Chapter 4

The American Revolution
1 Raising Taxes

• Sugar Act- The first tax passed specifically to raise money in the colonies, rather than regulate trade.

• To crack down on smugglers

• Help pay for French and Indian War.
2 Taxation without Representation

- Colonists had no representation in Parliament.

- James Otis and Samuel Adams came up with the slogan, “No taxation without representation.”

- Adams also helped organize the Committees of Correspondence. A way for colonial leaders to communicate and come up with ways to protest British laws. (boycott)
3 The Stamp Act

- Affected most colonists. Tax on all paper products. First direct tax in the colonies.
- Sons of Liberty- Started by Sam Adams, open to all colonists that wanted to protest new British laws. Formed in response to this Act.
Stamp Act

This is the Place to affix the STAMP.
4 Repealing the Stamp Act

• Colonies assembled a *Stamp Act Congress*. They Issued a declaration that the Stamp Act violated their rights and liberties.

• Colonies boycotted British goods.

• Stamp Act is repealed.

• Parliament is upset that the colonists challenged their authority.
5 New Taxes and Tensions

• Parliament passes the Townshend Act. A tax on imported glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea.

• To enforce the new act, Britain used writs of assistance.

• The Townshend Act and writs of assistance violated the colonists' constitutional rights.

• Colonists once again, boycotted.
A Tax on Tea

- Parliament repealed the Townshend Act but, left the tax on tea. To reduce smuggling, the British East India Co. was allowed to sell tea directly to the colonies. This made the price very cheap.
- Colonists worried that the BEI Co. would monopolize and put merchants out of business.
- The Sons of Liberty emptied three ship loads of tea into the harbor. Boston Tea Party
The Intolerable Acts

- To punish the Boston colonists, Britain passed the Coercive Acts. Colonists called them the Intolerable Acts.
  1. Boston harbor was closed until the tea was paid for.
  2. Mass. Legislature was closed.
  3. Royal officials accused of crimes were sent to Britain for trial. More friendly.
  4. Quartering Act was passed.
  5. General Gage became governor.
Intolerable Acts
8  The Revolution Begins

• The First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia.

  Continue to boycott British goods.

  Sent a Declaration of Rights to King George. “Life, liberty, and property.”
9  “The Shot Heard Around the World”

- British General Gage was going to take the minutemen’s supplies in Concord.
- The Sons of Liberty found out and sent Paul Revere to call up the minutemen.
- 70 minutemen met a much larger British force at a town called Lexington. Someone fired a shot and the British opened fire.
• When the British Army reached Concord, there was nothing there. The supplies were moved. In response, some buildings were burned down.

• The minutemen attacked and forced the British to retreat. On the way back to Boston, the British soldiers were fired upon from behind trees and buildings. Many were killed.
11 The Second Continental Congress

- Met in Philadelphia
- Created a Continental Army
- Made George Washington commanding general
- Sent the Olive Branch Petition to King George. (Trying to keep peace)
Bunker Hill – First major battle. Colonists were beating the British until they ran out of ammunition. Showed the colonists could hold their own against the British.
Battle of Bunker Hill
4.2 Declaring Independence
Paine’s Common Sense

- Thomas Paine wrote some essays called *Common Sense*. Supported breaking away from Britain.
Declaring Independence

• Thomas Jefferson writes the Declaration of Independence.

All men possess unalienable rights.

“life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.”

Did not include slaves, American Indians, or women.
IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the twelve United States of America.

When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Family of Nations, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them; a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation. We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are Created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Elections should be free; that, when removed, we may depend on their ability to judge for themselves of good Government. A long habit of not thinking or reasoning for ourselves leaves usfits incapable of doing either as Citizens of a free Country or the Members of any free Society. These are the Times that try Men's souls. The summer scientist, in his calm, creative mood, is one of those great institutions, and to promote a just and peaceful order among men, which has been the passport of just, or near it, which is the weighty Substance in which they are to be said. They are said to be the friend of mankind, a friend to all nations, the supporter of Man's dignity and happiness, and the guardian of his rights. The world has its own fixed time of change, and change is invariable. The nature of Nations, the motives of human actions, the public interest, the interest of mankind, the interest of the community, the interest of the state, the interest of the individual, and the interest of the world, are invariable. To be a friend of mankind, a friend to all nations, and the guardian of his rights, is the same thing. These are the Times that try Men's souls. The summer scientist, in his calm, creative mood, is one of those great institutions, and to promote a just and peaceful order among men, which has been the passport of just, or near it, which is the weighty Substance in which they are to be said. They are said to be the friend of mankind, a friend to all nations, the supporter of Man's dignity and happiness, and the guardian of his rights. The world has its own fixed time of change, and change is invariable. The nature of Nations, the motives of human actions, the public interest, the interest of mankind, the interest of the community, the interest of the state, the interest of the individual, and the interest of the world, are invariable. To be a friend of mankind, a friend to all nations, and the guardian of his rights, is the same thing.
Dark Hours of the Revolution

• The Americans were not really successful in the beginning of the war.
Choosing sides

• Patriots – Colonists that supported American Independence.

