

The American Revolution

How does one's perspective influence his or her opinion? In this module, students consider the answer to this question through the lens of the American Revolution. In Unit 1, students build background knowledge about the Revolutionary War and the different perspectives of colonists. In the second half of the unit, students read about different groups within the Loyalists and Patriots, reading informational texts to determine the main idea, analyze the overall structure of the text, and summarize the texts.

In Unit 2, students read the historical fiction play *Divided Loyalties* to deepen their understanding of the Patriot and Loyalist perspectives. Drawing on their background knowledge about the Revolutionary War from Unit 1, students read the text closely, focusing on character thoughts, feelings, and actions in response to the different perspectives on the American Revolution. In Unit 3, students synthesize their research on the Revolutionary War from Unit 1 and their analysis of perspectives from Unit 2 to write an opinion piece from the Patriot perspective, outlining reasons colonists should join the Patriot cause, in the form of a broadside. Students write a broadside from the Loyalist perspective for the end of unit assessment. Then, for the performance task, students consider both sides and discuss whether they would or would not have supported the American Revolution had they lived during colonial times. This performance task centers on CCSS ELA **RI.4.9** and **SL.4.1**.

- **Topic: perspectives on the American Revolution**
- **Task: Students participate in a text-based discussion sharing whether they would have supported the American Revolution if they had lived during colonial times.**
- **Targets (standards explicitly taught and assessed): RI.4.9, SL.4.1**
- **Texts: *Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak, Revolutionary War: Parts I, II, and III, An Incomplete Revolution, American Indians and the American Revolution, Divided Loyalties***

Guiding Questions and Big Ideas

- ***How did the American Revolution and the events leading up to it affect the people in the colonies?***
 - The American Revolution resulted in the United States of America becoming a new country with independence from Britain.*
 - The American Revolution, like many wars, divided people: brother against brother, mother against daughter, neighbor against neighbor.*
 - American colonists had different perspectives on fighting for independence from Britain.*
- ***How does a person's perspective influence her or his opinion?***

Module Performance Task - Reading Strategies Bookmark

In this performance task, students synthesize their thinking about their reading challenges and possible strategies to overcome those challenges by creating an eye-catching bookmark listing the strategies described in their End of Unit 3 Assessment reading contracts. The strategies are written in bullet points so students can access them quickly when reading. This task centers on CCSS ELA W.3.4 and W.3.5.

Social Studies Connections

This module is designed to address English Language Arts standards and to be taught during the literacy block of the school day. However, the module intentionally incorporates social studies content that many teachers may be teaching during other parts of the day. These intentional connections are described below.

College, Career, and Civic Life C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards:

- **D2.Civ.3.3-5**
- **D2.Civ.4.3-5**
- **D2.Civ.12.3-5**
- **D2.His.2.3-5**
- **D2.His.4.3-5**
- **D2.His.5.3-5**
- **D2.His.12.3-5**