

Name _____

Hour _____

American Revolution Research Project

Introduction: An important part of being a historian is research. Research helps us explore events in history in greater depth and it helps us develop our own perspectives on the past. Furthermore, research gives us skills that we can use for the rest of lives!

This project will take you step by step through the research process. We will start selecting a topic connected to the American Revolution. You already have some knowledge on this topic so use it to find something you are interested in! Next we will create a keyword list, identify reliable secondary and primary sources and take some notes. We will help guide you through analysis of these sources so that you have the opportunity to think critically about your topic. In the end, your knowledge will help create a class textbook about the Revolution.

Below is a checklist of steps and assignments that must be completed along the way. You have 8 days for research along with any time that you feel is needed at home to complete each requirement.

_____ Step 1: Choose a topic from the list	2
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Research Project Calendar

January 9	January 10	January 11	January 12	January 13 No School PTC
January 16 No School MLK Day	January 17	January 18	January 19	January 20

Choose a Topic

Below is a list of suggested topics related to the American Revolution. Choose a topic from the list below. If there is something related to the Revolution that is not on the list, please get it approved before beginning research.

Events	People
1. Battle of Saratoga	15. King George III
2. Valley Forge	16. George Washington
3. Battle of Charlestown	17. John Burgoyne
4. Battle of Yorktown	18. Horatio Gates
5. Lexington and Concord	19. Benedict Arnold
6. Battle of Bunker Hill	20. Charles Cornwallis
7. Battle of Trenton	21. Marquis de Lafayette
8. Battle of Long Island	22. Nathaniel Greene
9. Battle of King's Mountain	23. George Rogers Clark
10. Battle of Cowpens	24. John Paul Jones
11. Siege of Boston	25. Daniel Morgan
12. Invasion of Canada	26. Ethan Allen
13. Declaration of Independence	27. Henry Knox
14. Capture of Fort Sackville at Vincennes	28. Henry Lee
	29. Francis Marion
	30. Nathan Hale
	31. Joseph Brant
	32. Thomas Jefferson (Revolution only)
	33. Benjamin Franklin (Revolution only)
	34. Deborah Sampson
	35. Abigail Adams (Revolution only)

What topic did you select? _____

What do you already know about this topic? _____

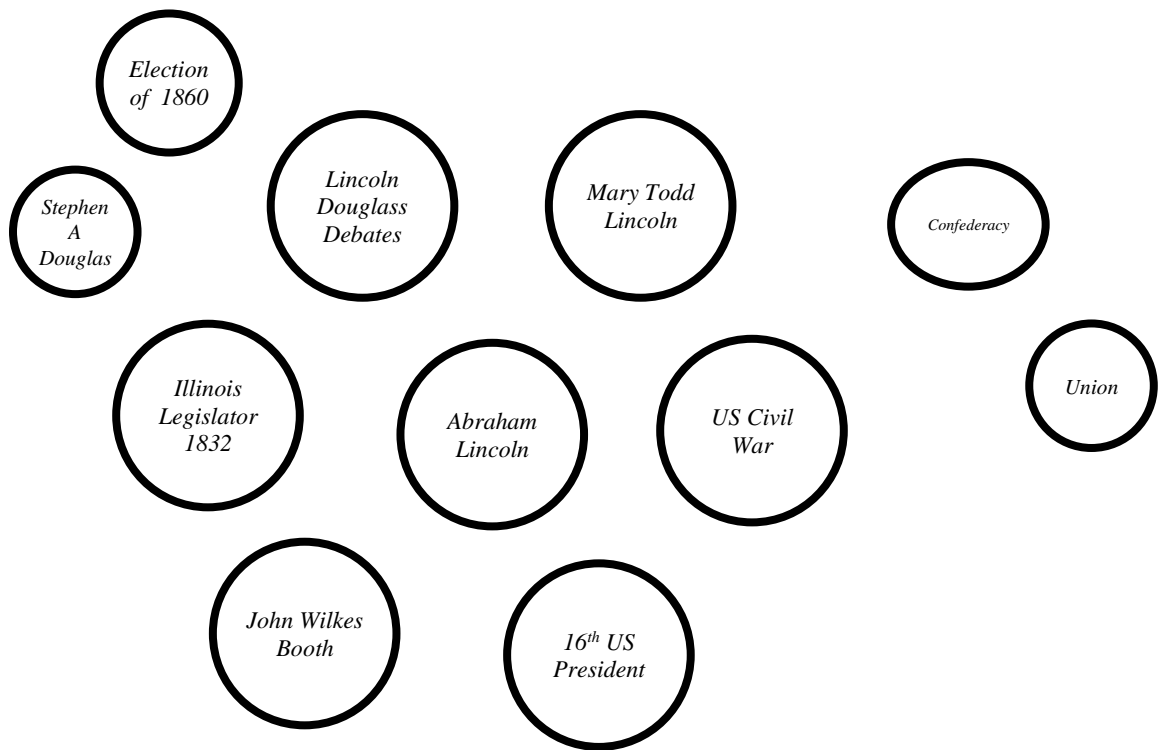
List 3-4 questions that you hope to answer during your research

