

★ AMERICAN REVOLUTION SERIES ★



The Battle of Long Island

★
GRADES
4-6★

The Fight to Control New York

PRIMARY SOURCE
INVESTIGATION

ELA
INTEGRATED



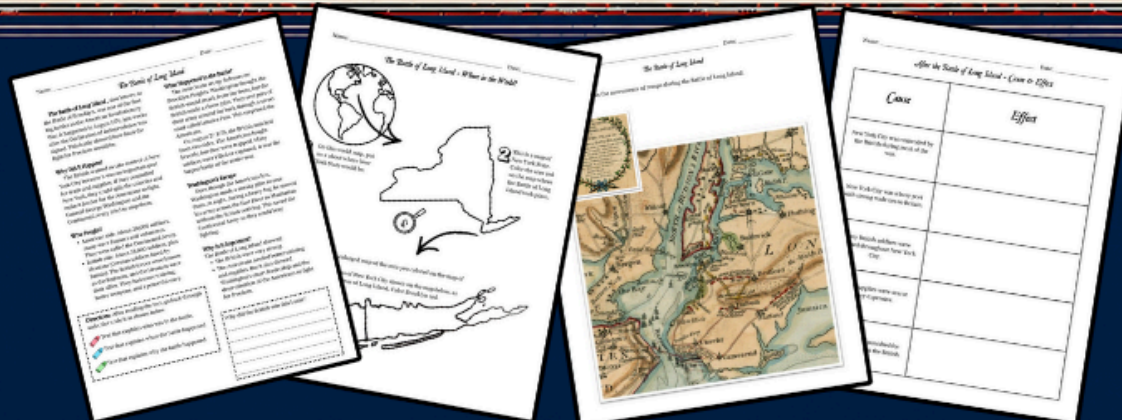
Assessments



Build Thinking Skills



Engaging Activities



The Battle of Long Island

Materials:

Included with download

- The Battle of Long Island - Where in the World? student mapping page & key
- The Battle of Long Island informational text & key
- After the Battle informational text
- After the Battle - Cause and Effect student activity with key
- Colorized map of the Battle - link to it at the Library of Congress is below as the map is rather small on paper.
- Ticket to Leave writing prompts.

Online - Map

- Battle Map at the Library of Congress. I have included a colorized image of this map, but it is rather small on standard paper. I include the link to be projected or to allow students to zoom in. - <https://www.loc.gov/item/gm71002199/>

Online - Videos

- *The Battle of Brooklyn (Long Island)* from American Battlefield Trust. Just about the battle (no background). 4 Minutes. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLdwq0XxOtI>
- *American Revolution: The Fight for New York* from PBS. This video is a good overview of the battle and the importance of New York City.
- *Liberty's Kids* Episode 115: "New York, New York" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVZBTMDzsrk>

Detailed Lesson Plans

-1 to 2 Days

Story Set: Set the stage by working together on the "The Battle of Long Island- Where in the World?" student page. This could be enhanced by using Google Earth or other maps to help understand where the battle is taking place. For students who live north of Westchester, seeing the boroughs and Long Island on a more detailed map can be valuable, as they do not have an understanding of the layout of that area of the state.

Transition to reading "The Battle of Long Island" informational text. Discuss and have students tag the text tagging and question. This is a basic understanding of the battle. In the

Watch Liberty's Kids Episode 115: "New York, New York" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVZBTMDzsrk>. Liberty's Kids in an excellent series put out by PBS.

For Understanding: Ticket to Leave with writing prompts. I left the directions vague for teachers to decide if this will be done using the text or not.

Read books:

Ellen's Secret by Esther Wood Brady. Chapter book. This book follows Ellen Toliver, a young girl who must take a secret message through British occupied New York. *Samuel's Choice* by Richard Berleth. Samuel is an enslaved 14-year old boy in Brooklyn. Samuel is a strong boatman. On the night of the Battle of Brooklyn he must decide if he will involve himself and help the Patriots escape. 40 page picture book.

Informational Text

Cause & Effect
Learning Activity

Ticket to Leave
Formative Assessment

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Battle of Long Island

The Battle of Long Island, also known as the Battle of Brooklyn, was one of the first big battles in the American Revolutionary War. It happened in August 1776, just weeks after the Declaration of Independence was signed. This battle showed how hard the fight for freedom would be.

