

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WAR BATTLES

POWERPOINT

Lexington

Concord

Bunker Hill

Trenton

Saratoga

Valley Forge

Yorktown

Battle of Lexington & Concord

- April 19, 1775
- General Thomas Gage, the British governor of Massachusetts, learned that Patriots were storing gunpowder and cannons in Concord, Massachusetts.
- He sent soldiers to destroy the supplies.
- The soldiers were going to march at night, so that they could surprise the Patriots.
- General Gage's plan was not kept a secret. Patriots soon found out what was happening.
- Patriots, Paul Revere and William Dawes, rode on horseback to alert the minutemen (militia) that "The Regulars are coming out!"



Paul Revere during his Midnight Ride

Battle of Lexington & Concord

- The British reached Lexington just before sunrise.
- They were met by a small group of minutemen. The British told them to leave. As they turned to leave, a shot was fired.
- No one knows which side, the British or the colonists, shot first.
- Both sides began shooting at one another.
- The British marched on to Concord.



Battle of Lexington & Concord

- Minutemen gathered in Concord, as the British searched for the hidden gunpowder and cannons.
- Fighting broke out. The minutemen forced the British to retreat back to Boston.
- More than 250 British soldiers were wounded or killed before the British reached Boston.
- The news about the Battle of Lexington and Concord spread quickly.
- Militias gathered in Boston.
- The British in Boston were trapped.

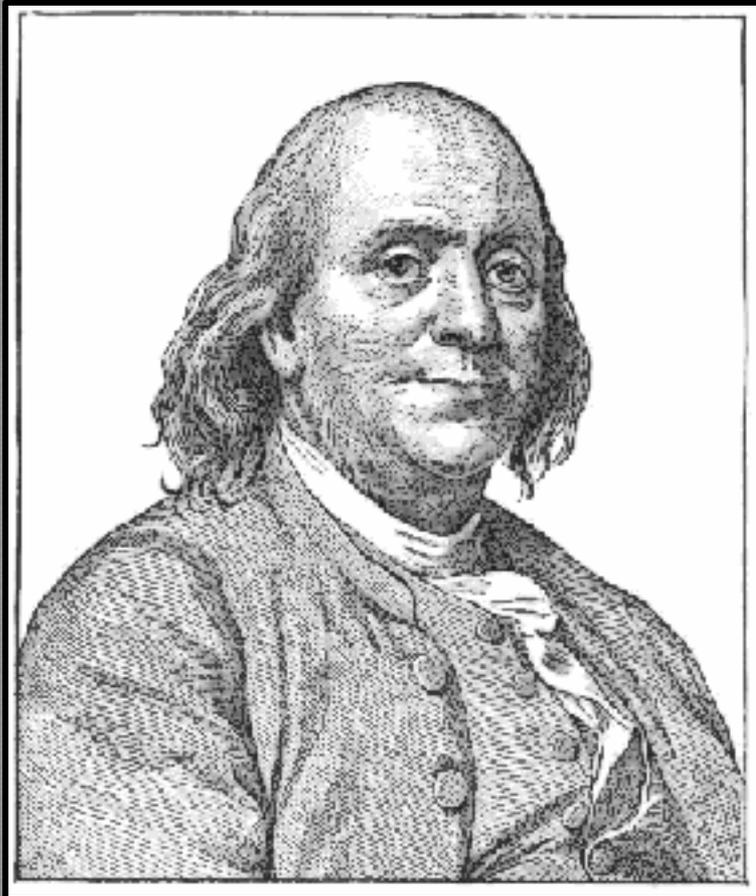


Battle of Saratoga



- September 19, 1777
- The British began an attack from Canada.
- Americans stopped the British near Saratoga, New York.
- Upon meeting, the armies fought two intense battles.
- The Americans won.
- The Americans forced General Burgoyne and over 5,000 of his soldiers to surrender.

