

Tips for Families

Level 4 Module 3 | *The American Revolution*

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.

What topic is my student studying?

Arts & Letters students build knowledge of important topics in history, science, and literature. They build their vocabulary and background knowledge so that they are ready to learn more. In level 4 module 3, *The American Revolution*, students learn about people who experienced the American Revolution and the ideals that inspired the birth of our nation and are still valued today. They answer the module's Essential Question: How does the pursuit of freedom inspire people's actions?

Support your student by asking questions like these about the topic:

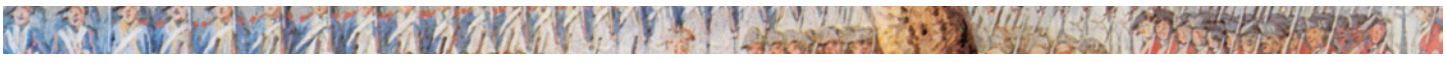
- What do you think of when you hear the word *freedom*?
- What do you know about the American Revolution?

What is my student reading?

Arts & Letters students read books, poems, and articles. They study art. They watch knowledge-building videos. Together, these resources build students' knowledge and literacy, including their understanding of different text genres. In level 4 module 3, students read and learn from these books and a historical document:

- *Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak*, Kay Winters and Larry Day
- Declaration of Independence: Introduction and Preamble
- *The Scarlet Stockings Spy*, Trinka Hakes Noble and Robert Papp
- *A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette, Revolutionary War Double Agent*, Anne Rockwell and Floyd Cooper

Support your student by talking about books and reading together at home. Visit a local library together so your student can choose other fiction or informational books about the colonial period or other historical periods of interest.



What is my student writing?

In *Arts & Letters*, students write about what they are learning, and they build their skills by writing narratives, opinion essays, and informative essays. Each module focuses on one type of writing. In *The American Revolution*, students plan, organize, and write opinion essays about topics related to the American Revolution.

Support your student's writing by ensuring they have tools, technology, and opportunities to write. After your student studies the Declaration of Independence, invite them to write their own declaration in which they ask for a privilege they want and provide reasons why they are ready for it.

What vocabulary is my student learning?

Learning more words enables students to read, write, and speak at higher levels and about different topics.

In this module, your student will study and use these words:

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

Engage your student in talking about and using these words and in exploring words more broadly. Invite your student to select a word from the list and to tell what they know about it and how it might relate to another word on the list.

What else can we do to continue learning outside of school?

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.

Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, The New York Public Library. (1763). A new map of North America

