

## Women's Experiences During the Revolutionary War Lesson Plan Lesson #3 of the Women & The American Revolution Module

### ESSENTIAL QUESTION

The Revolutionary War (1775-1783) created additional hardships and challenges for women. What were some of those difficulties? How did women show courage on the homefront or battlefields war?

### OVERVIEW

The Revolutionary War affected everyone in some way. While armies fought on the battlefields, civilians on the homefront sometimes came in conflict with each other over their Loyalist beliefs or desire for independence. Women's roles and the homefront efforts are sometimes forgotten, but they were part of the struggle for liberty and the founding of the United States of America.

### OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this lesson, the students will be able to:

1. Knowledge
  - Explain some of the hardships and challenges that women faced during the Revolutionary War.
  - Describe how women responded and supported their side during the Revolutionary War.
2. Comprehension/Application/Analysis
  - Read through a primary source, study vocabulary words and consider the legacy of women from the American Revolution era.
3. Evaluation
  - Evaluate how the American Revolution changed life for women and how their roles in this important era have been remembered.

### ACTIVITIES

#### Biography/Primary Source

1. Use the [Lesson's PowerPoint](#) to explore the context and history; the PowerPoint introduces Essential Questions and lays foundational knowledge about the topic.
2. Distribute the [primary source worksheet](#) and have the students read a provided primary sources for this lesson. Students may work on their own or as a group.
  - a. 11 selected primary sources are available [under the "Primary Source" section this lesson plan page.](#)
3. Students will read the primary sources and fill out the worksheet questions, including the vocabulary study. (Students may need a dictionary — either book or online to complete the vocabulary activity.)

4. Ask students to share what they have learned about women during the Revolutionary War. Was the information new or perhaps different than what they had expected?

## STANDARDS

Please visit the [Lesson Plan Page](#) and select the “Common Core and NCSS Standards for Social Studies” to view the details.

## RESOURCES

Visit the [Lesson Plan Page](#) to find all resources in one convenient place. You'll find everything mentioned or linked in this Lesson Plan along with additional videos, articles, primary sources, and biographies.

### Quick Links

- [PowerPoint](#)
- [Primary Source Summary Worksheet](#)

## OPTIONAL HOMEWORK/ASSESSMENT/ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

### **Option 1: Tribute Art**

Students will create a visual piece of art as a tribute to a particular woman of the Revolutionary War era or to remember women's experiences generally in that era. Consider including symbolism that represents parts of her story or experiences and add a quote if desired. (Use resources on the [Lesson Plan Page](#) for extra inspiration and research.)

Write an artist's statement—about 3-5 sentences—explaining who the art tribute memorializes, what elements were included and why and how the art reflects the woman's legacy.

### **Option 2: Women's History Videos**

Students can watch the following short videos about three women of the Revolutionary War era.

[Phillis Wheatley: Pioneering Black Poet](#)

[Molly Pitcher: The Heroine of Monmouth](#)

[Who Was Peggy Shippen? The "It Girl" Spy](#)

Students can discuss or write short answers to the following questions:

- Which woman's story was most interesting to you? Why?
- Did this woman change the course of the Revolutionary War?
- How were her experiences similar or different to most women's during this era?