



'Review' Section

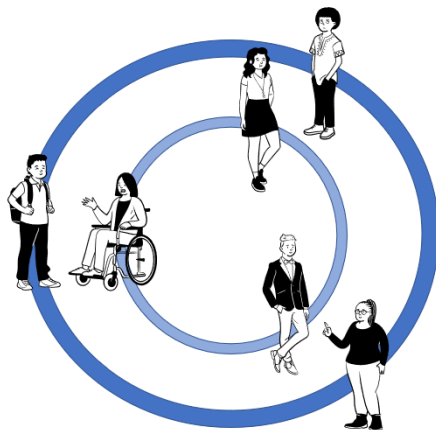
In the last course we learned about the Constitution, which was developed at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, to which each state sent representatives to agree upon a new system of government. We learned about this new system of government, including how powers were separated across government. We also learned about the Bill of Rights, which guarantees certain rights and protects certain freedoms, which we all still enjoy today.

[Objectives] Upon successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Understand the concept of liberty and its synonyms.
2. Understand the early military experiences that shaped George Washington to become Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
3. Understand the seemingly impossible task facing George Washington and his Continental Army against the British in the Revolutionary War.
4. Understand the importance of not giving up, even in the face of a seemingly impossible task.

Summary & Application

In this course we will learn about George Washington, who for many is considered to be the 'Father of America'. In particular, we will learn about George Washington's life in the military. We will learn about him following his brother into the military and his rise through the ranks. We will learn about the seemingly impossible task he faced in securing independence for America in the Revolutionary War, especially after defeat at the Battle of Long Island and retreating to Pennsylvania. Finally, we will learn about George Washington crossing the Delaware to start an amazing fight back that culminated with victory at the Battle of Yorktown.



The Pillars our Nation were Founded Upon:

- This course section is designed to help students review the foundational/pillar concepts Little Patriots was founded on. These concepts underpin the stories, facts, and information in the course, and each is presented for content understanding and application.
 - **Use the definitions offered below as a starting point for the discussion of each pillar.*
 - **Faith Defined:** In its most general sense, faith means much the same thing as trust. Faith is complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Faith helps you believe things you cannot see or touch.
 - **Community Defined:** Community is a feeling and a set of relationships among people with diverse characteristics linked by social ties, share common perspectives and engage in joint action in geographical locations or settings. Trust, safety, teamwork, togetherness, and belonging are essential parts of a community and a 'sense of community.'
 - **Life Defined:** *The word 'life' can refer to a lifetime -- the period between birth and death. It also means experiencing reality by interacting authentically with the environment and others. Giving something back to the world through creativity and self-expression. Changing your attitude when faced with a situation or circumstance you cannot change is a good approach to life. Life always includes the amazing characteristics that make you who you are. No matter our differences, we all matter.*
 - **Liberty Defined:** Liberty represents freedom or a state of being free. Liberty is acting in ways that help you take control of your life and follow a new and perhaps different path than others before you.
- Student backgrounds and experiences will impact how they receive this possibly new information. These are lofty concepts for some kids, so please have them reflect on the definitions of the words provided – *extend and contextualize them as needed.*
- Also, learning happens when students can connect the information they already know and the new information they are presented with. Reviewing the material helps students make those connections.



- Read each section of text to the students (*or have them read it themselves*). Upon reading, ask the students questions to extend their thinking.

Focus Pillar: Why Liberty Matters

The word 'liberty' is an important word throughout the history of North America and Europe. Etymologists -- people who study the origin and history of words -- tell us it comes from the old Latin word 'libertas', which was also the name of the ancient goddess of freedom from tyranny.

'Liberty' means to have the power and will to live how you feel as though you should live. It means you are free to make your own choices, but within the bounds of existing laws and culture, of course! In other words, with great liberty comes great responsibility. For example, when we are expressing or practicing our liberty, we mustn't take away someone else's freedom (*or liberty*) or put them in harm's way.

Many of the early Americans, statesmen, and government leaders wanted some form of liberty. They wanted the liberty to make and enact laws and elect their own leaders. The American leaders also wanted the liberty to live the life they chose based on their own set of beliefs.

For example, George Washington liberated the city of Boston from British occupation during the early days of the war and crossed the Delaware River to win a much-needed victory against the Hessians mercenaries employed by the British Crown on December 26, 1776, the very day after Christmas!

At Valley Forge in the winter of 1777 to 1778, he transformed an army of poorly trained militiamen, who were discouraged, starving, and freezing, into a formidable fighting force. With the help of Baron von Steuben, the ragtag Continental Army had been made capable of directly confronting the greatest military in all the world.

After many more years of fighting, the battle at Yorktown led to the defeat of British General Charles Cornwallis in October of 1781. His surrender all but ended the American Revolution and secured the independence of the thirteen colonies.

As a result of his victories, Washington was highly popular for his military contributions to the American Revolution. Upon the conclusion of the war and the gaining of American independence, many even called upon Washington to declare himself a king! But, to the surprise of many, he refused.

Instead, on December 23, 1783, Washington resigned his command of the army and went home to Mount Vernon. Following the conclusion of the war and recognition of American independence, he no longer saw the need to serve as commander-in-chief of the army. In resigning as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, he had established the precedent of military subservience to the civilian government of the United States. In other words, the army would have to answer to the Congress which answers to the people, rather than the other way around.

Reflection Prompt:



Have you ever felt offended? If so, how did you react?

Has there ever been a time when you felt all hope was lost? If so, how did you respond to that?

Think about something you feel strongly about. What could you do to change something you really don't like? How far would you go to make a change?

Assessment Questions (answers in bold)

1. Who was the first opposition faced by George Washington in his military career?
 - a. The British
 - b. The Spanish
 - c. **The French**
 - d. The Canadians

2. Which body elected George Washington to serve as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army?
 - a. The United Nations Congress
 - b. The United States Congress
 - c. The Constitutional Congress
 - d. **The Continental Congress**

3. How old was George Washington when he was elected to serve as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army?
 - a. **44 years old**
 - b. 45 years old
 - c. 46 years old
 - d. 47 years old

4. To where did the British flee following the siege of Boston?
 - a. Britain
 - b. **Canada**
 - c. France
 - d. Spain

5. On which day in 1776 did George Washington and the Continental Army cross the Delaware back into New Jersey?
 - a. Thanksgiving Day
 - b. Christmas Eve
 - c. **Christmas Day**
 - d. New Year's Day