Battle of Saratoga

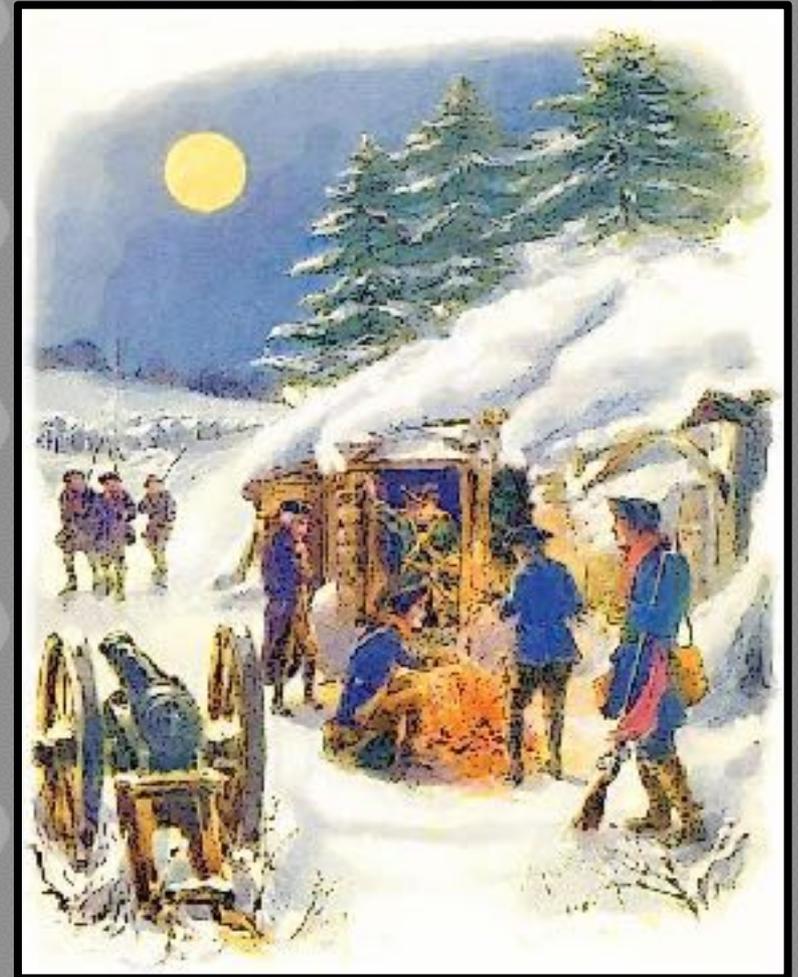


Benjamin Franklin

- The Battle of Saratoga was considered a turning point in the war.
- Benjamin Franklin had been trying to get help with the war from France.
- After the victory at Saratoga, France was convinced that the Americans could win the war with Britain.
- France sent money, soldiers, and a navy to help the Americans.
- Spain, the Netherlands, and Russia later joined the fight against the British.

Valley Forge

- During the winter of 1777, the Continental Army was forced to stay in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, after the British captured Philadelphia.
- There were no huts to sleep on, so soldiers had to sleep on the frozen ground. There was little food and many soldiers died of disease.
- Washington's great leadership helped keep the soldiers going. He worked hard to get the soldiers the things they needed.
- By spring, the Continental Army had more food and better uniforms.
- While at Valley Forge, the soldiers received training from Baron von Steuben, a German soldier.
- This training helped the soldiers to fight well in their next battle.



Battle of Yorktown



- October 9, 1781
- General Cornwallis led the British army to Yorktown, Virginia.
- George Washington marched his troops south from New York into Virginia.
- Americans and the French fired cannons on Yorktown relentlessly.
- The French Navy blocked Yorktown harbor, so Cornwallis could not be rescued by British ships.
- Cornwallis was trapped.
- The British army surrendered at Yorktown.

- The Battle of Yorktown was the last major battle of the War for Independence.