American Revolution

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Title/Role: Educator
Organization/School Name: Engvall Elementary
Location: California

Grade Level: 5
Type of Lesson: Lesson in a unit
Type of Schedule: Combination
Collaboration Continuum: Moderate
Content Area: Social studies
Content Topic: Effects of the American Revolution

Standards for the 21st-Century Learner

Skills Indicator(s):
3.1.4 Use technology and other information tools to organize and display knowledge and understanding in ways that others can view, use, and assess.

Dispositions Indicator(s):
3.2.3 Demonstrate teamwork by working productively with others.

Responsibilities Indicator(s):
2.3.1 Connect understanding to the real world.

Self-Assessment Strategies Indicator(s):
3.4.3 Assess own ability to work with others in a group setting by evaluating varied roles, leadership, and demonstrations of respect for other viewpoints.

Scenario: The TL and the classroom teacher meet to plan a research project. The students will conduct research on an event in the American Revolution. The classroom teacher or TL will have read a short nonfiction book on the American Revolution, which will help build their background knowledge. Then the students will be given a list of questions to answer that will help focus their research. The TL will present online sites that will facilitate the student?s research process. The students will come to the library/computer lab, prepared in their pairs, to begin the search for the answers to the assigned questions. The classroom teacher and the TL will monitor the student?s progress over the course of the project, suggest new research direction if needed and support changes that need to be made in the student?s research.

Overview: Students will research an event from the American Revolution and gather information about the event?s impact on American life at the time. They will prepare a presentation addressing the event and focusing on the essential questions: How did that event impact American life today? How would American life be different today if that event had not taken place?

Final Product: After the student pairs have completed their research, they will present their findings in a creative way. This may be a dramatization of the event, a PowerPoint presentation, a diorama or art board collage, a newspaper report, an original song, rap or poem, or a book with illustrations.
Library Lesson: Students will learn to use print and electronic materials to research an event from the American Revolution and to answer questions about its historical significance. They will verify their research information between the various resources.

Estimated Lesson Time: 120 minutes

Assessment

Product: Student pairs will create a presentation based on their research of an event from the American Revolution. There are a variety of presentation options to choose from and they will be evaluated on a rubric.

Process: The classroom teacher and the TL will monitor the student pair?s progress and facilitate their research progression. They will also provide support with the student pair?s presentation choices.

Student self-questioning: Did I understand the event I researched? Did I verify the information I gathered? Does my presentation convey the conclusions I drew from the research?

Instructional Plan

Resources students will use:
Still image (i.e. paintings, drawings, plans, and maps)
Interactive Resource (i.e. webpages, multimedia learning objects, chat services)
Text (books, letters, poems, newspapers, etc.)

Interactive Resource URL: http://

Resources instructor will use:
Projector
Laptop
White board
VCR/DVD player

Instruction/Activities

Direct instruction: The classroom teacher or the TL will read a short nonfiction text about the American Revolution, which will help build background knowledge. The classroom teacher will guide the students through the search process for the print text ? nonfiction library books. The classroom teacher will present the American Revolution events the student pairs will choose from to do their research projects.

Modeling and guided practice: The TL will introduce the pathfinder for the American Revolution. The TL will select a similar topic from the American Revolution and take the students through the process of locating online information. The classroom teacher will work with those students who still need assistance with the print resources.

Independent practice: During the student?s weekly computer lab time, they will research and gather information about their event from the American Revolution. After the student pairs have collected their information, they will work cooperatively to complete a presentation for the class to illustrate their findings.

Sharing and reflecting: Student pairs will share with presentations and participate in a class discussion about the historical significance of the event and its impact on today?s world. Students will
write a review of each presentation and comment on how they view the new information given in the presentation.

**Have you taught this lesson before:** Yes

**Strategies for differentiation:** In this lesson, students will be paired to support each other’s learning. Additional support will be given to those students who need help with the various websites in order to maximize their success with this project. The TL, the classroom teacher and peer will be available for assistance.
American Revolution

Introduction:
In 1775, war began between the British Empire and their America colonies. The American Revolution was the struggle of the thirteen colonies to gain independence from Great Britain. There are many events that lead up to the war and others during the war that changed the way the colonists lived and governed themselves. We will be researching these events and explore their impact on the history of America.