• Loyalists – Colonists that supported Britain and wanted to remain loyal to Britain.
Comparing Strengths and Weaknesses
16 British

- Money and resources
- Experienced army
- Navy
- Experienced military leaders

16 Americans

- Home land
- Motivated for common cause
- British had long supply lines
A Call to Arms

• During the war, more than 230,000 served in the Continental Army. More than 145,000 militia men fought.

• Some militias allowed blacks to join. The Continental Army did not at first. 5,000 free African Americans did join the Continental Army.

• Many young boys served as soldiers.
• American Indian groups fought on both sides.

• Women helped in the cause as well. They ran the farms when their husbands were away. Some served as messengers, nurses, or spies. Some fought on the battlefields as well.
Deborah Sampson  
Molly Pitcher
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British Victories</th>
<th>American Victories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Quebec</td>
<td>Trenton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• New York</td>
<td>Princeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Brandywine Creek</td>
<td>Saratoga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Camden</td>
<td>Yorktown</td>
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17 Battle of Trenton

• December 26, 1776

• Washington and 2400 soldiers crossed the Delaware River and captured 900 Hessian soldiers.

• Boosted the morale of American soldiers.

• On January 2, 1777, Washington won the Battle of Princeton
Battle of Saratoga

- October 17, 1777
- British general Burgoyne surrendered his army to American general Gates.
- Considered the turning point of the war.

Greatly boosted American morale
Led to increased foreign support
(French)
Valley Forge

- December 1777, Washington settled his troops.
- Low on supplies, food, and clothing.
- Very harsh winter
- 1/5 of his army died of exposure, malnutrition, and disease.
- Prussian officer Friedrich von Steuben aided Washington and turned his men into well trained troops.
Valley Forge
Foreign Allies

• Bernardo de Galvez – Spanish governor of Louisiana, helped the patriot cause on the western frontier. Mobile in 1780

• Marquis de Lafayette – Wealthy man from France that supported the cause for Liberty. Helped fight in battles even though he had no military experience and gave the Americans money for support as well.

• Friedrich von Steuben- Prussian captain that trained men at Valley Forge.
21 The War at Sea

- The Americans only had 8 fighting ships.
- Instead of fighting large battles, the Americans tried to attack individual British ships.
- Most successful American captain was John Paul Jones who was from Scotland. His ship, Bonhomme Richard, was named after Ben Franklin’s *Poor Richard’s Almanac*. 
John Paul Jones fighting the Serapis
Independence

- The British changed their strategy and put Lord Cornwallis in Georgia. His army was to march north through the southern and middle colonies and surround Washington’s army in the north.
General Cornwallis
War in the South

• Southern patriots could not fight the British army successfully on the battlefield. Switched to fighting guerrilla warfare tactics.

• Best was Francis Marion, “the Swamp Fox.”
Francis Marion “the Swamp Fox”
Victory at Yorktown

• Cornwallis wanted to tighten his hold on the southern colonies. He moved his forces to Yorktown, Virginia. He was going to attack a small force led by Marquis de Lafayette.

• The French navy surrounded Cornwallis by the sea. Washington brought his troops and French troops to surround Cornwallis on land.

• October 20, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered.
Yorktown
The Treaty of Paris

- It took two years after the British surrender but, in 1783, the British formally recognized American independence.
- The western border was the Miss. River.
- The northern boundary was the Great Lakes.
- The southern border was the $31^\text{degrees}$ N latitude.
Overview

• Major Battles
  • Lexington & Concord- first shots
  • Trenton- boosted morale, captured Hessians
  • Saratoga- turning point. French will join
  • Yorktown- Cornwallis surrenders
  • Valley Forge- Winter camp ground

• People
  • Patriots- Americans that wanted independence
  • Loyalists- Americans that were loyal to Britain
  • George Washington- Commander of the Continental Army
  • Cornwallis- Surrendered the British Army
• Important documents
  • Olive Branch Petition- Sent to King George to try to keep peace.
  • Declaration of Independence- Written mainly by Thomas Jefferson. July 4^{TH} 1776
  • Common Sense- Written by Thomas Paine. Supported American independence.
  • Treaty of Paris- Ended the war