,29)
20. The Battle of Groton Heights was fought on September 6, 1781. During the British victory, supplies, ships, and more than 140 buildings were destroyed by fire. Groton Heights is located at (25,15).



Name _____

NORTHERN BATTLES



17. _____ constitution



18. _____ retreat



19. _____ contribution



20. _____ adopted



21. _____ privateers



22. _____ surrender



23. _____ defeat



24. _____ united



25. _____ delegates



26. _____ Great Britain



27. _____ founded



28. _____ harbor



29. _____ historians



30. _____ invent



31. _____ outnumbered



32. _____ boundaries



33. _____ allies



N. a plan which outlines the duties of the government and guarantees the rights of the people.

O. an agreement between two or more nations to come together for specific purposes.

P. battle for independence between the English colonists in America and Great Britain.

Q. the group of men and women in Washington, D. C. who are elected to make laws for the United States.

R. win victory over.

S. people who study the past.

T. a religious leader.

U. the statement written by the 13 original colonies declaring their freedom from Great Britain.

V. colonists who supported the United States during the Revolutionary War.

W. groups of people who come together to help one another in times of trouble.

X. give up.

Y. having more people on one side than the other.

Z. create something new.

AA. accepted and put into action.

BB. a group of men having some military training who are called upon only in emergencies.

CC. started or established.

DD. sheltered area of water deep enough to provide ships a place to anchor.

EE. private ships with weapons that are licensed to attack enemy ships.

FF. talked someone into doing something your way.

GG. joined together for a common purpose.



GLOSSARY

a•dopt•ed accepted and put into action.

al•li•ance an agreement between two or more nations to come together for specific purposes.

al•lies groups of people who come together to help one another in times of trouble.

bound•a•ries dividing lines.

cap•i•tal the city that serves as the center of government for the state.

cit•i•zens people in a city, town, state, or country who enjoy the freedom to vote and participate in government decisions.

col•o•nies groups of people who are ruled by another country.

con•vinced talked someone into doing something your way.

Con•gress the group of men and women in Washington, D. C. who are elected to make laws for the United States.

con•sti•tu•tion a plan which outlines the duties of the government and guarantees the rights of the people.

Con•ti•nen•tal Ar•my American troops that fought against Great Britain during the Revolutionary War.

con•trib•u•tion the act of giving to make something better.

De•cla•ra•tion of In•de•pen•dence the statement written by the 13 original colonies declaring their freedom from Great Britain.

de•feat win victory over.

del•e•gates people sent with power to represent others.

found•ed started or established.

Great Bri•tain an island which is now known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It includes England, Scotland, and Wales.

har•bor sheltered area of water deep enough to provide ships a place to anchor.

his•to•ri•ans people who study the past.

in•vent create something new.

Loy•al•ists colonists who supported Great Britain during the Revolutionary War.

mi•li•tia a group of men having some military training who are called upon only in emergencies.

min•is•ter a religious leader.

na•val connected or belonging to the navy.

New Eng•land a region in the northeast corner of the United States that includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

out•num•bered having more people on one side than the other.

Pa•tri•ots colonists who supported the United States during the Revolutionary War.

port city or town located on water with an area for loading and unloading ships.

pri•va•teers private ships with weapons that are licensed to attack enemy ships.

re•treat to back away.

Rev•o•lu•tion•ar•y War battle for independence between the English colonists in America and Great Britain.

sur•ren•der give up.

u•nit•ed joined together for a common purpose.

ANSWERS

ANSWERS TO COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. B
2. H
3. D
4. H
5. D
6. G

ANSWERS TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

1. C
2. D
3. Answers will vary.
4. He proved that lightning is electricity; helped write the Declaration of Independence; convinced France to enter the Revolutionary War; helped write Constitution of the United States; founded first general hospital, first library, first volunteer fire department, and the University of Pennsylvania.
5. Answers will vary.
6. Answers will vary.

ANSWERS TO VOCABULARY QUIZ

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. P | 10. L | 19. C | 28. DD |
| 2. B | 11. FF | 20. AA | 29. S |
| 3. O | 12. V | 21. EE | 30. Z |
| 4. BB | 13. Q | 22. X | 31. Y |
| 5. A | 14. G | 23. R | 32. M |
| 6. T | 15. I | 24. GG | 33. W |
| 7. E | 16. U | 25. K | |
| 8. F | 17. N | 26. D | |
| 9. H | 18. J | 27. CC | |

ANSWERS TO NORTHERN BATTLES MAPPING