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Keyword Bubble Map

Keywords are words or phrases that are related to your topic. They are research tools that will help guide you through materials by using them in indexes of reference materials and while searching on the internet. You can start with a list of 5-7 keywords but as your research progresses, your keyword list can expand. Follow the instructions below to complete a bubble map of keywords.

1. Draw a bubble map on the page provided. In the center, write down your topic.
2. The “bubbles” on the outside of the center circle are used to describe your topic.
3. Find an encyclopedia or general history textbook. Read the passage about your topic. As you read, search for words that are connected to your topic or that can be used to describe it.
 - a. You don’t want words that are too general. They need to have a direct connection to your topic. For example, if I were researching Abraham Lincoln, I wouldn’t want to write the word “president” down for a keyword. Think about it, if I looked up “president” in an index, am I just going to find Abe Lincoln or many other presidents? I could however, write 16th President of the United States for a key word. That would help me locate more information on Abe.



Create your Keyword Bubble Map Here!

History Frame

Title of Event: (topic)	Participants/Key Players	Where & When did it take place?
Problem/Goal/Issue	Key Episodes/Events/Stages Before, During, After (minimum of 10)	
Resolutions/Outcome		
Why is this significant in history?		

Analyzing a Primary Source: Source #1

This is a set of guidelines to help you use the primary source documents you are required to have for your project. Follow the steps and choices below.

1. What type of document are you looking at?

- a. Primary documents can include a number of things: letters, journals or diaries, newspapers, political cartoons, pamphlets, government documents, court cases, poetry, music, pictures, art, or anything else that provides a 1st hand account of an event or time period.

2. Identify the author of the document.

3. Identify when and where the document was created.

4. Read the document for its content and try to answer the five “W” questions:

Who? _____

What? _____

When? _____

Where? _____

Why? _____

How? _____

5. Identify the author’s opinion(s).

- a. Use a high lighter to mark evidence of opinions or perspectives
- b. Take notes in the margins to help you remember the information in the document

Author’s Opinion:

Analyzing a Primary Source: Source #2

This is a set of guidelines to help you use the primary source documents you are required to have for your project. Follow the steps and choices below.

1. What type of document are you looking at?

- a. Primary documents can include a number of things: letters, journals or diaries, newspapers, political cartoons, pamphlets, government documents, court cases, poetry, music, pictures, art, or anything else that provides a 1st hand account of an event or time period.

2. Identify the author of the document.

3. Identify when and where the document was created.

4. Read the document for its content and try to answer the five “W” questions:

Who? _____

What? _____

When? _____

Where? _____

Why? _____

How? _____

5. Identify the author’s opinion(s).

- a. Use a high lighter to mark evidence of opinions or perspectives
b. Take notes in the margins to help you remember the information in the document

Author’s Opinion:
