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***The American Revolutionary War*** (*1775-1783):* The United States vs. Great Britain

From “Road to Independence”:

1. What were the first two battles of the Revolutionary War? **Lexington and Concord**
2. What battle did the British win but suffered over 1,000 dead soldiers? **Battle of Bunker Hill**

**1.** At the beginning, what did both sides believe? **The War would over quickly**

**2.** British advantagesover the Americanswere:

1) **Strongest Navy in the World**

2) **Experienced and well trained army**

3) **The wealth of a worldwide empire**

4) **Larger population (8 million vs. 2.5 million)**

**3**. The American colonists’ disadvantages were:

1) **Lacked a regular army and a navy**

2) **Lacked experience, weapons, and ammunition**

3) **Not all Americans supported the war.**

**4.** **Colonists who remained loyal to Britain** were called **Loyalist** as well as **Tories.**

**5.** **Colonists that wanted independence from the British** were called **Patriots** and **Yankees.**

**6.**  British disadvantages during this war included:

1.) **They had to ship supplies and soldiers from a long distance.**

2.) **They were unfamiliar with the land.**

3.) **British and Hessian (German Mercenaries) soldiers fought for money no passion in their beliefs.**

4.) **The were an occupying force, invaders of land belonging to other people.**

**7.** Why did many African-Americans fight for Britain? **They were promised freedom if Britain won.**

8. Colonists advantages in the war were:

1) **Fought on their own land with more determination.**

2) **Fought for their own freedom and liberty.**

3) **They had a great leader- George Washington.**

**9. Washington crossed the Delaware River on Christmas Night 1776, surprising and defeating a large army of Hessians (German mercenaries) at the Battle of Trenton.**

**10.** The first British war plan was to take control of the Hudson River and separate **New England** from **Middle Colonies.**

***Battle of Saratoga***

**11.** Because of a failure of plans, British General **Burgoyne** ended up in Saratoga, NY alone and after several weeks of fighting, surrendered his entire army to the Americans in Oct. of **1777.**

**12.** **The Battle of SARATOGA was the TURNING POINT of the war and convinced FRANCE to join the war on the side of the Americans.**

**13. Spain** soon followed France, also declaring war on Britain.

**14.** **Washington’s army spent a terrible winter (1777-1778) in Valley Forge, PA, becoming a symbol of the hardships faced by the Continental Army during the war.**

**15.** Thomas Paine wrote **American Crisis** to inspire Americans to keep fighting despite the battle losses, writing **”These are the times that tries men’s souls.”**

**16**. **Marquis de Lafayette** was a young wealthy French nobleman who helped train and fought with the Americans as well as became one of Washington’s most trusted aides.

**17**. **Friederich von Steuben,** from Germany, taught the Continental Army how to march and attack, turning them into an effective fighting force.

**18**. **Bernardo de Galvez,** the Spanish governor of Louisiana, supplied the Americans with weapons and protected the Gulf of Mexico from the British.

**18. Other important Americans during the Revolutionary Era were:**

a. **Wentworth Cheswell:** **an African-American that rode to warn Portsmouth New Hampshire of the arrival of British warships. Also served in the Continental Army and fought at the Battle of Saratoga**

**b. Mercy Otis Warren: an American woman that wrote books of poetry and plays supporting the independence movement, was a friend of Abigail Adams and also believed women should have the right to vote.**

**c. James Armistead: American slave that spied for the Americans by pretending to be a British spy (double-agent). Provided the Americans with very valuable information about the British, helped the victory at Yorktown**

**d. Haym Saloman: Polish-born Jewish American that helped the Continental Army by providing money and other financial help.**

**19.** A British **Naval Blockade** kept Americans from receiving needed supplies and reinforcements from overseas.

**20.** In response, the American government allowed **Privateers** to attack and capture British ships, capturing more enemy ships than the entire American navy.

**21.** **John Paul Jones was an American naval hero who said to a British commander “I have not yet begun to fight” during a battle with the much larger British ship, *Serapis,* off the British coast.**

**22.** Because of a lack of success in the north**,** the British decided to move the war to the **South** where they expected help from Southern **Loyalist.**

**23.** General **Charles Cornwallis** was in command of British forces in the South.

**24.** Attacks by American forces led by **Francis Marion** and **Nathaneal Greene** cost Cornwallis valuable time and supplies.

***The Battle of Yorktown***

**30**. Cornwallis decides to go to **Yorktown,** Virginia to receive new supplies and soldiers. Washington learns of this plan and decides to attack.

**31.** The French fleet of ships, led by **Admiral DeGrasse** defeated the British navy and kept Cornwallis from receiving more supplies and forced him to surrender to the American and French armies.

**32**. The **Battle of Yorktown** in **October** of **1781,** became the **final major battle of the American Revolution.**

***Treaty of Paris of 1783***

**33.** **John Adams, Ben Franklin, and John Jay** went to Paris to negotiate the terms of the treaty. They were all members of the new American government, the **Articles of Confederation.**

**34.** In the ***Treaty of Paris of 1783:***

1) **Britain recognized America as an independent nation**

2) **The U.S. claimed land from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River and from Canada to Spanish Florida**

3) **Britain promised to withdraw all troops from America**

4) **Britain gave America the right to fish in waters off of Canada**

**35.** The **Treaty of Paris of 1783** officially ended the Revolutionary War.

**36.** How did America defeat the world’s strongest power?

1) **Fought on their own land**

2) **Received help from other nations**

3) **The determination and spirit of the Patriots**

**37.** The American Revolution would later inspire the **French** Revolution in 1789 as well as the Haitian Revolution.

**38.** In 1810, **Mexico** inspired by the Americans, will declare its independence from **Spain.**