



## OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

### LOCATION

Building(s): Shanahan

Classes/Grade Level(s): Social Studies 8

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: King George, What Was His Problem by Steve Sheinkin

Genre: Illustrated Nonfiction

Lexile Reading Level: 880L

Total number of pages: 224

<b>Book Summary</b> (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)	<b>Potentially Objectionable Content</b> (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)
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A former textbook author guides readers through the American Revolution, revealing interesting facts that are often left out of traditional textbooks.

This is a book about the Revolutionary War. There is some discussion of violence, battles

Pg. 5 - cartoon image of an effigy in a noose  
Pg. 96 - cartoon image of Nathan Hale in a noose  
Some battlefield scenes described ie. Battle Of Saratoga pg. 118 - 119

<b>Book Reviews (2-3 links)</b> <i>Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links</i>
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From Book List: In his amusing opening statement, "Confessions of a Textbook Writer," Sheinkin divulges that while writing history textbooks, he stashed away "the good stuff," cool stories that he knew would be edited out. Some of them appear in this riveting account that was first published as a paperback called *The American Revolution* (2005). The new edition features many droll line drawings that suit the tone of the writing and source notes for the extensive quotes. Sheinkin clearly conveys the gravity of events during the Revolutionary period, but he also has the knack of bringing historical people to life and showing what was at stake for them as individuals as well as for the new nation. Often irreverent, the humor and informal tone of the writing help break through the patina of praise that too often encases figures from the American Revolution in books for young people. Vivid storytelling makes this an unusually readable history book.

From Kirkus Reviews: For middle-graders who find Joy Hakim's 11-volume *A History of US* just too



daunting, historian Sheinkin offers a more digestible version of our country's story--opening with an account of the American Revolution from the despised but not-unreasonable Stamp Act to the dramatic race to Yorktown. Beneath breezy chapter subheads like "Revere and That Other Guy" and "Party at Fort Ti," the author expertly combines individual stories with sweeping looks at the larger picture--tucking in extracts from letters, memorable anecdotes, pithy characterizations ("...John Adams, well known lawyer, Patriot, and grump") and famous lines with a liberal hand. Except for a few cramped maps, Robinson's illustrations are all line-drawn cartoon portraits that echo the narrative's informality without adding much. Still, capped with a healthy "Whatever Happened To..." section, this animates the Revolution's times, events and people in a way that standard textbooks don't.

## ABOUT THE CLASS

**Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards):** (To be completed by the teacher or team)

This text covers many topics of our Causes of the Revolutionary War and Revolutionary War unit.

**The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only* and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards)** [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

1. The outcome of the American Revolution was national independence and new political, social and economic relationships for the American people.
2. Key events and significant figures in American history influenced the course and outcome of the American Revolution

## ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

**What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (Title/author)**

1. One Dead Spy by Nathan Hale
2. Lafayette by Nathan Hale

**SIGNATURES** (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher: Rebecca Ward Date: 3/15/22

Department Chair: [Signature] Date: 3/15/22

Building Principal: [Signature] Date: 4.5.22

District Curriculum Administrator: [Signature] Date: 4/5/22