

AMERICANS AND THE REVOLUTION

SECTION ONE



TAKING SIDES

- The Declaration of Independence divided the colonists. Some agreed with being separate from the King of England. Others, believed that they should remain loyal
 - Patriots: Colonists who supported themselves
 - Loyalists: Those who supported the King
 - Neutral: Did not choose sides

Loyalists

and

Patriots



ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS

- Shortage of imported goods: British ships set up blockades so trading ships couldn't unload their goods at the ports in America
- Prices were rising: Inflation
 - People needed more money to buy the same amount of goods.
 - Because of the shortage of goods: shopkeepers charged high prices for their crops because of the limited amount. This was known as **profiteering**
 - Fallen Value of colonial paper money (Continental)



AFRICAN AMERICANS FREE AND ENSLAVED

- About 5,000 enslaved African Americans fought in the Continental Army because they were promised freedom as a reward for their time fighting in the war.
- James Armistead
 - Spy for George Washington
 - Collected information that resulted in the Continental Army winning the Battle of Yorktown

PEOPLE IN THE WEST

- Many Native Americans were neutral but then they soon became divided by the war.
- Many groups, like the Mohawk, eventually sided with the British so they could be free
- Other groups of Native Americans wanted to drive the British out of their lands.

DEBATE

- Class will be divided into two sides: Loyalists and Patriots and Colonists who faced Economic Hardships
 - Those who are colonists, will report on the economic hardships that they are facing. (p.339-340)
 - Loyalist and Patriot groups will have to come up with reasons as to why their side is stronger and a debate will be held.
 - Patriots will explain why they are stronger and why the Loyalists are weaker.
 - Loyalists will describe why they are stronger and why the Patriots are the weaker army.
 - Students will use facts from the text to access crucial information. Ms. Taggart will supply a supporting article for each group for more information.
 - Students will have one class to prepare their information, and then the debate will be held for one class period.