

# The American Revolution

## Mr. Zindman's Class

Please study your slides and class notes!

### ★ **Fighting Begins in the North**

- ⇒ The ***Olive Branch Petition*** was sent to King George to repeal the Intolerable Acts.
- ⇒ ***Ethan Allen*** led the Green Mountain Boys in a surprise attack on Fort Ticonderoga.
- ⇒ Congress set up the ***Continental Army***.
- ⇒ ***George Washington*** became the commander Continental Army.
- ⇒ People that favored the war were called ***Patriots***.
- ⇒ People that supported the British King were called ***Loyalists***.
- ⇒ The Battle of ***Bunker Hill*** was the first battle of the Revolution. The colonial Army shouted, "***Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes!***"
- ⇒ King George ordered a blockade of the all colonial ports. The blockade was an attempt to stop supplies from moving in or out of a port.
- ⇒ The King sent ***mercenaries***, or troops for hire, from Germany to help fight the colonists. Mercenaries were foreign soldiers that fought for money.

### ★ **The Colonists Declare Independence**

- ⇒ The ***Olive Branch Petition*** declared loyalty to the king as long as the king repealed the intolerable acts.
- ⇒ Thomas Paine wrote the pamphlet, ***Common Sense***, to bring attention to the ***British wrong doings in the colonies***. Paine convinced the colonists to fight for their independence.
- ⇒ ***Thomas Jefferson*** drafts the ***Declaration of Independence***.
- ⇒ The Continental Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence.
- ⇒ The ***Preamble*** is the introduction to the ***Declaration of Independence***; it stressed the idea of natural rights, or rights that belong to all people.
- ⇒ The ***Declaration of Independence*** stated the ***British wrongs*** and declared the colonies as an independent; ***The United States of America***.

### ★ **Struggles in the Middle Colonies**

- ⇒ At the ***Battle of Long Island*** the British take New York.
- ⇒ General George Washington fights a series of battles against the British General William Howe.
- ⇒ ***Nathan Hale***, a continental soldier, spied on the British troops for General George Washington. He was hung as a spy. Hale said at his hanging, "***I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.***"
- ⇒ Months of war took a toll on the Continental Army. Many were sick and unfit for service.
- ⇒ The ***turning point*** of the war was at the ***Battle of Saratoga***. It ended the threat to New England from the British. The British surrendered to the Continental Army!

This victory convinced the French to join the Continental army as *allies* and recognize the United States of America.

- ⇒ Ben Franklin went to Paris and convinced the French King Louis XVI to send French soldiers to help fight the Revolution with the Continental Army.
- ⇒ General Washington and his troops suffered from the harsh winter conditions at *Valley Forge* in 1777-1778. Many soldiers died from frostbite and diseases.

### ★ **Fighting for Liberty on Many Fronts**

- ⇒ The Native American tribes were divided in supporting the British or the United States of America. Many Native Americans supported the British to keep white settlers off of their lands.
- ⇒ Women took part in the war. Many women joined their husbands at the front. They cared for the wounded, washed clothes and cooked.
- ⇒ *Mary Ludwig* carried water to soldiers. They called her *Molly Pitcher*. When her husband was injured she loaded the cannons.
- ⇒ Washington offered freedom to Africans that fought in the Revolution. *5,000 Africans served in the Continental Army*. Black patriots hoped that the Revolution would bring an end to slavery. The *First Rhode Island* Regiment was a black unit.
- ⇒ The British navy was superior to the colonial Navy. The British had more ships. *Jon Paul Jones* was successful in defeating a British ship. Jones said, "*I have not yet begun to fight!*"
- ⇒ It is believed that *Betsy Ross* sewed the first American flag.

### ★ **Winning the War in the South**

- ⇒ The Patriots won battles in the South, such as the *Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge*.
- ⇒ *Benedict Arnold*, a traitor to the Continental Army, battled against Washington's troops.
- ⇒ The Continental Army won the *Battle of Yorktown*. The British General Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington in Yorktown.
- ⇒ The *Treaty of Paris* was signed by the British; it recognized the establishment of the *United States of America* as an independent nation.
- ⇒ Washington bids farewell after winning the war in New York City