4th Grade Revolutionary War Resources

New York State Learning Standards for Social Studies

- Location of New York State
- The significance of New York State’s location and its relationship to the locations of other people and places
- Geographic features that influenced the War
- Native American Indians in New York State influenced the War.
- The war strategy: Saratoga and other local battles
- Loyalists and patriots in New York State
- Leaders of the Revolution
- Effects of the Revolutionary War
- Causes for Revolution: social, political, economic

Books:

*Revolutionary War Soldiers* by Diane Smolinski (2002)
The Revolutionary War divided American colonists into two groups—the Loyalists and the Patriots. Soldiers on each side fought bravely for their cause. Read *Revolutionary War Soldiers* to find out what it was like to be a soldier the armies on both sides.

Guided Reading: W
32 Pages

*The Revolutionary John Adams* by Cheryl Harness (2003)
A biography of John Adams with emphasis on his role in the American Revolution.

Guided Reading: W
40 Pages
American Revolution by Mary Pope Osborne (2004)
Presents a picture of life in colonial America and reviews the causes and major events of the American Revolution.

Guided Reading: S
121 Pages

Food and Recipes of the Revolutionary War by George Erdosh (1997)
Describes the kinds of foods commonly consumed by colonists, including soldiers, during the time of the American Revolutionary War. Includes recipes.

Guided Reading: Q
24 Pages

Uses the life of George Washington as a reference to examine the history of the United States during the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, the time of the Continental Congress, and early years of this new nation.

Guided Reading: Q
48 Pages
George vs. George: The American Revolution as seen from both sides by Rosalyn Schanzer (2004) Explores how the characters and lives of King George III of England and George Washington affected the progress and outcome of the American Revolution. Shows glimpses of life in both England and Colonial America and presents a broad view of the events leading up to and during the Revolutionary War. Loads of primary source quotes presented in speech bubbles help provide a full account of the birth of the United States, offering insights into the actions and convictions of participants on both sides of the Atlantic.

Guided Reading: T
60 Pages

Heroes of the Revolution by David A. Adler (2003)

Guided Reading: S
32 Pages

Land Battles of the Revolutionary War by Diane Smolinski (2002)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index. Describes what life was like during the Revolutionary War, focusing on key land battles in the eight-year conflict, with battle maps, action reports, and time lines.

Guided Reading: W
32 Pages
Events Leading Up to the American Revolution by Linda Wade (2001)
Includes index. Examines the reasons why the American colonists rebelled against the British, discussing taxes, the invasion of Boston, the Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party, and other events.

Guided Reading: T
32 Pages

Revolutionary War Days: discover the past with exciting projects, games, activities, and recipes by David C. King (2001)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 97) and index. Presents nearly thirty projects related to each of the four seasons, during the years of the Revolutionary War; examples include New England Indian Pudding and Ben Franklin's Glass Harmonica.

Guided Reading: n/a
100 Pages

The Boston Massacre by Therese Shea (2014)
Includes bibliographical references (page 23) and index. Examines the reasons why many American colonists were unhappy under British rule, discusses the decision to send British troops to Boston, describes the events of the Boston Massacre, a skirmish between British troops and colonists that led to the deaths of five Bostonians, and looks at how the incident added to the growing call for American independence.

Guided Reading: Q
24 Pages
Molly Pitcher: The Woman Who Fought the War by Mark Cunningham (2014)
Includes bibliographical references (page 31). Profiles the life of New Jersey born Mary Ludwig who became a Revolutionary War heroine when she carried water to American soldiers and even fired a cannon herself during the Battle of Monmouth.

Guided Reading: Q
31 Pages

True Stories of the Revolutionary War by Elizabeth Raum (2013)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index. In graphic novel format, tells the stories of six men and women who fought for their beliefs during the Revolutionary War.

Guided Reading: Q
32 Pages

Voices of the American Revolution: stories from the battlefields by Lois Miner Huey (2011)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 30-31) and index. The start of a revolution -- Andrew Sherburne: American sailor -- Julius Wasmus: German doctor -- David Fanning: Loyalist escape artist -- Joseph Martin: American private -- Deborah Samson: an unlikely soldier -- The war's end. Describes the war experiences of five participants in the American Revolution, including an American sailor, a wealthy Loyalist, a German doctor, and a woman who disguised herself a man so she could fight.