Why Did It Happen?
The British wanted to take control of New York City because it was an important port for trade and supplies. If they controlled New York, they could split the colonies and make it harder for the Americans to fight. General George Washington and the Continental Army tried to stop them.

Who Fought?

- American side: About 20,000 soldiers, many were farmers and volunteers. They were called the Continental Army.
- British side: About 32,000 soldiers, plus Hessians (German soldiers hired by Britain). The British forces were known as the Redcoats, and the Hessians were their allies. They had more training, better weapons, and a powerful navy.

Directions: After reading the text, go back through and color code it as shown below.

- Text that explains who was in the battle.
- Text that explains when the battle happened.
- Text that explains why the battle happened.

What Happened in the Battle?
The Americans set up defenses on Brooklyn Heights. Washington thought the British would attack from the front, but the British made a clever plan. They sent part of their army around the back through a secret road called Jamaica Pass. This surprised the Americans.

On August 27, 1776, the British attacked from two sides. The Americans fought bravely, but they were trapped. Many soldiers were killed or captured. It was the largest battle of the entire war.

Washington's Escape
Even though the Americans lost, Washington made a sneaky plan to save them. At night, during a heavy fog, he moved his army across the East River to Manhattan without the British noticing. This saved the Continental Army so they could keep fighting.

Why Is It Important?
The Battle of Long Island showed:

- The British were very strong.
- The Americans needed better training and supplies. But it also showed Washington's smart leadership and the determination of the Americans to fight for freedom.

Why did the British win this battle?

Name: _____ Date: _____

After the Battle of Long Island

and, the British took New York City. But they had to leave their main army there, they had to control until one of the men.

New York City was a busy port with strong trade ties to Britain. Many British soldiers were stationed throughout New York City.

Food and supplies were scarce and very expensive.

Patriots could be punished for speaking out against the British.

Conclusion
New York played a major role in the Revolutionary War. Its location made it a prize everyone wanted. The Battle of Long Island showed the British capture of New York City was a turning point in the course of the war. It was the center of British power in the North. Understanding New York helps us see why it was such an important place in American history.

Name: _____

After the Battle of Long Island - Cause and Effect

Cause	Effect
New York City was controlled by the British during most of the war.	
New York City was a busy port with strong trade ties to Britain.	
Many British soldiers were stationed throughout New York City.	
Food and supplies were scarce and very expensive.	
Patriots could be punished for speaking out against the British.	

Name: _____ Date: _____

TICKET TO LEAVE

Describe what happened during the Battle of Long Island.

Describe how the British Occupation of New York impacted the people who lived there.

ELA Integration

Mapping Activities

Name: _____ Date: _____

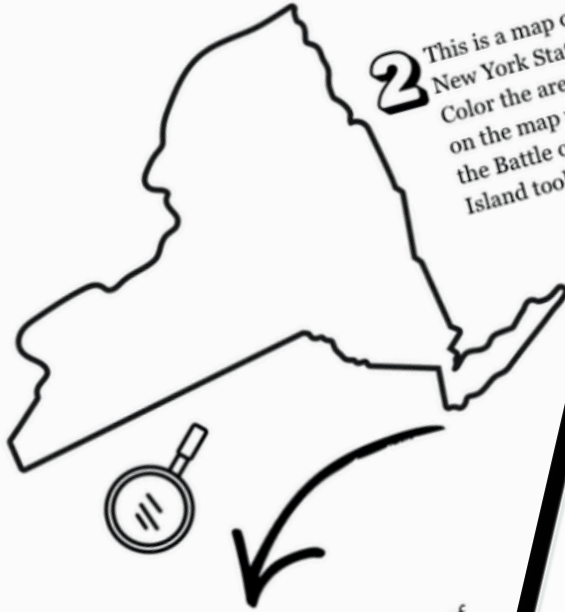
The Battle of Long Island - Where in the World?

The Battle of Long Island - Where in the World?



1

On this world map, put an x about where New York State would be.



2

This is a map of New York State. Color the area red on the map where the Battle of Long Island took place.

3 This map is an enlarged map of the area you colored on the map of New York State. Label the boroughs of New York City shown on the map below, as well as the other areas of Long Island. Color Brooklyn red.



Name: _____

The Battle of Long Island

Date: _____

This map shows the movements of troops during the Battle of Long Island.

The Battle of Long Island

Date: _____

THE SEAT OF ACTION,
During the
BRITISH and AMERICAN FORCES
at
N AUTHENT



Keys Provided