The American Revolution

GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITIES

Boston at the Start of the Revolution

The first battles of the Revolutionary War occurred in and around Boston. Study the map, and then answer the questions that follow.

The Fighting Around Boston, 1773–1776

Chapter 7: Geography Activities continued

1. What is the first event shown on the map? What is the last event shown?

2. Approximately how far is Concord from old North Church?

3. What movements on April 18, 1775, are shown? What events took place on the day following these movements?

4. Describe the route the British traveled to get to Concord. Describe the route Paul Revere and William Dawes took.

5. What prompted the British evacuation of Boston? When did this occur?

6. Critical Thinking: Location  Study the map and locate the Powder House, where the colonial militia stored its gunpowder. Next, determine where British troops were concentrated before April 1775. Why might the militia have chosen to maintain the Powder House at that location?

ACTIVITY

April 19 is a public holiday in Massachusetts called Patriots Day. Use resources in the library or search the Internet through the HRW Web site to find information on this holiday. Then plan a Patriots Day celebration for your school.
Chapter 6
1. British; along the coast
2. African; in the South, along the coast
3. Scotch-Irish; the Ohio River valley
4. in North and South Carolina
5. The “Pennsylvania-Dutch Country” is hard to define precisely. South-central Pennsylvania should certainly be included; students may also note (correctly) its extension southward into Maryland and Virginia, which are not politically part of Pennsylvania.

Activity
Students should create maps of the eastern United States in which they classify as many place-names as they can according to the language or nationality of the name. They should then write a paragraph explaining the patterns they found.

Chapter 7
1. The first event was the Boston Tea Party in December 1773; the last was the evacuation of Boston by the British in March 1776.
2. about 16 miles
3. Paul Revere’s and William Dawes’s ride and arrest, continuation of the ride by Samuel Prescott; clashes between British and Americans at Lexington and Concord
4. The British crossed the Charles River and then went through the town of Cambridge and Menotomy and on to Lexington and Concord. Dawes went west along the Neck between Boston and Roxbury, then west to Brookline, north to Cambridge and on to Menotomy and Lexington. Revere started from the north shore of the Charles River, went west to Medford and Menotomy and then to Lexington.
5. bombardment by cannon from Dorchester Heights; March 17, 1776
6. Before April 1775, the British were in Boston. The location of the Powder House was far enough inland that the militia felt it would be safe; it was also accessible by road and by river transportation.

Activity
Students’ posters should either support or oppose ratification of the Constitution.

Chapter 8
1. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia; Maine (claimed by MA), Kentucky (claimed by VA), Tennessee (claimed by NC)
2. Delaware; Rhode Island; over two years
3. Virginia and North Carolina
4. North Carolina; because large parts of the state had an Antifederalist majority
5. because those areas either were not states or were not populated to any large degree
6. Answers will vary, but students should note that for the most part, New England relied on shipping and showed a Federalist majority. The South was primarily agricultural and contained large areas supporting the Antifederalists, although coastal areas do show a Federalist majority. The middle colonies had an economy that blended agriculture and commerce, and appear to have shown fairly balanced support for both the Federalists and Antifederalists.

Activity
Students’ posters should either support or oppose ratification of the Constitution.

Chapter 9
1. in the South, especially the Southwest and West
2. in the Northeast, the Great Lakes region and Oklahoma
3. Arizona, Florida, Georgia, and Texas
4. New York and Pennsylvania
5. The main direction of migration has been to the South and West (often called the Sunbelt). Another reason why California, Texas, and Florida have grown so much is because of immigration.

Activity
Students’ maps should show their proposal for their state’s new districts.