MODULE 3
Fourth Grade

What's Happening in English Language Arts Class?

We are excited about the skills and knowledge that your student will build in Arts & Letters™ level 4 module 3. Read on to learn more—and for ideas about how you can support learning outside of school.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Arts & Letters students build knowledge of important topics in history, science, and literature. Throughout Module 3: The American Revolution, students reflect on the ideal of freedom and engage with the Essential Question: How does the pursuit of freedom inspire people's actions?

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS

Literature Text

- *Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak,* Kay Winters and Larry Day
- *The Scarlet Stockings Spy,* Trinka Hakes Noble and Robert Papp

Informational Text

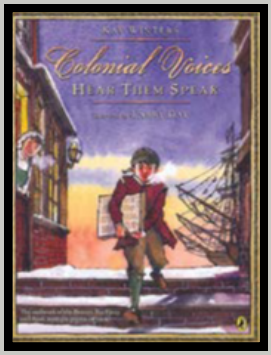
- *A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette*
- *Revolutionary War Double Agent,* Anne Rockwell and Floyd Cooper

Articles

- *"Crispus Attucks,"* Britannica Kids
- *"Declaration of Independence,"* Britannica Kids
- *"Detested Tea,"* Andrew Matthews
- *"Massacre in King Street,"* Mark Clemens
- *"Seeds of Revolution,"* Kathiann M. Kowalski

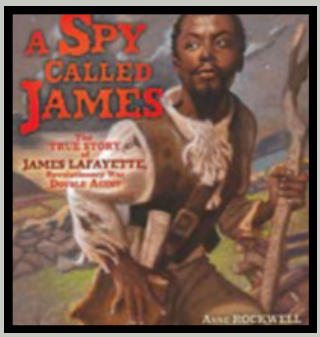
OUR CLASS WILL LOOK AT THE ARTWORK

- *The Boston Massacre,* Paul Revere
- *Washington Crossing the Delaware,* Emanuel Leutze



OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THESE VIDEOS

- "Difficult Choices," Great Minds
- "King George III of Great Britain," Great Minds



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OUR CLASS WILL

ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- **What do I notice and wonder about this text?**
- **What is happening in this text?**
- **What do you think of when you hear the word freedom?**
- **What do you know about the American Revolution?**
- **What is a central idea in this text?**
- **How do these texts build our knowledge?**

VOCABULARY

For their tests, your child should know the meaning of each word. They should also know how to use each word in a sentence:

- declare
- defiance
- independence
- liberty
- Loyalist
- neutral
- Patriot
- propaganda
- protest
- revolution
- unify

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PRACTICING AT HOME
WRITING, TALKING AND READING

YOUR CHILD WILL WORK ON THESE LEARNING GOALS:

- **Build knowledge about how the pursuit of freedom inspires people's actions by reading literary and informational texts.**
- **Summarize a wide range of texts, including primary source documents, and determine central ideas.**
- **Analyze multiple perspectives on the historical events leading to the American Revolution.**
- **Describe characters and their interactions with each other and with events and settings.**
- **Write opinion essays about the most meaningful actions taken by the Patriots in their pursuit of freedom.**

TRY THESE ACTIVITIES AT HOME

- **If you speak a language other than English, engage your student in speaking, reading, and writing in your home language. Engage in some of the literacy activities above in that language.**
- **Discuss with your student historical events that interest them. Encourage your student to research answers to questions they may have about the events and have them share what they learned.**
- **Tour a local historical neighborhood, site, or museum with your student. Ask your student to share their opinion of the visit and to support that opinion with reasons and evidence.**

PLACES TO VISIT TO TALK ABOUT THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:

- Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum - contains a replica of Liberty Bell and other artifacts from the secret hiding place for the Liberty Bell that was in Allentown
- Historic Bethlehem - a vital hub for the Continental Army
- Trout Hall - The house of loyalist and patriot brothers
- Troxell - Steckel Farm Museum - experience how the lives of common people were disrupted by the war

Free Online Sources

National Archives - Charters of Freedom

https://visit.archives.gov/whats-on/explore-exhibits/charters-freedom

Virtual Tour of Mount Vernon

https://www.mountvernon.org/the-estate-gardens/the-mansion/mansion-virtual-tourt

Want to read some books about this unit at home? Here are some suggestions:

Answering the Cry for Freedom: Stories of African Americans and the American Revolution by Gretchen Woelfle, R. Gregory Christie

Ben's Revolution: Benjamin Russell and the Battle of Bunker Hill by Nathaniel Philbrick Wendell Minor

Can't You Make Them Behave, King George? by Jean Fritz, Margo Tomes, Tomie dePaola

George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War by Thomas B. Allen

Her Name Was Mary Katharine: The Only Woman Whose Name Is on the Declaration of Independence by Ella Schwartz, Dow Phumiruk

Loyalty by Avi

Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution by Avi

Sybil Ludington's Midnight Ride by Marsha Amstel, Ellen Beier