Keywords and Phrases for Searching:
- The Boston Tea Party
- The Boston Massacre
- The Continental Congress
- The Declaration of Independence
- Paul Revere’s Ride
- Washington Crossing the Delaware
- Valley Forge
- The Battles of the American Revolution
- Native Americans in the War
- The American Navy
- The Peace Treaty

Dewey Decimal Numbers:
- 973.3 – American Revolution and confederation 1775-1789
- 974 – Northeastern United States
- 921 – Individual Biography

Web Resources:
These are just a few good sites.
http://www.kidport.com/RefLib/UsaHistory/AmericanRevolution/AmerRevolution.htm#Timeline
Many events, good timeline
information on the Declaration of Independence
http://www.ushistory.org/valleyforge/index.html
Valley Forge details and pictures
the peace treaty, surrender at Yorktown
http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/
search for people, groups of people (blacks, native Americans, etc), events, cities, battles on this excellent site full of pictures and articles
blacks in the war
http://earlyamerica.com/shot_heard.htm
narrated PowerPoint of the Battles of Lexington and Concord
http://www.coe.ilstu.edu/jabraun/students/schultz/revwarwomen.htm
women in the war
http://www.americanrevolution.org/ind1.html
Native Americans in the war
Literature – Fiction:

Brady, Esther Wood. *Toliver’s Secret.*
When her grandfather is injured, 10-year-old Ellen Toliver replaces him on a top-secret patriotic mission. Disguised as a boy, she manages to smuggle a message to General George Washington.

Cox, Clinton. *Come All You Brave Soldiers: Blacks in the American Revolution.*
In the Revolutionary War of the United States, black soldiers fought bravely for the freedom of a country that had enslaved and oppressed them. Their story of courage and sacrifice is finally told.

Gregory, Kristiana. *Five Smooth Stones.*
In her diary, a young girl writes about her life and the events surrounding the beginning of the American Revolution in Philadelphia in 1776.

Forbes, Esther. *Johnny Tremain.*
A young silversmith apprentice becomes involved in the American struggle for independence.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. *Paul Revere’s Ride*
Longfellow wrote "Paul Revere's Ride" in 1861, nearly 100 years after the actual midnight ride that began on April 18, in 1775. The poem creates a suspenseful story as American colonist Paul Revere decides with his friend Robert Newman and others to avert a British attack on Concord, Massachusetts.

Katie, whose family is not sympathetic to the rebel soldiers during the American Revolution, hides under the clothes in her mother's wedding trunk when they invade the home.

Literature – Non-Fiction:

Discusses the causes, events, campaigns, personalities, and aftermath of the American revolutionary war.

With the Pledge of Allegiance as accompanying text, presents various American flags and gives brief historical information about each.

Fradin, Dennis B. *The Connecticut Colony.*
Surveys the history of the colony of Connecticut from its early days up through the American Revolution. Includes biographical sketches of prominent individuals.

A study of the life and character of the brilliant Revolutionary War general who deserted to the British for money.

Traces the life of the tall redheaded Virginian, from his early education and involvement in the American Revolution to his activities as the nation's third president and last years at Monticello.
Johnson, Neil. **The Battle Of Lexington And Concord.**
Recounts the historic battles of April 1775 that began the American Revolution.

Knight, James E. **Boston Tea Party : Rebellion In the Colonies.**
A Boston merchant describes the American colonists' act of protest against British taxation and the tea monopoly of the East India Company.

Knight, James E. **The Winter At Valley Forge : Survival And Victory.**
A soldier chronicles the harsh winter colonial soldiers, led by General George Washington, spent at Valley Forge during the American Revolution.

Morris, Richard Brandon. **The American Revolution.**
Presents the causes and events of the Revolution.

Stein, R. Conrad. **The Story Of Lexington And Concord.**
Discusses the causes and consequences of the battles marking the beginning of the American Revolution.

**Multimedia Resources:**

| Netflix – Liberty Kids |
| Brain Pop |
| United Streaming |
| The History Channel |
| PBS – Liberty! – The American Revolution (An online companion to the PBS documentary of the American Revolution. Click on "Chronicles of History" to get lots of information.) |
| **Dear America – The Winter of Red Snow** (others titles in DVD and Books) |
| **American Revolution for Students** – Schlessinger Media (series) |
| **Colonial Life for Children** – Schlessinger Media (series) |

**Organizations:**

| Jamestown |
| Colonial Williamsburg |
| Historical Valley Forge |
| Virtual Marching Tour of the American Revolutionary War |