Guided Reading: S
32 Pages
Includes bibliographical references (p. 47) and index.;Angry about taxes -- King George stands
firm -- Hancock continues to rebel -- Soldiers follow orders -- Colonists learn of the raid --
Revere tries to warn the colonists -- Revere gets away -- Hancock and Adams escape -- The
British go to Concord -- Minutemen fight bravely at North Bridge -- Colonel Smith heads back to
Boston -- The militias keep fighting. Explores the beginning of the Revolutionary War, discussing
the causes and leaders of the rebellion, and how the first shots fired at Lexington and Concord
began America’s long road to independence.

Guided Reading: R
48 Pages

This book describes the series of events that led up to the Boston Tea Party and explains how
this act helped bring about the war for independence.

Guided Reading: S
24 Pages

The Boston Tea Party by R. Conrad Stein (1996)
Describes the events preceding, during, and following this noted event, which helped precipitate
the American Revolutionary War.

Guided Reading: S
30 Pages
Includes index. A discussion of the American Revolution which takes a chronological approach, focusing on the development and use of a time line.

Guided Reading: S
24 Pages

Includes index. Introduces the life of Crispus Attucks, a former slave who died in the Boston Massacre, a fight between the British and American colonists that occurred before the American Revolution.

Guided Reading: O
32 Pages

A brief biography of the woman who disguised herself as a man and joined the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

Guided Reading: Q
63 Pages
Digital Resources

**Databases:** (To access these databases remotely, ask your librarian for your school’s username and password.)

**Brainpop Jr.:** Brainpop, Jr. is a database that provides a 3-6 minute video on informational topics followed by a comprehension quiz. The database includes activities and lesson plans as well. It is geared towards grades K-3, but can be used in 4th and 5th grades as well. These videos offered by Brainpop Jr. support the New York State Social Studies Standards on the Revolutionary War for 4th Grade: “George Washington” and “The Thirteen Colonies”

Two different online quizzes are offered after each video to check for understanding. They are entitled “Easy” and “Hard” with 5 questions each.
**TrueFlix:** Trueflix is a database that includes non-fiction electronic books. Within each selected book you will find a 3-6 minute informational video on the subject, and a list of recommended websites.

Trueflix contains a book for each of the original colonies. These titles support the New York State Social Studies Standards on the Revolutionary War for 4th Grade. The books are 48 pages long, and include a “Read-Along” button which highlights each word as it is read aloud.

**The Thirteen Colonies**

Here is a sample page from *The New York Colony*:
Each subject in Trueflix has a part called “Show What You Know.” This is a ten question quiz that can be used to check understanding from the text.

**Show What You Know**

4. Which word best describes New York during the turn of the 18th century?

- rural
- unfriendly
- declining
- prosperous

**Trueflix** also offers word match activity that can be done online. Word match gives a clue that can then be matched with a keyword from the text. As you can see from the toolbar on the left, there are project ideas for the classroom, a list of other non-fiction resources on the same topic in “Explore More,” related websites that have been tested and recommended, and a 3-6 minute video in “Watch the Video.”
Pebble Go!: Pebble Go is a database that includes non-fiction books, videos and activities. The target audience for Pebble Go is Kindergarten through 3rd grade, however Pebble Go can be a great way to pique interest in a topic for 4th and 5th graders. Each book is 5 pages long and includes a read-aloud button that highlights each word as it reads aloud. There are often one or two very short videos on the topic embedded within each book. Pebble Go has these two books which align with New York State Social Studies Standards on Revolutionary War for 4th Grade. You can find these titles in the “U.S. Government” part of the Social Studies section in Pebble Go:

Here is a look at the inside of both books:

U.S. Constitution

The U.S. Constitution is a document. It set up the United States government. It gave the government three branches. Each branch has equal power.

Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence is a document written in 1776. It said the United States was a free and independent country. The Declaration told about the rights of every U.S. citizen.
World Book Web:
The World Book Web is a suite of online research tools that includes encyclopedia articles, primary source collections, educator tools, student activities, pictures, audio, and video, complemented by current periodicals and related Web sites. Most all of these World Book Web research tools include options where text can be read aloud to the user. All Ithaca elementary school libraries currently subscribe to World Book Kids, World Book Student, World Book Discover, World Book Timelines and World Book Classroom: Early World of Learning. For specific training in how to use these amazing tools consult Worldbook’s training website or ask your school’s librarian. http://www.worldbookonline.com/training/

World Book Discover has an article called “american revolution” which aligns with New York State Social Studies Standards for 4th Grade. You can use this link to access the article on day and night: http://www.worldbookonline.com/wbdiscover/article?id=ar831837&st=revolutionary+war
OR you can simply type “american revolution” in World Book Discover and choose the first article.

American Revolution
The American Revolution (1775-1783) led to the establishment of the United States. The American Revolution refers to a war that was fought between Great Britain and its 13 colonies in North America. A colony is an area of land that is under the control of another country.

Great Britain and the American Colonies had problems for years before the American Revolution began. Starting in the mid-1760's, the British government passed laws to increase its control over the colonies. However, the Americans had grown used to taking care of themselves, and they did not like the new laws. They especially did not like new tax laws passed without their consent. The British Parliament passed the tax laws to force the colonies to help pay for their own defense. The British government became angry when the colonists resisted the new taxes.
Here is a list of other articles offered in World Book Discover that involve individuals and events around the American Revolutionary War:

For more information, see these articles:
Adams, Samuel
Arnold, Benedict
Bennington, Battle of
Brandywine, Battle of
Bunker Hill, Battle of
Burgoynes, John
Camden, Battle of
Colonies, Thirteen
Concord, Battle of
Cowpens, Battle of
Declaration of Independence
Gage, Thomas
Guilford Courthouse, Battle of
Hancock, John
Howe, William
Jones, John Paul
Knox, Henry
Long Island, Battle of
Lafayette, Marquis de
Ludington, Sybil
Monmouth, Battle of
Oriskany, Battle of
Pitcher, Molly
Poor, Salem
Princeton, Battle of
Pulaski, Casimir
Revere, Paul
Sampson, Deborah
Sullivan’s Island, Battle of
Washington, George

This is a “United States History” sorting game that is available in World Book Kids:
http://www.worldbookonline.com/kids/games?id=gm210026

United States History Sort
Sort the people to the event or period with which they are associated.
World Book Kids also offers an “American Fight for Freedom” Puzzle available in easy, medium and hard:
http://www.worldbookonline.com/kids/games?id=gm210010

World Book Timelines includes a useful and interactive time-line on the American Revolutionary War called “United States: Revolutionary War Years”:
http://www.worldbookonline.com/wbtimelines/viewtimelines?source=WB&timelinId=52fc5f6d7fa57cac1bf1b7d7
Websites:

*Liberty! The American Revolution*
http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/
This companion site to a PBS documentary includes a chronicle of the revolution, perspectives on liberty, and an interactive game.

*The American Revolution*
http://www.theamericanrevolution.org/
The aim of this Web site is to give an overview of the war for student use, arranged in these categories: timeline, battles, people, places, events, historical documents, and viewpoints.

*American Revolution*
http://www.historyplace.com/unitedstates/revolution/
Follow the timelines of events before, during, and after the war.

*The American Revolution*
http://www.ouramericanrevolution.org/
Everything there is to know about the Revolutionary War from cities and faiths to clothing and theater. Written for adults but a lot of content could be usable in the elementary classroom.

*American Revolution for Kids*
http://mrussbaum.com/amflash/
Includes interactive battle maps, causes and effects, videos and information on loyalists and patriots.

*Virtual Marching Tour of the American Revolution*
http://www.ushistory.org/march/
The story of the Revolutionary War from the Independence Hall Association, a nonprofit organization.

iPad apps:

*Revolutionary War - by Multieducator*
Cost: $4.99
Includes causes of the war, major battles and events, 200 biographies on early Americans, letters between John and Abigail Adams, economics during the war and documents of the period.

*American Revolution Interactive Timeline - by Bluecadet*
Cost: Free
An interactive timeline showcasing artwork, weapons, clothing, objects, and manuscripts from the American Revolutionary War Museum.